

STEEPLE VIEWS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION



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THE PASTOR'S PLACE . . .

HAPPY 230TH ANNIVERSARY, FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD!

Dear Friends,

This month, our congregation reaches quite a milestone: the 230th anniversary of its existence! Let us celebrate this with joy and the tenacious commitment to hold and sustain our place in the world as a community in which God is worshipped with love, God's grace is experienced and changes lives, and God's call to serve in the world is heard and acted upon in ways that are greatly needed.

The mainline churches (those historically predominant on the American cultural landscape) are at a clear turning point. Such churches no longer enjoy the automatic participation of large numbers of people. The numbers have declined sharply. Some local churches have not survived.

We have survived, and thrived, and we continue to work on strengthening the vitality of our warm, exuberant congregation. I recently found a letter I wrote to the congregation in early June of 2009—a year in which we were \$10,000 short in terms of closing that fiscal year on June 30th in the black. The letter was an appeal to all of us to dig deeper into our pockets just to close that urgent and immediate deficit. This shows us what a long way we have come!! For several years now we have ended the fiscal year carrying over a small but solidly persistent positive balance in our General Fund from year to year. We have more work to do in this aspect of our church's life, but we are not only a spiritually strong church, we are moving step by step toward a solidly sustainable operating budget. **Everyone's generosity is so very appreciated and so very needed in this ongoing effort!**

The **Good News** is first and always that which we find in the Gospel, proclaiming the love of God as shown in the presence of Jesus Christ in the world! Specifically, for us, we also see **good news** every time we gather in any way as the church. We are a warm, supportive, loving, grace-filled, caring community, offering an exceptionally wide welcome in an often harsh world—and we have made the commitment to extend that welcome to all of God's people, even those of us who have historically been excluded or marginalized in the life of the church. For us, the commitment to **remain a vital expression of God's beloved community in the world** is strong and must remain strong!

Let's make this year a great one in the life of our church. **We are 230 years strong and getting stronger.**

Let's make this a year in our church that gives God more joy in our existence than ever before!

Happy Anniversary! We will celebrate this fully on Sunday, September 27th! Hope to see you there!

Blessings, grace, and peace,
Mary

....give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.

Luke 6: 38

PARISH HELPERS TO HOST REBECCA RULE

The Parish Helpers have received a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council and will present "That Reminds Me of a Story" with Rebecca Rule on Thursday, September 10, at 1 p.m.

Rebecca Rule has collected stories about what's special about this rocky old state of New Hampshire for more than fifteen years. About her passion for stories, she says, "The great thing about collecting stories is they're free and you don't have to dust them. Stories not only speak to us of history, they hold our identity." In this program she'll tell some of her favorites (especially the funny ones) and invite audience members to tell some of their own.

This program is free and open to the public. The NH Humanities Council nurtures the joy of learning and inspires community engagement by bringing life-enhancing ideas from the humanities to the people of New Hampshire. Learn more about the Council and its work at www.nhhc.org.

Carol Jeffery

COFFEE HOUR

If you are among those people who enjoy this social time, please consider helping out at one of the coffee hours in the next few months. We need help for the September 13 and September 27 for set up, supplying refreshments, and clean up! Please let Rachel White (520-2316) know if you will be able to do any of those things to make a great social time for all of us. Many hands make light work!

Help Wanted: Person with some cement patching skills to repair first step at front entrance to the church (before someone trips and falls). Please contact the church office or Dalton. Thank you.

For more information on articles you read in the Steeple Views, contact the editor at steepleviews@gmail.com or call the church office at 603-522-3189.



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FirstCongregationalChurchofWakefieldUCC](http://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchofWakefieldUCC)



And on Twitter - @wakefieldnhucc
<https://twitter.com/wakefieldnhucc>

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH 230TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SERVICE!

Please mark this special day on your calendars, and plan to attend worship for a celebration of the church's 230th anniversary. We will also enjoy a special coffee hour together and hope that you'll all be there!

* * * * *

TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Budget (Non-restricted): June 1, 2015 – July 31, 2015

Income:	\$ 11,032.95
Expenditures:	\$ (14,813.57)
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (3,780.62)

Restricted Funds balance as of July 31, 2015: \$2,578.62

As we discussed last month, our Church is in a transition as are many others. We are experiencing more expenditures with less revenue funding. With this reality we are all asked to challenge ourselves to "think outside the box" of how we will either generate revenue or tighten our belts and reduce spending. We can all help in one way or another.

During August, the Bozuwas hosted two "pop-up" fundraisers for the benefit of the Church's general fund. The Bozuwas raised \$240 selling Chris' woodworking items at a stand set up on their front lawn during the Parish Helpers Fair on August 8. They also hosted a local Authors Reading in their Barn. Donations from this event totaled \$384. A big thank you to Titia and Chris! What a wonderful kick-off to fund raising activities this year. One of our biggest annual fund raisers, the church-wide Yard Sale on August 29 will also help supplement our general fund.

The July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 Treasurer's annual report is out. It was distributed by email, posted in the narthex and limited copies are available at church. Happy reading!

We want to hear from you. Feel free to send an email to us or stop us in person to share thoughts and ask questions.

*Janice Brejwo and Shannon Johnson, Co-Treasurers
fcctreasurer@gmail.com*

Attention Knitters!

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Thursday, September 17th not the 4th Thursday as usual. Do you knit or crochet? Please join us in creating prayer shawls in the Parish Helpers room!

CALLING ALL POTENTIAL DOCENTS!!

There is no way I'm going to start writing about the approach of -you know what-but it isn't too early to be asking any and all to consider volunteering to help with this year's Christmas at Wakefield Corner event on December 12, 2015. We're well into planning for this very delightful and community involved endeavor and **we will need your help!**

There will be some returning tours, like our church, the Wakefield Inn, the Library and Nancy Spencer Smith's house, as well as new places like the Red School house and cobbler shop as well as Pam Wiggin's home. We are also hoping for at least one other home in the village TBA.

We are asking for docents to help with the tours for 2-hour shifts, probably 3 ó 5 or 5 ó 7. Period costuming is optional. We are also planning on a just for volunteers' tour ó the evening before that would include a buffet dinner at the Inn. (Cost to be determined).

Chris Feddern and I are committed to providing docents with information and ñscripts to make your participation meaningful and fun! We'll need about 20 ó 25 people per shift. Please consider being part of this great fund raising and community event. If you are interested and/or have questions, please contact me, Deborah Smiley at smiley.deborah@gmail.com or call my home 569-2867 and leave a message.

Deb Smiley

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Wonderful news! Judy Trepal has volunteered to become co-coordinator for the Ministry of Christian Education. She brings enthusiasm and vision to this position, so please join me in welcoming her warmly.

Also, we're looking for ALL folk who are interested in helping with or participating in Christian Education for all ages. Please let us know who you are by signing the Christian Education sign up sheet on the table under the Ministry Wall in the Fellowship Hall, or by speaking with Judy, Margie or the church office.

Margie Galabrun and Judy Trepal

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Real Good Church: How Our Church Came Back from the Dead and Yours Can, Too.
by Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette
Parish Helpers Library: Church Life

Rev. Phinney is the pastor of the First Church UCC in Somerville, MA. Under her leadership this church greatly increased the attendance of adults and children and giving was five times greater than before. This book offers practical advice on how to improve every aspect of church life: worship, education, outreach, stewardship, pastoral care and administration, building maintenance, leadership and dealing with conflict.

Jimmy Pfeiffer Dragonmeyer by Denine Foulks
Children's Library: Christian Living

Denine Foulks and her husband Bob are new members of our congregation and we are fortunate to have such talented people joining us. Denine's book mirrors the experiences of her grandson, Jameson, who struggles with a rare medical condition called craniofacial disorder which distorts his head and face. Her children's book reflects the struggles encountered by those who endure this condition through the story of a little dragon who deals with this issue.

Linda Petkunas, Church Librarian

TURNING POINT 230

As you know, September 22 marks our 230th year as a settled church. Five years ago, at our 225th Anniversary, we began the ñCircleó concept. Today we **change the title** to reflect our entrance into this new decade of being church ó we are truly at a **TURNING POINT**.

The ever changing ñtake a tagó board in Fellowship Hall provide opportunities to do something meaningful for this church AND this community. Over the years, these seemingly small gifts have enriched many of our Ministries. If you have a ñtagó idea that does not appear on the board ó you are welcome to make one (or more). It's all part of ñbeingó church with arms spread wide in welcome.

Turning Point 230 board will inspire and envision new ideas, challenging our thinking and our way of being the community church that shines God's light far beyond the confines of our spot in the Village of Wakefield Corner. Be sure to check out these opportunities ó still located in Fellowship Hall next to the kitchen! Oh, and take a tag! Thank you!

Carol Lundgren

BUILDING AND GROUNDS MINISTRY



Drawing by Denine Foulks

Building and Grounds has been busy. Much has been accomplished and much is still to do. Please read on and if you are able to offer assistance, please let me know (daltonstrye@yahoo.com). A “work party” is planned for Saturday, September 12th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mulch has been spread around the gardens of the church and seasonal flowers were planted in barrels. **Still to do: trim back bushes and shrubs. Deb Smiley to guide the process. Volunteer helpers will be needed**

Exterior Sanctuary windows and Fellowship Hall windows have been replaced and/or repaired and re-caulked. We expect this to make an energy saving difference this winter. **Still to do: cleaning of the interior of the sanctuary windows in September/October as well as the chandelier and circulating fans. Curt & Mary Beth Cook to help. Looking for others who are comfortable on a tall ladder.**

Lighting improvements. It's time to make sure all lights are operating throughout the church. Bulbs will be examined, replaced where needed and fixtures cleaned. In some cases, replacement ballasts may be needed for fluorescent lights. **Still need ... to identify someone who has electrical experience to guide the process.**

Side Entrance. A new look is coming to the driveway side entrance! New paint (and new color), replacement of broken flooring. Striving to make this area more warm, welcoming and informative – with bulletin board for services, events, activities, etc. **Still need: volunteers help to prep, paint and lay tile with guidance. Note:** only the painting will be done on September 12th. Tile will be planned on a separate day when the area is not in use!

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE LABOR DAY?

Labor Day was first proposed in 1882 and became a Federal holiday in 1894. The initial intent was to have a street parade for the public to appreciate the spirit, strength, and work of trade and labor organizations and their contributions to the economy of the United States. (Similar holidays are celebrated in countries around the world.) This parade was to be followed by a festival for the workers and their families.

(Continued)

More than one theory exists for the decision to mark Labor Day on the first Monday in September. One is to keep the celebration separate from the socialist observances on May 1 (still occurring as International Workers Day in many countries). Another was to put a holiday in the middle of the long period between July 4 and Thanksgiving. Yet another was to remove it from proximity to the date of the Haymarket Massacre in Chicago (May 4, 1886) when a riot broke out at a peaceful demonstration for an 8-hour workday; seven police officers and at least four civilians were killed and hundreds were wounded.

Labor Day now is seen mainly as the unofficial end of summer and a last chance for a vacation trip. Although it used to be the last summer weekend before school started in the fall, in recent years many colleges, universities, and public school systems have started the new school year before Labor Day. The day is also an opportunity for public officials, and candidates for public office, to express their appreciation for and solidarity with the workers of the nation. This year, we will observe Labor Day on September 7.

Harriet Wilson

GREAT FOOD, GREAT COMPANY, GREAT CAUSE

All are invited to a very special potluck supper on September 9th at 6 p.m. to see and hear an excellent presentation by local mountaineers Rick and Celia Wilcox, owners of the acclaimed International Mountain Equipment store in North Conway. Rick and Celia were leading a trek through the Himalaya Mountains when a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Nepal last April 25th. Fortunately, they were not injured, but the earthquake was disastrous for the many thousands of people who were killed, and because of the massive damage to structures. Rick and Celia are working hard to raise funds to assist the Nepalese people, so many of whom they know and love, in re-building.

Rick and Celia, relatives of our own Elizabeth Fogg, will share with us a visual and spoken presentation, sharing stories of their experiences in Nepal, as well as information about the efforts they are making to assist in the aftermath of the earthquakes. A link to a recent article in the Union Leader is offered here: <http://www.unionleader.com/article/20150514/NEWHAMPSHIRE09/150519550>

The Pairs and Sparesmis hosting this special event. Please bring a potluck dish to share, and a place setting for your own dinner (then we won't have tons of dishes to do!). Let's give Rick and Celia and wonderful Wakefield welcome!

Celebrations!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Christine Feddern	18	Sara Denver
2	Ryan Hughes	18	Margie Galabrun
8	Susan Girardin	19	Eric Perkins
8	Lora Stanley	19	Sharon Theiling
10	Meaghan Connell	22	Brenda Croke
10	Rachel White	22	John Croke
11	Mark Evenson	22	Ginny Silcocks
11	Ken Jeffery	24	Connor Nelson
12	Cindy Denver	25	Joe Brejwo
12	Priscilla Frothingham	26	Rebecca Mooers
12	Donna Vanderhoof	28	Edie Garland
14	David Schweitzer	30	Janice Brejwo
15	Ethan Ball	30	Suzi Carter
16	Russell Baldwin		
16	MacKenzie Robinson		

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

4	Joe & Barbara Cawlina
21	Scott & Kathy Frothingham

UNITE WITH ME — FIGHT PKD!

For eight years now, your donations to me for the annual PKD Walk for a Cure have funded research into treatment of Polycystic Kidney Disease. When I walked in 2013, we passed the \$10,000 dollar mark for donations, and also thanks to you, I have been one of the top 3 individual fund raisers for the Boston Walk several times.

I'm walking again this year, on September 20, and I am counting on your support. This inherited disease affects millions of people in the United States and around the world, and it has a devastating effect on the families of those with the disease. It affects children, youth, and adults. There is no cure and the only treatments are kidney dialysis and transplant. I was very fortunate to receive a transplant shortly after my kidneys failed, but many folks wait years on dialysis for a suitable transplant. Many folks don't survive the wait.

Please donate to me again this year, so that together we can continue the effort to find a cure for this disease. To donate online, go to www.walkforpkd.org, type in my

FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



We ask your continued prayers and support for those members of our church and wider community who are ill, or who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and for their families

Dot R.	Marsha A.
Tom and Barbara T.	Jan F.
George B.	Donald L.
Art W.	George J.
Mackenzie M.	Ginny S.
Beth M.	Marcia H.
	Marcia

AND FOR:

Our global neighbors in places where there is great strife.

Our servicemen and women

Our friends in Rufumiso, Zimbabwe

Residents of the Nursing Homes and Retirement Communities in our area

name and the Boston Walk (no team name), and follow the prompts. Or you can give your donation to me directly or at P O Box 5, Sanbornville, 03872. No amount is too small! Thank you and blessings to you for your help with this fight against PKD.

Harriet Wilson

MUSIC FESTIVAL PLANNED FOR OCTOBER

We are in the early stages of planning a music festival at our church for 10/10/15. This is the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend. The event will have local performers giving their gift of music of many styles and should be enjoyed by many. The event will run from late morning to afternoon depending on the number of performers. A lunch of soup, chili, and breads will be offered. I think this will be a good chance for many people to see and experience our church and our loving congregation. I am looking for people to help make this happen , if you know of talented people willing to perform or just help out , please contact me. Thanks,

Buddy Dee

603-522-6307

buddee10@roadrunner.com

SEPTEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10 am Scrabble	3 7 pm String Band	4	5 9-Noon Treasure Shop Open
6 10 am Worship/ Communion	7 6 pm Choir	8 Noon Bible Study 4 pm Centering Prayer	9 9-Noon Treasure Shop 10 am Clergy/ Welfare Meeting 4 pm Diaconate 6 pm Pairs and Spares	10 1 pm Rebecca Rule, Parish Helpers presentation 7 pm String Band	11	12 9 am-2 pm Church Community Work Day
13 10 am Worship/ Coffee Hour 6 pm Bells	14 6 pm Choir	15 10 am Scrabble Noon Bible Study	16	17 10 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 pm String Band	18	19 Shipping Container Loading
20 10 am Worship 11:15 am Team Synergy 6 pm Bells	21 Connie re- turns to Zimbabwe 6 pm Choir	22 FCCW 230th Anniversary Noon Bible Study 4 pm Centering Prayer	23	24 7 pm String Band	25	26 11 am CROP Walk Turntable Park
27 10 am Worship/ Coffee Hour/ 230th Anniv. Celebration 6 pm Bells	28	29 Noon Bible Study	30			

SPECIAL REQUEST

Longtime friends of Elizabeth Fogg, Celia and Rick Wilcox, sent her a letter informing her of a situation involving hardships in Nepal due to this spring's horrific earthquake. The major impact in the community of Khumjung is to the homes of the Sherpas. A Sherpa is the local indigenous Nepalese people who carry the equipment for the climbers in the Himalayan Mountains. Their living conditions are meager at best, but following the earthquake many of their homes were demolished.

The starting financial need to help this village rebuild began at \$10,000 to \$15,000. Due to donations already received Celia is needing only \$6,000 to meet their goal in providing supplies and equipment to restore the homes of these unfortunate people. If you wish to donate to this worthy cause and need a tax ID number, make your checks out to: **Denmark Congregational Church** and place in the memo; *Help Rebuild Khumjung Fund*. If a tax number is not needed make your checks out to: **Help Rebuild Khumjung** and send your checks to PO Box 494 North Conway, NH 03860.



Donna Ackerman

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH UPDATE

A very enthusiastic group gathered at my house this July to iron out our plans for the Outreach Ministry of the 2015 & 2016 year. There were many new faces to the Ministry so a time of education as to what Outreach does was included. We discussed the 5 for 5 offerings that our church has been involved with and have come up with a new and dynamic way to present these offerings to the congregation. Stay tuned to mission moments conducted in church, more Steeple Views announcements, and coffee hour times to hear about what is to come. *(Continued)*

Our two summer events will involve the following: Church Yard Sale on August 29th Dalton Ostrye is in charge of this activity and the proceeds will be added to the church's General Fund.

The ðCrop Walkð is returning on September 26. This event helps Church World Services to assist people who lack food and water. A portion of these proceeds are given to our local Food Pantry. Consider becoming one of the individuals who actually walk, or sponsor a walker.

The Outreach Ministry will be meeting quarterly and we will keep you updated as to what opportunities occur for you to participate. In the meantime continue to support our Fellowship Café by buying the Fair Share coffees and chocolates found in the pantry down stairs in the Fellowship Hall.

*Be Well
Donna V Ackerman*

CROP HUNGER WALK -- HELPING END HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

A committee from our church is being formed to organize the CROP Hunger Walk here in Wakefield and to enlist walkers from other area churches. Help is needed to recruit, registration, hand out water, supply refreshments and help with safety during the walk. And, of course, we need WALKERS and SPONSORS! The CROP Hunger Walk is being planned for September 26 at 11 a.m. It is a 5K walk beginning and ending at Turntable park.

This year Wakefield and some 2,000 cities and towns nationwide are joining together in interfaith community CROP Hunger Walks around the theme "Ending hunger one step at a time." CROP Hunger Walks are making a big difference worldwide, including ensuring that more children reach their 5th birthday, teaching sustainable ways to grow food and providing additional sources of food and income to families facing extreme challenges. CROP Hunger Walks also play a role in the U.S., helping communities ravaged by floods and tornadoes to recover. A portion of the funds raised here in Wakefield will go to the Wakefield Food Pantry and the rest will support the international work of Church World Service.

If you can help out in any way, please contact Evelyn Truhn at 522-7188 or email her at truhne@aol.com. Thanks!!

For more information on the CROP Hunger Walk, go to www.crophungerwalk.org/

ZIMBABWE NEWS

Dzika Borehole Update: Getting water in Dzika has been a long, excruciating process. The drilling company has made three attempts to get to Dzika since October 2014. (Can we say, öYou can't get there from here?ö) In early August it took two tractors and 25 people from the community to get the drilling equipment up that long, troublesome road to begin the process of drilling the bore-hole. (And this was after major improvements were made by the 10 member road crew who took it upon themselves to spend a month making the road more accessible.) When the equipment arrived community members were singing, dancing, and praying. Such jubilation! For the next several days the whole community turned out to watch the slow process of reaching water, staying all day in the hot sun just hoping and praying. But work was halted because more casing and another drill bit is needed to complete the process. As they say in Zimbabwe, öEISH!ö They have way more patience than I do but even Joseph's patience is starting to wear thin as he continues to negotiate with the drilling company. Prayers are definitely needed for a completion of this project. Women are queuing between midnight and 2:00 a.m. in order to get water at the well that is handling the whole village.

Daisy Dube Home: It was difficult saying goodbye to the kids at the home. They were very somber and serious when I left even though I told them I will be coming back. One of the kids asked, öWill you still be our mother?ö Gulp. Another child said, öWe want you to stay with us for 100 years!ö Most of the original plans for renovations have been completed but there are still more structural things that need attention. After months of trying to get volunteers together, we started on the playground two weeks before I left. I asked the kids to surprise me and use any and all leftover paint (we painted the interior of the home with some mighty vivid colors) to paint the untreated wood. Even thought the stairs haven't been added to the floating bridge, the kids love climbing up on it, especially the toddlers. One third grader was doing her home work up there! I have left them with a request to read every day for 20-30 minutes or to work on math during the month long school break. I knew there was a possibility that I was wasting my breath but texts from the caregiver tells me they are studying EVERY day!

Yeeha!!! Perhaps it is because one of our first graders ranked FIRST amongst three classes of first graders (out of approx. 110 kids) and I made such a big deal was made about it that the others are now vying for the honor. It was great having Max Gehring and the other members of the NH delegation visit the home. We sang, drummed,

and danced together for more than 2 hours as I waited for their Mt. Selinda hosts to show up. The delegation had an opportunity to attend the Christian Youth Fellowship AGM (annual general meeting) held at Mt. Selinda 24/7 for an entire weekend. Yes, the Zimbabwean participants stayed up all night and all day to sing, dance, listen to inspiring speakers and see the new members of the CYF become badged. This is a huge deal and the badging ceremony is festive and emotional. We had 11 youth from Daisy Dube badged. This is the first time that anyone remembers any Daisy Dube youth being badged. I was a very proud mother who öpuddled upö often that evening, even at 1:00 a.m. when the badging ceremony took place. More importantly, the kids were so proud of themselves for being accepted into this Christian faith community. And they looked övery smartö in their new CYF uniforms!



Rufumiso Church: Max also attended worship with me at the Rufumiso Church. They had a student pastor for a brief time and were transitioning back to lay leadership being responsible for all aspects of worship and caring for the members. Rufumiso has a difficult time paying the pastor's salary. It has become the norm for most churches in the UCCZ to be lagging 4-6 months in providing compensation. Largely this is due to so few people having jobs. With 90% unemployment, there simply isn't much money in the offering plate.

Jillian's Swim: Our own amazing Jillian Currier is in training to swim the circumference of Lovell Lake in order to raise awareness about the state of education in Zimbabwe and to raise money for her trip in 2016. Please check out her Facebook page, öJillian's Swim for Zimö at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/385245971678902/> and support this fabulous young lady!

Connie Littlefield

Ed. Note: If you are interested in donating online to Jillian's Swim for Zim, you can go to gofundme.com/jillianswimforzim or you can make a deposit directly to her Profile Bank account at Jillian Currier - Zimbabwe mission trip.

MEET THE CARLSONS



This year Agnes and Paul Carlson celebrated their 69th anniversary and are just as in love today as they were in 1946 when they were married following Paul's return from the Army after serving admirably in WWII. The watchword in their lives is "Family". Each year their extended family reunites for their reunion Christmas gathering where love surrounds each and every member of the Carlson clan.

Paul was born in America to Swedish parents who returned to Sweden after the 1929 worldwide economic crash and eventually emigrated to Quincy, MA. He met Agnes when he returned to America from Sweden in 1939 aboard a Swedish ship he worked on when he was 18 and Agnes was working in a Beauty Salon after her high school graduation. Agnes became the manager of the large Salon in Quincy. Paul spoke only Swedish that first year he returned to America with Agnes translating for him while he relearned the English language. They went steady for 3 years and in 1942 Paul was drafted into the Army Air Force as an engineer during WWII and served admirably all over the Pacific where Agnes' letters found him each day for the 3 ½ years he served and was discharged when the war ended.

They were married in 1946 in Quincy where Paul began his 36 year career as an interior house painter while Agnes continued managing the Beauty Salon. They started their family with the birth of Carol later that year. Agnes then retired to become a full time mother

and then came daughter Paula 2 years later and daughter Nancy in 1950 the same year Paul, with the help of his brother and dad, built their first home in Quincy.

They purchased a camp amidst acres of beautiful land in Milton Mills in 1974. Paul worked diligently converting it to a year round home where he and Agnes moved when he retired in 1982. Their girls were all married after they left school and had families of their own which today number 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren aged 5 months to 13.

Agnes grew up in a home that was open to all and that is the way they raised their children who in turn raised their families in the same manner. Agnes is a long time member of Parish Helpers and often adds her yummy baked treats to church functions. Paul has been active in the town of Milton as a Selectman and on many boards. He has served as the VFW Post Commander for many years and through last year marched in the annual Pride Day Parade with his fellow military veterans proudly saluting the American flag under which he served.

A good example of Carlson family love is last year when Paul needed hip surgery that got really complicated and during his hospitalization Agnes fell and broke her shoulder both needed critical care 24 hour a day help. Their family mobilized to help them and stayed with them 24 hours a day for 6 weeks to nurse them back to health. The final stroke of family care love came from great grandchild Devon who at age 6 built Agnes a step-stool to help her reach distant kitchen shelves!

At the ages of 98 and 95 Paul and Agnes live each and every day to the fullest appreciating the value of extended family love.

Dave Schweitzer

THE OLD WAKEFIELD TOWN HALL

When Wakefield was first incorporated in 1774, church and town meetings were conducted in our former church building on Lovell Lake. This was a common practice in old New England when Congregationalists were the leading religious group. A town meeting house separate from the church was proposed in Wakefield several times but not agreed upon until 1836. The building was completed in 1837 and now serves as the Treasure Shop run by Parish Helpers. Parish Helpers leases it from the town and helps with its maintenance and this summer Royal Doughty, Dalton Ostrye, and Dave Schweitzer did a wonderful job repainting it.

<http://www.historicwakefieldnh.com>

Linda Petkunas, Archives Ministry



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2718 WAKEFIELD ROAD, PO BOX 809
SANBORNVILLE, NH 03872



THIS MONTH AT FCCW

September 9th Great Company, Great Food, Great Cause

September 10th Rebecca Rule's "That Reminds Me of a Story"

September 12th Church Work Day

September 20th Team Synergy Meeting

September 22nd Our Church's 230th Anniversary

September 26th CROP Hunger Walk

September 27th Celebrating 230 years at Worship/ Coffee Hour!