

# STEEPLE VIEWS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION*



REVEREND MARY A. JAMES, PASTOR  
REVEREND GEORGE HARVEY, PASTOR EMERITUS

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## ***THE PASTOR'S PLACE . . .***

### **YOU CAN ALWAYS PRAY!**

Prayer is, simply put, communication with God. We communicate with the Divine Being in so many ways: in song, spoken word, group worship, in solitude, at home, from work, from the sanctuary pew, on a mountaintop, in joy, in despair. We have the assurance of Jesus that our prayers are heard, and the deep needs of our souls are responded to by our loving God. Prayer is one of the most important tools we have, and an option for caring action always available to us. When we think there is nothing more we can do about something, we can pray.

Our church coach, Paul Nickerson, has reminded us of the importance of a particular kind of prayer: praying for our local community. Those of us who attended Paul's training on church vitality know that he encouraged us all to pray for our local friends and neighbors and the well-being of our whole community in a couple of ways that may be new to many of us. Paul taught us to take prayer walks and prayer drives!

To be the church, we are called to bring many expressions of faith out into the world. A prayer walk involves taking a walk around our neighborhood, or anywhere in our town, alone or with a group, and intentionally praying for the people who reside in the homes we walk by or who work in the places of business we pass. As we walk, we are present in a special way in our community: we are in caring conversation with God, lifting up our near neighbors for God's care.

For those not as inclined to walk, this can be accomplished with a prayer drive. As you drive along, prayer is offered for the people who live, work, walk, and play along your route.

Our coach has taught us that such prayer allows us to see our community in a new way, with care and concern for its total well-being and for the peace, thriving, and joy of everyone in it. Prayer walks and drives are a core part of any church vitality effort!

Our vitality effort is emblematic of a wonderful truth: the church does not seek to grow simply for its own sake. It does not seek to grow simply to expand its budgetary base. It seeks to grow for one powerfully beautiful purpose: to share God's love, grace and care in and through loving community.

We are here to embody and carry God's hope, love, and presence in the world! Our Vitality Team invites everyone to make prayer walks and prayer drives a new habit of faith.

Who can't use a little word of blessing, even one they are not aware is happening?

Grace and peace

Mary

*Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.*

Luke 18:1

**CHURCH YARD SALE! SATURDAY, AUGUST 27!  
THE CHURCH NEEDS YOU!**

We need people to set up on Friday, Aug. 26, to take down on Saturday, people to bake items to sell, people to volunteer their time that day, people to donate books, furniture, athletic gear, games, house wares, kitchen items, lawn items and any unique gems that have been gathering dust at your house! This is an all-church fundraiser to help us keep the lights on and pay the oil bill. You are part of the family so please consider how you can assist and then call Carol Lundgren at 978-807-4041.

There is also a need to collect the large furniture items on Friday that are being stored at various places around town. Anyone with a truck, trailer and/or van that can help please contact Carol for that also. Even if you just have muscles to help out with the moving and lifting that would be awesome. Items we need to borrow for Friday and Saturday: Canopies and tarps to cover the tables and furniture Friday night (Mark your name on one corner).

*Dalton Ostrye*

**REV. MARY'S SCHEDULE**

Though Mary's schedule is subject to change given the particular needs of the church in a given week, her general routine will now be as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, Mary is working and will either be at the church, in town, or engaged in wider church activity.

Friday and Saturday will be Mary's regular days off each week. On those days, please contact Mary only in cases of urgent need or emergency.

This arrangement gives Mary an extra day in town most weeks to devote to the new forms of networking called for by our vitality effort, and also allows her to have a "weekend" of sorts of her own, with two days off in a row when possible.

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

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

**MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE**

At the time you are reading this we are drawing close to the week of Music Camp, an ecumenical effort to worship God through music with the children of our community. The event will take place August 1 through 5 from 9:00 am to noon at our church. All school aged children are welcome. We have an enthusiastic and energetic staff on board to lead the children in musical activities, crafts, games, Bible stories and worship through song. We are still in need of volunteers to provide snacks. If you are able to do so, contact Jan Stanley. Throughout the week, please remember the children and staff in your prayers. We are hoping to have a fun and inspirational week.

*Jan Stanley*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Operating Budget (Non-restricted): July 1, 2015 –  
June 30, 2016**

Income:	\$ 165,705.05
Expenditures:	<u>\$(160,119.62)</u>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<u>\$ 5,585.43</u>

Checking Non-Restricted balance:	<b>\$ 7,742.20</b>
Checking Restricted Funds balance:	<b><u>\$ 3,157.62</u></b>
<b>Total Checking Account balance: 6/30/16</b>	<b><u>\$10,899.82</u></b>

A new fiscal year has begun. As we had hoped, there is some unexpended money left over from the previous fiscal year. This money was included in the 2016-17 annual budget and will help pay the bills as the year progresses.

The Treasurer's Annual Report will be distributed to the membership by email and posted in the narthex by early August if not before. Sorry it is taking a little extra time, but life seems to be getting in the way!

There will be a notice in the Sunday bulletin when the report is available for those people who do not get church news by email. At that time, there will be a few copies available in the back of the church for those who are interested. We are trying to be green and we do want you to read the report. So, if you are going to throw it away after reading it, please consider bringing it back to the church for others who want a paper copy.

Next month we will get back to our ongoing explanation of the church accounts at Profile bank. Until then, we hope you enjoy your summer.

*Janice Brejwo and Shannon Johnson, Co-Treasurers  
[fccwtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:fccwtreasurer@gmail.com)*

## Team Synergy —

The Team Synergy meeting will be on August 21 and will be held at the home of Judy Trepal. More details to follow.

## EQUAL EXCHANGE AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Started in 2004, the UCC Coffee Project is a collaboration between Equal Exchange and the United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries to involve more Congregational churches and individuals in supporting small farmers around the world.

For each pound of fairly traded coffee, chocolate, tea, and foods purchased through the UCC Coffee Project, 15 cents per pound goes to the Justice and Witness Ministries' Small Farmer Fund. That Fund amounted to \$6,644.89 in 2015 alone!

Small Farmer Fund contributions were used to support the Small Farm Project at the UCC Franklinton Center at Bricks. This project supports a farmers market held at FCAB where local small farmers sell their produce and local residents purchase affordable fresh vegetables and fruits. FCAB is located in eastern North Carolina in an area where many people are in poor health, experience food insecurity, and have poor access to healthy foods. The Small Farm Project is part of a comprehensive approach to community economic development, environmental education, social justice, and health.

## WAKEFIELD FAMILY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

We are pleased to roll out the advertisement for this new position! This will be a six month long start-up position, seeking to work on laying the initial groundwork to establish a program to serve homeless individuals and families in our area. Please spread the word if you know someone who might be qualified to work on this highly collaborative project! Thank you!

Seeking experienced community organizer for collaborative ground work to establish services for homeless in Wakefield area. Degree in social work or related field, three years experience in human service setting, great organizational and communication skills. Six month start-up position, 20 hours per week, flexible hours. Cover letter and resume to: [fccwakefieldnh@gmail.com](mailto:fccwakefieldnh@gmail.com)

## CALLING ALL FOLKS!

Would you like to be part of a Team to help support the life of the Church? To encourage sharing the message of why and how we support and steward the works of God, the Church, the Community, Church life, the Environment, as well as caring of Self. The list goes on.

There are so many ways to encourage stewardship. There are so many ways to be creative, have fun, be involved, show love, and also have responsibility. So many it that it takes a Team of people to be most effective!

The Ministry of Stewardship involves inspiring the giving of time, talent and treasure; oversees and conducts the annual giving campaign; and promotes and maintains an awareness of Earth stewardship.

Please contact either myself, Rev. Mary or Calling and Discernment if you would like to be part of the Stewardship Ministry. You are so Welcomed!

With Thanks and Blessings,

Chris Feddern [cfeddern@myfairpoint.net](mailto:cfeddern@myfairpoint.net)  
603-973-6178

## CHURCH HISTORY MOMENT

The following is a list of pastors who have served our church in recent times. Each shared their understanding of God and our relationship to Him and led us to where we are now as a congregation.

Rev. Thomas Barker: 1980-1983  
Rev. Richard Russell & Rev. Jennifer Russell  
(Co-Pastors: 1984-1990)  
Rev. George Harvey: 1991-1996  
Rev. James G. Pirie: 1996-1997  
Rev. John Tamilio: 1997-2004  
Rev. Dr. Peter Foss: 2004-2007  
Rev. Mary James: 2007 ó Present

Linda Petkunas/Archivist

## SCRABBLE CHANGE OF VENUE

The Scrabble group will meet on August 3rd at the home of Julie Kessler at 636 Canal Road, Sanbornville at 10 a.m. You can contact Julie at by email at [julielouisekessler@gmail.com](mailto:julielouisekessler@gmail.com) or by phone at 603-871-8066.

## TAKE HEART (A MESSAGE FROM ZIMBABWE)

On Pride Day, I asked Rev. Mary to pick a phrase and write it on a beautiful rock. She paused for a few moments and wrote, "Take heart." Little did I know how comforting this phrase would become.

Since returning to Zimbabwe there has been many unexpected challenges. A good friend's serious health diagnosis. More than my share of vehicle breakdowns and car repairs. Government agencies (both US and Zimbabwean) putting up a in my eyes unnecessary and frustrating obstacles.

Take heart.

But it was on an unexpected and unwelcomed Chiredzi/Humani adventure where "take heart" would become my mantra.

After a series of car repairs in the capital city of Harare, I felt all was well. A three hour drive from Mt. Selinda to Chiredzi to pick up groceries before proceeding another 90 minutes or so to Humani to work on logistics for the medical clinic would change all that.

Breakdown #6 or 7 occurred while entering Chiredzi. My friend and I sat on the side of the road while wondering if anyone could help. Men from one professional looking garage estimated the repair cost would be \$320. Another enterprising mechanic said he could tow the car and fix the broken timing belt for less than a third that cost. He backed up a small Honda Fit, hitched a rope to my ailing Honda, and we were off literally in the bush swaying back and forth behind this little vehicle and occasionally hitting his Honda but no one seemed to mind. We would stay at the mechanic's place way past dark as he worked with a flashlight in his teeth.

Take heart. Hardworking and erstwhile people crop up when you really need them.

Finally on our way, we were well past the 6 PM deadline for going through the boom gate (think national park security) to head approx. 90 kilometers into Humani. Then engine was overheating so I pulled over to the side, literally in a desolated area in a natural game preserve. My friend walked back to find the last river we crossed to get some water to refill the radiator but that didn't do the trick as the car still wouldn't start. It was dark, it was cold, and we had no warm jacket to wear. The mobile network was so weak that we tried several telephone numbers over and over again simply to try to let someone know where we were. One promising rescue person didn't have diesel in his truck to come all the way from Humani and tow us. Humani has no stores, certainly no auto supply store, just intrepid resourceful folks. Other friends said they would work on a rescue but didn't know how. I was in a light, short sleeve dress. I found a bandana to cover one arm and a reflective vest to cover another as I sat and shivered.

Take heart. This too shall pass. Some people are homeless and live in the cold continuously.

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After almost four hours with lots of shivering, good old Lucky Matzoni, the guy who didn't have diesel, arrived. I literally cried when he handed me not one, but two blankets. He had borrowed diesel by draining some nearby tractors'. Just five liters here and five liters there. Lucky always has a huge grin and the most positive spirit of anyone I have ever met. Fortunately, he is one of the trustees of our NGO, Project Kuchengetedza Zviwanikwa (PKZ). His picture should appear next to optimism in the dictionary. So Lucky hooked up the Honda to his Toyota truck and for 90 kilometers we swayed back and forth as my friend steered the dead Honda safely to Humani. It was 1:30 a.m. when we arrived and people greeted us with hot food and comforting laughter saying, "That Honda Connie!"

Take heart. Genuine love and hospitality exists.

Lucky is also an amazing mechanic and he felt the head gasket was burnt. Hmmm, just a pesky old head gasket after previously replacing fuses, punctured tires, an alternator and a timing belt. Remember Humani is 120 K from Chiredzi, the place with no auto stores, so I looked at the dead Honda for a few days with the tow bar still attached just in case until someone could go to Chiredzi and buy a headgasket for us. Meanwhile Lucky took the entire engine apart and it lay in pieces and boxes all over the place. My Honda had no innards and I just kept hoping that Lucky's reputation as a fabulous mechanic would stand strong. Oh yes, and a flat tire (I have a broken jack) added to the drama.

Lucky was called to travel to Harare on his real business and I watched the dead Honda minus its parts for more than 9 days. During this time, I actually did do some business on the medical clinic, made arrangements for our much anticipated Wakefield travelers and along the way I caught some kind of intestinal bug. Nothing stayed down, nothing stayed in. That's not fun, especially when you are walking a few hundred feet to an outdoor privy. Not only didn't I plan on being in this location for so long, I didn't plan on getting sick so my supply of medication was minimal. So mid-week, I am laying in my hut in the dark, sick as a dog, and wishing for a funeral for both the Honda and for me to put us both out of our misery as the lumpy bed seemed to spin endlessly. I didn't want to make one more hurried trip to the privy. Soon I was surrounded by the voices of many locals as two competing religious revivals were held within a short distance of where I lay. OH GREAT, I thought but the music was gorgeous and the preaching well most was in Shona, but I kept hearing the voice of one saying "THERE IS POWER!" with an echo by many saying "IN THE NAME OF JESUS!" And choruses of "NEW LIFE!" I bet these phrases were repeated a few hundred times, no lie. Take heart Connie. There is power in the name of Jesus and perhaps Jesus would bless the Honda and me with NEW LIFE. I could now say I had first-hand experience of what it is like for the citizens of this community when one becomes ill and there is no clinic, no pharmacy, and no medical intervention.

Lucky eventually returned to Humani and on day 10, 11 and 12 he put the Honda back together again in the dark of night working and stayed sometimes as late as 11:00 p.m. without a syllable

(Continued on Page 7)

# Celebrations!

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Phillip Twombly	14 Matt Mooers
4 Chris James	15 Amanda Crew
4 Madeline Johnson	15 Shannon Johnson
5 Douglas Ball	17 Nancy Jacobson
6 Shane Caplette	19 Stephanie Ballard
8 Rebecca Ellis	23 George Blomster
8 Julie Evenson	23 Matthew Boggs
9 Harriet Wilson	24 Dick Wilson
11 Cassandra Ball	28 Debbie (Caplette) Soucey
14 Dan James	

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1 Donald & Janie Silcocks
15 Steve Michalsky & Pat Golden
20 David & Sharon Tinkham
21 George & Jo Szirbik
22 Royal & Carole Doughty



My family and I would like to express our appreciation for the many ways our church family has reached out to us during the last months since my mother, Barbara, passed away. The many cards were a comfort, knowing you were praying for us. Also, the kind words or funny stories about my mother that you shared. My mother enjoyed the fellowship of our church for over 30 years. She could be seen at the Christmas pageants enjoying her grandchildren and the great grandchildren, baptisms, weddings, and the many bell concerts in our church, Boston, and at the Opera House or other churches we traveled to. She was a constant support for many, not just her immediate family.

Thank you from my heart to yours,  
Patricia Golden

## 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.	Jan F.
Tom and Barbara T.	Donald L.
George B.	George J.
Art W.	Sid S.
Mackenzie M.	Marcia H.
Marcia	Parker V.
Marsha A.	

### AND FOR:

Our global neighbors in places where there is great strife.

Our servicemen and women

Our friends at Rufumiso Church, Zimbabwe  
Residents of the Nursing Homes and Retirement  
Communities in our area

## TORIA, OUR CANINE CHURCH MEMBER: A WORKING GAL

What a joy it has been to have welcomed John and Shirley Stevens as new members of the congregation this past spring! You have probably noticed that they are always accompanied by lovely Toria, their service dog. I have learned a lot from Shirley about how to relate to a service dog---of course, I always immediately want to greet and pet Toria, because she is so very friendly-- but Shirley has lovingly taught me that when Toria is at church, she is at work, and it is important that I not interfere with Toria doing her job.

I am sharing what I have learned with our whole congregation, because I can see that many of us want to pet Toria and interact with her, which is natural---but not the correct response to a working service dog. Let's help Toria do her job, and ignore her. Yep, hard to do, but that's the way to allow a service dog to do what she needs to do! Thanks, all.

# AUGUST 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Children's Music Camp Mon-Friday 9 a.m. to Noon	<b>2</b> Music Camp	<b>3</b> Music Camp 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open  Scrabble—10	<b>4</b> Music Camp 6:30 pm Community String Band	<b>5</b> Music Camp	<b>6</b> 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open
<b>7</b> 10 am Worship and Holy Communion Loaves and Fishes Coffee Hour	<b>8</b> Memorial Service for Virginia McNutt 11:30 a.m.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open 6 pm Pairs and Spares	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Community String Band	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>VILLAGE FAIR</b>  9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open
<b>14</b> 10 am Worship  Coffee Hour hosted by Hospitality Team	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Noon Bible Study	<b>17</b> 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open	<b>18</b> Bereavement Support Group 11 a.m.  6:30 pm Community String Band	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open
<b>21</b> 10 am Worship Loaves and Fishes Coffee Hour Team Synergy Mtg at home of Judy Trepal	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open	<b>25</b> Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.  6:30 pm Community String Band	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>CHURCH YARD SALE</b>  Treasure Shop Open 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
<b>28</b> 10 am Worship  Loaves and Fishes Coffee Hour	<b>29</b> Pastor Mary Study Leave This Week	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Treasure Shop Open			

ble of complaint. (His day job was from 7:00-5:00 p.m.) The engine wouldn't catch so Lucky just knew he had to adjust the idling/timing. But he was called away to Mutare and Masvingo (big towns in opposite directions) and it looked like the Honda revival would have to wait another day or two or six or seven days.

Take heart. Look for God's grace and love.

I could focus on what wasn't working or I could find the blessing. During the day I could see monkeys going from tree to tree, with beautiful birds and butterflies. I had elephants visit within 100 yards at night while anxious kiddoes squealed in delight. I could hear a male lion calling to his female counterpart to come and dine on whatever it was that he had caught for his lion family. I would see impala running freely and giraffe grazing peacefully. I could socialize with the very friendly, very curious, and colorful residents who lived nearby, and admire how they washed their baskets of clothing in the canal, walk back and forth with 20 liter buckets on their heads seeking water, and see the day long work of cooking, cleaning, and caring for their families. And how many of us would show the same genuine hospitality from day one to day fourteen to unexpected yet treasured visitors?

Take heart. We all have options, we just need to see them.

I left the Honda in Humani and traveled four hours back to Mt. Selinda in a huge lorry and two combis. I had forgotten how interesting combi transport was, with two people sharing the driver's bucket seat.

So I share this long story to encourage you too to take heart. When problems seem to pile up, when options seem limited, when you have just about had enough and are ready to give up, *take heart*. Rejoice in the unconditional welcome and comfort of others. Find the blessing. Know that whatever you are going through will pass and there will be new learnings, with touches of God's love and grace all around. And the Honda? I will leave it to our Wakefield travelers to give you the updates.

Love to all, Connie Littlefield

## GOT MILK? GOT PRIVILEGE?

***Do you have adequate milk? Do you know where your milk comes from?***

***Do you have white privilege? Do you know where your white privilege comes from?***

There are amazing, rich, powerful resources available to expand our understanding of white privilege. Much of this information is challenging! White privilege is complex and prompts discussions of racism. Are you interested in exploring and studying white privilege? I am preparing a special notebook of resources including articles, books, testimonies and videos related to this topic. This notebook will be available in our church library *soon* --- stay tuned for updates!

Jan Fairchild

## THE PARISH HELPERS

Twenty-nine Parish Helpers enjoyed an afternoon with friends at our annual picnic. Thank you to our host, Carol Lundgren, for once again welcoming us to her home.

The **Village Fair** will be held on Saturday, August 13. We need pies for the pie sale and cookies for the cookie walk! Fruit pies or even quiches are welcome and are popular. Our pies sell out quickly, so the more we have, the more successful our Fair will be! As for the cookie walk, please plan on baking a few dozen cookies about 2 1/2 inches to 3 inches in diameter. All varieties are welcome, but sturdy cookies that aren't too gooey are best when sold in this manner.

We are still looking for helpers at the Treasure Shop. Rachel White is signing up volunteers to cover the open hours - **Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** through August. Please call Rachel now to tell her when you can help. Remember - the Treasure Shop is the Parish Helpers biggest fundraiser of the year! Rachel's number is **520-2316**.

There is no regular meeting this month because of the Fair. We hope all the Parish Helpers will help in some way to make our Fair a success! See you at the Fair!

Carol Jeffery

## VITALITY TEAM AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY!

You may have seen members of the Vitality at the free Friday night concerts at Turntable Park or sitting out front of the church on a Saturday morning.



We would like to keep our sanctuary open on Saturday mornings in during August, and offer free lemonade in front of the church. Would this be something that you might be able to help with to sit in a comfortable place, offer free lemonade, and chat with those who stop by? If you think you can offer one or more Saturday mornings, please contact Ginny Schweitzer, Susan Raban or leave a message with the church office.

## CALLING AND DISCERNMENT MINISTRY

Our Calling and Discernment Ministry is still looking for Coordinators/Co-Coordiators for Christian Education Ministry and Outreach Ministry. These are extremely important Ministries in the life of our church. These Ministries already have members, but no Coordinators.

You can read descriptions of what both of these Ministries entail in this edition of Steeple Views. Please consider each of them and if you need help discerning if one of them might be your calling, please contact me, Evelyn Truhn. ([truhne@aol.com](mailto:truhne@aol.com) or 603-522-7188) I'll happily answer any questions you may have. I am a first time Coordinator. It may seem daunting, but I can assure you that you will be surrounded by wonderful, insightful people who will guide and support you. Please give this some prayerful thought and think about sharing your talents!

We are also very interested in establishing a Safety and Security Team as part of our Building and Grounds Ministry. This would include such topics as parishioner and staff safety, handling unwanted/ disruptive intrusion, preventing trips and falls, preventing theft, child safety, procedures in the event of medical emergencies, and other related topics. Please let Evelyn Truhn, our Calling and Discernment Ministry Coordinator, know if you would like to share your talents in this important area.

*Evelyn Truhn - [truhne@aol.com](mailto:truhne@aol.com)*

### NEW LIBRARY BOOK

Peace Is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life By Nhat Hanh

Nhat Hanh is a Vietnamese monk, Zen master, poet, and peace activist who was nominated for the Nobel Prize by Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1967. Arnold Kotler, his editor, used the following poem to describe the essence this book:

Peace is every step.  
The shining red sun is in my heart.  
Each flower shines with me.  
How green, how fresh all that grows.  
How cool the wind blows.  
Peace is every step.  
It turns the endless path to joy.

It is shelved in Spiritual Growth section of the Fellowship Hall Library,

*Linda Petkunas/Church Librarian*

## MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We are in need of a church member to step into a leadership position as coordinator of our Christian Education Ministry. The coordinator would be working closely with the Minister and with the new Church Life Administrator to ensure that programs are offered to all age groups in the church.

Programs are already being offered by volunteers who enjoy working in Christian Education. Teaching and leading programs is NOT the responsibility of the coordinator. Rather, the role has more to do with making certain that programs are well coordinated and continuing.

For example, it would be very beneficial for the coordinator to gather a group of volunteers of varying ages to discuss what types of programs might best benefit our congregation, to review curricula as needed, and to function as those who, in conjunction with the Minister and others, seek to assure a robust array of options for lifelong learning and faith formation.

Further, in this leadership role, the coordinator would be responsible for overseeing an adequate budget and would represent the ministry on Leadership Council and also on all the programs offered. This person be a part of Team Synergy.

The Mary Cox Memorial and Children's Libraries also are a part of the Christian Education Ministry, and are being very well attended by volunteers.

The Coordinator for the Ministry of Christian Education will provide leadership for a very vital Ministry. If you are interested in discussing this rewarding work, please contact Evelyn Truhn, coordinator of the Calling & Discernment Ministry, [truhne@aol.com](mailto:truhne@aol.com). Your church needs you.

*Margie Galabrun*

### TREASURE SHOP OFF TO A GREAT START

Parish Helpers Treasure Shop has been a bustling place this summer so far! It's open every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Old Town Hall in Wakefield Corner through August. Find your treasures there! We welcome your donations, but please NO clothing, stuffed toys, bed pillows, footwear, computers, VHS tapes, televisions, or large furniture. Please be sure that items are clean and in sellable condition. Thank you for your help in making the Treasure Shop a success!

## NEW CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER



We are excited to announce that our Church School program will be up and running in September, and grateful to have volunteer Denine Foulks making a regular commitment to teach Church School on the first Sunday of every month, as well as to begin preparations for a wonderful Christmas pageant involving the children! We are also grateful that our new Congregational Life Administrator, Julie Margolis, will be handling the logistical and administrative elements needed to support that effort.

We are beginning efforts to HIRE an infant and toddler care provider for each Sunday. If you know a qualified person who is interested, please let our Personnel Ministry Coordinator Dave Schweitzer know. We will always need ONE volunteer to work with that person. Please let Julie know in the office if you are willing to be the volunteer helper.

The rhythm of the program will generally be as follows (exceptions will be publicized ahead of time):

- First Sunday: Church School Program with Denine Foulks (other volunteers needed);
- Second Sunday: Family Sunday, with worship service inclusive of children and more geared to their participation;
- Third Sunday: Church School Project
- Fourth Sunday: Children in church for the service, involved in the service, as well as having access to activities in the children's area;
- Fourth or Fifth Saturdays: Saturday Service Club, projects to be announced. This will involve our children in community service.

**Volunteers will be needed for all of these wonderful efforts. Julie will be calling to seek volunteers to help out; even if you can help only one Sunday, this will be very welcome! Save her a phone call! Call the office at 522-3189 to offer your help.**

**Thank you! Our children and youth are a precious part of our congregation. Let's show them our support and love.**

## CHRISTIAN OUTREACH MINISTRY

The First Congregational Church of Wakefield is looking for an Outreach Coordinator and volunteers to continue the great work of this cherished ministry. It is important to point out that the Coordinator is not expected to address all of the following aspects of this wonderful ministry. Instead, they are to pull together volunteers who feel called to cover one or a number of the various opportunities to serve. For example; many FCCW members are involved in assisting with the Wakefield Food Pantry as well as help with Pride Day and the yard sale. The coordinator oversees the volunteers, but does not do the work of implementing the operation of the activity. They may help the volunteers, or choose to not be involved at all. Here is a list of various aspects of the Christian Outreach Ministry.

### **5 for 5 Ministries:**

OCWM – Our Church's Wider Mission ó works in conjunction with: Office of General Ministries, Local Church Ministries, Wider Church Ministries, Justice and Witness Ministries. This is a part of the church budget as we pledge our sponsorship of the operations of ministries listed above.

OGHS – One great Hour of Sharing - Channels resources for international programs in health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response, administered by Wider Church Ministries, Global Sharing of Resources.

Strengthen the Church - Grows the UCC's future by funding the Stillspeaking Ministry, new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership formation ó especially among women and people of color; administered by your church's Conference, Local Church Ministries, and The Stillspeaking Ministry.

Neighbors in Need - Supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council of American Indian Ministries (CAIM), Justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Witness Ministries.

Christmas Fund - Helps provide pension and health premium supplementation to low income retired workers, emergency assistance to clergy families in need, and Christmas checks to hundreds of annuitants, as administered by the Pension Board.

Shepherd Program Crop Walk Alternative Gifting (Christmas) Z-Team Campus Ministries Blankets Plus (Mother's Day - Church World Services) Food Pantry	Fellowship Café ONA- Open and Affirming ARFF Walk Yard Sale Pride Day Mission Possible City Reach
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*Donna Ackerman*



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

THE PARISH HELPERS

# VILLAGE FAIR

AND

COOKIE WALK



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13**

**9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD, UCC  
2718 WAKEFIELD ROAD, WAKEFIELD, NH**