



STEEPLE VIEWS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTCONGREGATIONALCHURCHOFWAKEFIELDUCC

THE PASTOR'S PAGE . . .

A VISIT FROM ONE OF THE FAMILY

On Sunday, June 2, we will be graced by a visit from our Conference Minister, the Reverend Gary Schulte. Gary will lead us in worship and will serve as our preacher that day, bringing the greetings and warm wishes of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ. It is an honor to host Gary, and welcoming him to our church is a joy akin to welcoming a beloved relative who visits us at our home.

The worship service will be followed by a delicious brunch-like coffee hour, and time for conversation with Gary, who will answer questions about the Conference and its ministries. Gary is also a friend of Rev. Albert Mhururu, our sabbatical minister, and will share with us his willingness to offer the support of the Conference in assuring a smooth transition for Rev. Mhururu.

The Conference of which we are a part is always there for us. They pray for us, provide resources which augment our budget, offer us wonderful opportunities for worship, education and fellowship, and carry out much needed ministries locally, nationally and globally. Like loving parents who are too often taken for granted, the Conference Ministers are always interested in hearing from us, care about how we are doing, and stand ready to offer counsel when it is needed and asked for. Whenever our church has had or will have a pastoral transition, the Conference acts as an indispensable resource for assisting in searching for interim and settled pastors. It is a common error to see the Conference as somehow "separate" from the local churches to which it offers support and resources. We easily forget how very true it is that a vital Conference strengthens all the local churches to which it is connected.

I hope that our congregation members and friends will all turn out to welcome the wise, kind and gentle Gary and to engage in conversation with him. It always raises spirits to hear about the wonderful work of our Conference and to be reminded of the vitality of our connection!

Blessings and peace,
Mary

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your words are done with gentleness born of wisdom.

James 3: 13

TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Budget (Non-restricted): July 1, 2012 – April 30, 2013

Income:	\$114,818.42
Expenditures:	\$115,829.11
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (1,010.69)

Restricted Funds balance as of April 30, 2013: \$1,710.54

I have good news to report. Though expenditures still surpassed revenue at the end of April, things have turned around in the first few weeks of May. The operating budget is back in the black and should stay there throughout the final days of this fiscal year.

The end of the fiscal year brings with it the time-honored tradition of Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held after church on June 23rd. Many topics, including the 2013-14 proposed budget, will be discussed, plans made and actions taken. Being a member of our church is a privilege and with that comes a responsibility. Everyone's voice needs to be heard. Please attend and take part in this important event in the life of our church.

Janice Brejwo, Treasurer
jbrejwo@roadrunner.com

CHANGING THE DREAM WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?

Good question. There are a few who have expressed an interest in exploring the possibilities of "what's next" following the Awakening the Dreamer Symposium. If you would like to be part of this discussion, please let me know of your interest. It's OK if you didn't participate in the Symposium. Just bring your will to create an environmentally sustainable, socially just, and spiritually fulfilling world.

Margie Galabrun
mgalabrun@roadrunner.com or 522-6647

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be open this summer on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Time TBA.

FIVE YEARS OF ONLINE NEWS

I would like to thank all of you who have adjusted over the years to reading the Steeple Views online and helping in our effort to conserve resources and lower our costs. For those who do not have email, we will continue to print them and also to have copies available at the church for visitors. If you have email access and are not on our list, please email me at steepleviews@gmail.com and I'll make sure to add your name.

Carol Jeffery, Editor

NH CONFERENCE MINISTER TO VISIT, JUNE 2

On Sunday, June 2, Gary Schulte, Conference Minister for the NH Conference of the United Church of Christ, will be our guest preacher. A special coffee hour and conversation time with Rev. Schulte will be held after the worship service.

HISTORY OF COLLECTIBLES PROGRAM JUNE 13

The Parish Helpers will host a talk by Hetty Startup of UNH at their meeting on Thursday, June 13, at 1 p.m.

The subject is the History of Collecting and Collectibles. She will present a comprehensive look at the fun, weird and wonderful history of the history of museums, collectors and collecting habits. This talk also invites you to think about your own collecting interests. Why do you collect certain things and not others? Is there a theme? If you have a collection, please bring a sample to share at the meeting.

Z TEAM PANCAKE BREAKFAST – SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH

Mark your calendar to enjoy some delicious pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee cake, muffins, juice and hot beverages. Adults \$7, Children \$5, Family meal deal (2 adults and 2 kids) \$20, and children under 3 eat free! Pancakes will be served from 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. Makes a nice way to treat the men in your life on the Saturday before Father's Day!

For further information about what you read in this newsletter, please email the editor at steepleviews@gmail.com or call the church office. We'll be happy to help!



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

JUNE 23: THIRD ANNUAL MINISTRY FAIR & ANNUAL MEETING

The church officers and ministry coordinators are anticipating and planning our Third Annual Ministry Fair, which will be celebrated during worship on June 23.

Everyone will be invited to learn about the ministries and choose those they will serve during the coming year. The festivities will continue with sharing reports and recommendations at our Annual Meeting.

Plan to attend, participate and celebrate our creative, welcoming community of faith!

LIBRARY NEWS

New book Alert~ No Man Left Behind by P. Morley, D. Delk & B. Clemmer. This great book will help anyone struggling to get men more involved in the ministry of the church. It gives you the framework and focus to your efforts. Though this book is geared toward men, I'm sure many ministries will find use of the information found in this highly rated book.

New Children's Book Alert~ What Happens When I Talk To God by Stormie Omartian. This wonderfully illustrated book brings to children the importance of prayer and brought to them in an easy to understand way, based around the daily lives of children.

While we love to see lots of cards in the box (which means books are out), we also love to get them back for others to enjoy. Please check your shelves for any church library books and return them in any of the book return bins. Thank You.

Nancy Dee and Mary Beth Cook

RELAY FOR LIFE

Are you a cancer survivor? Do you know someone who is? Please consider joining me at "The Nick" in Wolfeboro on **June 22 at 2 pm**. That will be the (brief) opening ceremony for this year's Relay For Life of Lake Winnepesaukee. Immediately thereafter, Survivors and their caregivers take a lap around the track ending at the Survivor Tent for a reception. There will be a buffet lunch with lots of giveaways, all donated by area businesses. Hope to see you there.

*Nancy Dee
Survivorship Chair*

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST GENERAL SYNOD 29

www.ucc.org/synod

General Synod 29, with the theme God's Vision: LOVE, will be held in Long Beach, California June 28 – July 2. Synod is a gathering of the national body of the United Church of Christ, with representation from every conference in the US and US provinces. International visitors, dynamic and renowned speakers, thought provoking workshops and educational experiences covering an amazing array of topics, spirited youth participation, vibrant music and inspiring worship are all elements as the UCC family gathers.

Our church has had representation at Synod for approximately 15 years, and for me, the heart of the work is in the resolutions that come before the gathered body. Resolutions are calls for discussion, action or witness on a variety of challenging and often complex issues. It shakes up your thinking and delegates become witness and participants in often historic movements within the United Church of Christ. This year's resolutions include, but are not limited to:

- Resolution against Bullying and Discrimination
- Mountaintop Removal Coal Mining in Appalachia
- Support of Outdoor Ministries of the UCC
- On Making UCC Church Buildings More Carbon Neutral
- Recognizing the Need for Compassionate Care and Healing of Veterans
- Resisting Actions Seeking to Undermine the Status of Women in Society
- Advocating for Funding to Construct Quality Affordable Housing
- Advocating for Tax Reform as Christian Stewardship and Public Duty
- Supporting Compassionate Comprehensive Immigration Reform
- Responding to Drug-Related Gang Violence in Honduras

A full listing of the resolutions, the conference or ministry sponsoring the resolution, and the theological stance and rationale behind each may be found at <http://www.ucc.org/synod/resolutions/>

I encourage you to go to www.ucc.org/synod and check out or wider church family at work. Wouldn't it be great to bring a bit of synod to Wakefield? We may explore the possibility of doing some live streaming of synod worship and activities on Sunday, June 30 either during worship or at coffee hour. Let's share the UCC vision of LOVE!

Connie Littlefield

Celebrations!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4 Nicholas Legere	16 Frank Frazier
6 Sienna Canney	16 Cathy Koukal
7 David Coutreau	16 Julie Leyare
7 Pam Frazier	16 June Taylor
7 Donna McDougal	17 Janet Carr
8 Chuck Dolbear Jr.	19 Lorrie Hughes
9 Kevin Connell	19 Lois Royal
9 Carol Lundgren	21 Connie Littlefield
11 Steve Michalsky	22 Jean Ball
13 Joseph Cawlina	25 Kaylee Fogg
14 Josie Perkins	25 Ron White
14 Paul Steer	26 Florence Morrison
14 Erin Perkins	27 Morgan Haag
15 Hunter Roberts	28 Louise Wheeler
15 Gina Golden	29 Thomas Tamilio
15 Adam Koukal	30 Seth Fogg

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

1 Edward & Florence Morrison (1968)
2 Mary & Bob James (1979)
4 Paul & Janet Twombly
5 Ryan & Martha Jo McCarthy (1993)
6 Bill & Lorrie Hughes
8 Curtis & Janet Carr (1957)
9 Chris & Titia Bozuwa (1956)
12 Jack & Marie Hebb (1952)
15 Phil & Connie Twombly
20 George & Donna Ackerman
21 Maurice & Ann Hatch (1958)
21 Wayne & Lisa Robinson
23 George & Marion Blomster
26 Ken & Carol Jeffery (1976)
26 Parker & Donna Vanderhoof (1954)
27 Leonard & Carolyn Chase
27 Bruce & Judy Levis (1953)

FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Connie B.	George B.
Paul T.	Art W.
Dot R.	Cathy K.
Jo W.	Mackenzie M.
Julia W.	Ginny S.
Tom and Barbara T.	

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

LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY



July 3—Diaconate meets
July 11—Parish Helpers Picnic
July 29—Rev. Mhururu arrives
July 29—Aug. 2 Vacation Bible School

SOMETHING FOR KIDS

"Something for Kids -- Please join us for Vacation Bible School the week of July 29 to August 2. We will be learning all about Moses while having great fun with games, crafts, stories, and yummy snacks. VBS is a morning activity 9 to noon. All children are welcome to attend - preschool through middle school."

Jan Stanley

JUNE 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Guest Preacher Rev. Schulte Worship and Holy Communion Church School— 10 a.m. Coffee Hour	3 Choir 6 p.m.	4	5 Diaconate Meeting 4:30 p.m.	6 Scrabble 10 a.m.. C & D Meeting—4 Weight Watchers—5:30 String Band Beg.—6 p.m. Mixed—7 p.m.	7	8
9 Worship and Church School— 10 a.m. Coffee Hour 11 a.m. SLFF Meeting —11	10 Choir 6 p.m.	11	12	13 Parish Helpers 1 p.m. Weight Watchers— 5:30 p.m. String Band Beg.—6 p.m. Mixed —7 p.m.	14	15 Z-team Breakfast 7::30—10 a.m..
16 Worship and Church School— 10 a.m.	17 Choir 6 p.m.	18 Scrabble 10 a.m.	19 Monthly Clergy Luncheon PPP—12 noon	20 Weight Watchers— 5:30 p.m. String Band Beg.—6 p.m. Mixed —7 p.m.	21	22 Relay for Life At the Nick Wolfeboro
23 Worship and Church School— 10 a.m. MINISTRY FAIR AND ANNUAL MTG.	24 Choir 6 p.m.	25	26	27 Prayer Shawls 10 a.m. Weight Watchers— 5:30 p.m. String Band Beg.—6 p.m. Mixed —7 p.m.	28	29
30 Worship and Church School— 10 a.m.						

SABBATICAL, WHAT IS IT?

No, this is not Déjà vu. I submitted an article a couple months ago in Steepleviews concerning Reverend Mary's Sabbatical. I thought it couldn't hurt for those who read it to be reminded and for those who didn't to be educated.

Enjoy, Donna

Sabbatical (from Latin *sabbaticus*, from Greek *sabbatikos*, from Hebrew *shabbat*, i.e., [Sabbath](#), literally a "ceasing") is a rest from work, or a hiatus, often lasting from two months to a year. Sabbatical is connected with the last day of Creation when God rested. (Genesis 2:3) God both models and commands Sabbath rest for his people. "Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy." (Exodus 20:8-11)

Jesus affirmed the importance of rest saying, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath." (Mark 2:27-28) The Biblical example of Jesus' own frequent withdrawal to a quiet place to meditate, pray and be renewed is a model. In His ministry, the constant demands of people led Jesus to step away on a regular basis ([wheatridge.org](#)).

A Sabbatical is NOT a vacation. Normally during a Sabbatical a person engages in research, rest, study and / or travel. Our own Reverend Mary will be taking a Sabbatical this coming August through October. During her time of absence we will take pleasure in having Reverend Albert Mhururu (pronounced ma-ru-ru with "long" u's) from Zimbabwe as our Minister. Reverend Mhururu is excited about teaching, preaching, and learning during his stay. He and Reverend Mary will be conducting the church service together on the first Sunday before Mary's Sabbatical and also on the last Sunday following her return. This will be a wonderful representation of the Passing of the Pulpit so to speak.

The Diaconate is very much aware of how this kind of change within our church causes some people to get a little anxious. No worries. We are a strong, spiritual congregation that consists of individuals with many talents. And with Reverend Mhururu assisting us we will be just fine. But before we get too wrapped up in our own fears concerning the time away from our beloved Reverend Mary, let's look at it through the eyes of love. Mary will have a wonderful opportunity to rejuvenate herself physically, mentally and spiritually. If you think she is dynamic now (and I do) then wait until she returns following her Sabbatical. It is like being recharged. Mary has planned a detailed schedule of her Sabbatical that she will present to the congregation by the end of April. More information concerning Mary's time away and Reverend Mhururu's

time with us will follow in future venues. Until then let's keep all of this in our prayers and relish the joy in providing what is recommended by the UCC guidelines, as well as our contractual obligations, this time of "ceasing" or Sabbatical in which Mary richly deserves.

Your Sister in Christ,
Donna V Ackerman Ed.D.
Deacon

PARISH HELPERS QUILT RAFFLE

The annual Parish Helpers Quilt Raffle is underway! This year's offering is a beautiful maxi-queen size quilt. It can be used as a bedspread on a queen size bed or as a quilt top on a king.

The quilt top was pieced by the Amish and purchased at a shop in Pennsylvania by a very generous friend who donated it to us! It was machine pieced with hand appliqué in the center and on the pillow top. The quilt was machine quilted by Saima Davis at the Attic Cat Quilt Shop in Effingham. The quilt is called "Bridal Heart Commons"

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The drawing will take place at the church fair in November—just in time to make a wonderful Christmas surprise for a lucky someone! All profits will support the Parish Helpers' good works for the church and community. Tickets are available from the Parish Helpers and will be sold at the Treasure Shop as well at the church during coffee hours and other church events. For tickets or more information, see Pam Frazier or Ginny Schweitzer.

Carol Jeffery



Quilt is seen here laid out on a king size bed.

Circle 228 – Up, Up and Away!

The snowmen are gone (yippee!) and we welcome colorful balloons to adorn our Circle 228 Boards in Fellowship Hall. Stop by, consider something you would like to give to the church from suggestions on the left Circle and take a tag. Or make a tag of your own if you know of something needed. Then sign the tag with a value of your item and pin it to the right hand board (heart shaped) once you have made your purchase. Reams of paper, gift certificates to Staples, Rite Aid, Hannaford, cleaning supplies, detergent, \$ for music or \$ for repairs – all welcome!

Whole-hearted Giving Stewardship Drive –

We can do it! You are doing it! Whether you are a member of FCCW or a faithful friend, you are welcome to be a regular giver through a pledge promise for the coming year. Sixty one folks have already made their promise. There is a goal, of course, in order to meet obligations for the next fiscal year which begins on July 1. That goal is \$111,500 from folks who pledge. We are close to that: \$108,962. Will we make it? With God's help, we will. Is your pledge among those counted? Please pray about it. If you would like a pledge card, please feel free to complete the one below and send or bring it to church to the attention of the Assistant Treasurer

Thank you so much to all in the congregation and church school children who faithfully drop coins into the Liberty Education Fund jug in the Narthex. Liberty has just sent us a tender letter. You can read it here:

Chikore High School
PO Box 170
Chipinge
March 2013

Dear Friends,

I write this letter appreciating for all the help you gave me. I am now in Secondary School doing Form One (Grade 8). I never knew that I was going to be in Secondary School. Your kindness have raised me to a greater extent.

I am very lucky to have you as my friend. I also want to thank Mr. Joseph Sibiyia also because he finds you as my good friend. I hope that God will help me in my education. The money you are sending is helping me alot in my schooling. May god bless you all. We miss you alot here.

How are you? Here we are all fine. Please pass my greetings to all.

Your loving friend,
Liberty



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD, UCC
July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014 “Whole Hearted Giving” Annual Pledge**

“ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.”

My/Our annual Commitment is: \$ _____ for 2013-2014 church year.

To be paid: per week per month quarterly annually

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Tel: _____

- Check here if you desire a personal **conversation** about giving.
- Check here if you would like **offering envelopes**.
- Check here if you would like information about **Planned Giving**.

You may place your Whole Hearted Giving Commitment in the offering plate or mail to:

First Congregational Church, Attn: Assistant Treasurer, PO Box 809, Sanbornville, NH 03872



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



ANNUAL
MEETING
AND
MINISTRY FAIR
JUNE 23

JUNE LECTONARY

June 2—Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 18:20-21 [22-29] 30-39
Psalm 96
Galatians 1:1-12
Luke 7:1-10

June 16—Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 21:1-10 [11-14] 15-21a
Psalm 5:1-8
Galatians 2:15-21
Luke 7:36—8:3

June 9—Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 17:8-16 [17-24]
Psalm 146
Galatians 1:11-24
Luke 7:11-17

June 23—Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kings 19:1-4 [5-7] 8-15a
Psalm 42 and 43
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

June 30—Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62