

JUNE, 2015



First Parish United Church of Christ (Congregational)

P.O. Box 228, 176 West High Street, Somersworth, NH

03878-0228

Rev. Mark Rideout, Pastor

Church Office: (603) 692-2057

www.somersworthfirstparish.org

firstparishsomersworth@myfairpoint.net



FIRST PARISH YARD SALE JUNE 20, 2015 8:30am -1:00pm

Reminder: Electrical devices or electronic items, *must be in good working order*. Please remember, no clothing, battery operated toys that don't work, mattresses, broken items, tires, car seats, large appliances or cribs. **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS OFF AT THE GARAGE DOOR OR LEAVE UNATTENDED IN THE CHURCH HALL!** Kindly make arrangements with us and we will meet you there, or we'll be happy to transport your items to church for you.

Your help is needed in several areas, preparing for the day of the yard sale:

Thursday June 18th 6-7:30pm

emptying the garage, bringing boxes into the hall

Friday June 19th 9am-5pm

unpacking boxes and displaying on tables

Saturday June 20th 8am-1pm

assisting patrons with their purchases

Saturday June 20th 1pm till done (3pm?)

clean up crew

Please consider how you might be able to help out and then watch for the Yard Sale sign-up sheet. This is a great fundraiser for the church and a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.

Marc & Patty Cote
Yard Sale Coordinators
Cell: 603-767-8069

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

There is no Pastor's Message this month due to a family illness in Pastor Mark's family. Please contact one of the deacons if you have any questions.

Prayer Concerns may be added to the active Prayer List by: using a Prayer Card in worship; submitting in writing to the Church Office, or contacting those on the Prayer Group. Prayer Group members include: Sue Boucher [603-617-6949], Bertha Carr, Dottie Douglas [603-332-6113] and Fran Karlik [603-397-5674]. Names/concerns shared with the group are held until the next quarterly meeting of the group unless asked to keep the name on.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM

Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Fellowship Time Follows Worship

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first

Sunday of each month.

Ministers: The People of the Church

Pastor: Rev. Mark A. Rideout

Christian Education Coordinator:

Susan Vollkommer

Moderator: Richard Whitten

Co-Clerks: Patty Cote & Debbie Hall

Treasurer: Linda Farrell

Assistant Treasurer: Richard Shepherd

Organist/Choir Director: Bette Daley

Newsletter Team: Debbie Hall-Editor,

Brenda Davidson-Calendar,

Luise Watman-Birthdays/Anniversaries/

Email Addresses

Spaghetti Supper

Our May supper will be our last supper before the summer season! We've had a very good year so far, with some ups and downs as always. We've had a couple of very successful suppers and had to cancel one due to weather! As of April 15th, you have helped us raise \$2,234 for the church's general fund. This total does not include April's or May's suppers!

We always have excellent volunteers, thanks to you! The desserts you have made for the suppers are delicious. Many are in high demand!

We hope you enjoy your summer while we take a break during June, July and August and will be fresh and ready to resume in September.

Thank you again for all your help! Together we make a great team!



A Gentle Reminder:

* Sunday Bulletin announcements/information needs to be in writing to the Church Office by MONDAY, or, you may e-mail it directly to Debbie Hall at kenanddebbhall@comcast.net

* Monthly Newsletter items MUST be submitted by the 3rd Friday [OR as noted in the monthly newsletter calendar]. Earlier is better! Email directly to Debbie Hall at kenanddebbhall@comcast.net Written items may be left in the pocket on the copy room door as well (just let Deb know!).

* Monthly calendar dates and times are submitted directly to Brenda Davidson at birdsdauidson@comcast.net

* Updates on birthdays, anniversaries or email addresses may be sent to Luise Watman at lcwatman@comcast.net

Note: If you serve on a committee, please communicate directly with your Committee Chair if you are unable to attend a scheduled meeting or event.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER & CONCERN

Nancy Ainsworth, *Edgewood Center*,
928 South St., Portsmouth, NH 03801
Lucille Berry, *Studley Home*, 15 Eastern
Ave., Rochester, NH 03867 335-1241
Marion Burnham, *Dover Center for
Health and Rehabilitation*,
307 Plaza Driver, Dover, NH 03820
Bertha Carr, *Rockingham County
Nursing Home*
117 North Road, Brentwood, NH 03833
Bob Philbrick, *Berwick Estates*,
75 Portland St., So. Berwick, ME 03908
**Mona Faucher, Janet Giffin, Dorothy
Storms**, *Wentworth Home*,
795 Central Ave., Dover, NH 03820

--and all who are residents in long-term
care and assisted living facilities in our
area.

Please do send your cards and greetings.



Christian Sympathy is
extended to the families of:

Herb Whitehouse [4/18], daughter Linda
Farrell, and wider family.

William (Bill) Fortier, Sr. [4/26] wife,
Georgina, including children Joe & Jenny
Fortier, Cindy & Frank Merrill and wider family

Bill Russell [5/6], wife Marilyn, brother-in-law
of Ken & Kathy Latchaw

May the deep peace of the Lord surround
these families.



In Thoughts & Prayers

Craig Breden [health]
Jinny Burgess [healing]
Dave Eastman [health]
Roger & Tosh Horton [health]
Betty Rideout [health]
Walter Smith [healing] *Ed & Helene Courier's
grandson*
Lois Stolpe [health] *Dave Stolpe's mother*
Lucy Voye [health]

AND ongoing prayer focus during these days:

- For the people of Nepal and India who are recovering from the recent earthquake and those experiencing severe weather patterns in our own United States.
- For our Carroll-Strafford Association Churches, and specifically in June, Lee Church, Congregational and their pastor the Rev. Gail Kindberg.
- Those serving in the Armed Services and in support capacities around the world.
- Peace in our world; harmony in our relationships.
- That God will bless and guide our Conference Minister, Rev. Gary Schulte, and Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Richard Slater
- The UKAMA Partnership between the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe and the NH Conference UCC.
- For those who are living with cancer; those who are living with mental health concerns, and those who support them as they walk pathways of healing.
- Continued invitational ministry and mission here at First Parish United Church of Christ.



Spring came quickly, even though we thought it never would. Lots of work has already taken place. The Church Clean-up Day went well. We planted 180 Pachysandra plants in front of the church, fertilized the new lawn, raked leaves and cleaned out flower gardens, cut down a few trees and cleaned the parking lots. Many thanks to Jeff Libby, Dean Martin, Jenny & Joe Fortier, Marc Cote, Paul Cazeault, Rich Whitten and Dave Hamel.

Mr. Jim Goodberry has again graciously volunteered to clean and maintain the wooded area in front of the church. Thanks Jim.

You spoke and we heard you. We have expanded the Handicapped parking in both the front and rear of the church. All of the spots will have signs and pavement markings soon. A word to the wise; you must have a handicap license plate or mirror hang tag displayed in order to park in these spots for any amount of time. The Somersworth Police patrol the lot regularly and will issue a ticket to offenders.

Our Basement Sump Mitigation System was inspected and passed with flying colors. This inspection will be performed annually and will help us ensure that our Fellowship Hall remains dry.

The Narthex Cabinet Project continues. The bulk of the cabinets and counters are in place now and looking great! The open spot in the middle is going to be filled with a desk of sorts to be fabricated in the near future. Special thanks to Jeff Libby, Dave Hamel and Keith Dinger.

If you would like to help with the summer maintenance of our church, there are several projects pending and in process that you can be a part of. They are:

Lawn Mowing & Trimming - If you would like to do this, we have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. You can sign up for a two week block or more. We supply the equipment; you supply the labor. The two week blocks start on a Saturday and end two Fridays later. You will probably have to mow once each week at your convenience. See any Trustee for details and access to the equipment.

Painting – We have numerous painting projects to accomplish this summer, such as the entire deck outside of Pastor Mark's Office, the concrete retaining wall alongside the church, all of the exterior doors and casings, parking lot striping and handicap markings. We'll supply the paint. We need your help. See Trustee Jeff Libby for details.

Don't forget the Spring Yard Sale is happening on Saturday, June 20th. It's a great time and a huge fundraiser for our church. See how you can help. Contact Patty or Marc Cote for details.



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|---------|---|
| June 1 | Jenny Fortier |
| June 4 | <i>Jonathan & Lizzy Chellis</i> |
| June 5 | Martha Collins, Amanda Hurley |
| June 6 | Gayle O'Connor |
| June 7 | <i>Dave & Robin Hamel</i> |
| June 8 | <i>Don & Pat Whitten</i> |
| June 9 | John Pay |
| June 10 | <i>Bill & Pat Hamel</i> |
| June 11 | <i>Richard & Diane Shepherd</i> |
| June 12 | <i>Dave & Esther Eastman</i> |
| June 13 | <i>Ray & Julie Mathews</i> |
| June 14 | <i>Gregg & Rachel Fournier</i> |
| June 15 | Gladys Butt |
| June 16 | Bill Libby |
| June 17 | Karen MacRae, Heather Fournier |
| June 19 | Sharon Sirois <i>Jeff & Carolyn Libby</i> |
| June 20 | Sharon Brown Nancy McDonough Kotey McDonough |
| June 22 | Julie Mathews <i>Eli & Patricia Kovalik</i> <i>Mike & Susan Nye</i> <i>Ken & Kathy Latchaw</i> |
| June 23 | <i>Bill & Lucy Voyer</i> |
| June 24 | <i>Keith & Sherie Dinger</i> |
| June 26 | Jaylee Conley |
| June 29 | <i>Jim & Elaine Goodberry</i> |
| June 30 | <i>Al & Audrey Loika</i> |

JUNE LECTIONARIES

Second Sunday after Pentecost - Green

June 7, 2015

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) •
Psalm 138
Genesis 3:8-15 or Psalm 130
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35

Third Sunday after Pentecost - Green

June 14, 2015

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 • Psalm 20
Ezekiel 17:22-24 or Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17
Mark 4:26-34

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - Green

June 21, 2015

1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49 •
1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16 • Psalm 133 •
Psalm 9:9-20
Job 38:1-11 • Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - Green

June 28, 2015

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 • Psalm 130
Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24 • Psalm 30
2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43



Sacrament of Baptism Received into the care of Christ's Church on Sunday, April 26 was *Liam Vincent Pedato*, son of Bridgette Horton and Patrick Pedato.

Godparents are Will Horton and Samantha Trenholm. May God's richest blessing be with this family.



Anniversary Blessings to *Butch & Sue Boucher*, who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on April 24th.

Stewardship & Finance



Men's Fellowship

Greetings, We had our last meeting on May 9th at 8:00am. This coincided with the annual Church clean-up and the Scouts can drive. Every year we get together with the Building and Grounds Committee and spend a few hours cleaning up the Church grounds. The lawn has come in great and flowers were planted out front. Also some of the damaged trees were removed from the hard winter we has this past year. We took a break around 10am to have some coffee and share fellowship with each other. Thanks to all who came out to roll up their sleeves and chip in with the efforts. The Church grounds have come a long way in the past 2 years.

As the days become warmer, we look forward to more fun events for the Summer. Our Group will keep everyone informed as to time and dates. For now, we will keep busy planning events and fund raisers.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, June 13th at 8:30am. Our group does work hard to stay active and also share stories and events that have happened over the past month. As always, we encourage anyone interested in finding out what we are all about to join us for the best breakfast in town and bring a friend.

Submitted by Dave Hamel for "Da Boys"

The busy summer months will soon be upon us and many of us will be on vacations and traveling. As summer approaches our amazing Building and Grounds crew will be busy with many necessary projects both inside and outside our church. This means additional expenses during a time when many of us are away and not attending Sunday services on a regular basis. As we are already slightly behind in the collection of regular pledges the Stewardship & Finance committee would like to remind everyone that pledges can always be mailed to the attention of Richard Shepherd/Assistant Treasurer at the church. This will help keep the funds flowing during a time when many required projects are completed.

Also a reminder that the blue deficit appeal envelopes can be used at any time during the course of the year. We are still feeling the impact of the long and difficult winter and any additional help is most certainly appreciated!

The Stewardship and Finance Folks

Mike Allen, Nancie Cameron & Robin Hamel

CHOIR

"A BIG thank you to the members of the Senior Choir for all their hard work this year - rehearsing and participating in worship each and every Sunday. They are SUCH a GREAT group of people! It is a TRUE pleasure working with them each and every week! I pray that they will have a wonderful summer and look forward to our Annual Choir Retreat (date to be determined!) and coming back refreshed and ready to work in September (date to be determined!).

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU one and all!!!!!!"



STAR ISLAND SUMMER CONFERENCES

It's time to THINK SUMMER!

Plan now to attend a UCC summer conference on beautiful Star Island in the Isles of Shoals off Portsmouth, NH. Look at the display down in the church hall to see all that Star Island has to offer besides these UCC family conferences.

Star Gathering 1 (Aug. 2-8, 2015)

Star Gathering 2 (Aug. 8-15), already wait listed

(Both of the above also include Youth Weeks for those entering 9th grade)

Laity Family Weekend (Sept. 4 or 5-7, 2015).

Check out the details for each conference, and register online, at www.starisland.org. If you have any questions, contact Priscilla Chellis at 207-698-5977 or prchellis@comcast.net Each of the conferences along with the Star Island Corporation, offer financial aid as well.

Pen Pal

Would you like to be a Pen Pal to a Riverside Rest Home resident? Many of the members of First Parish Church currently enjoy writing to their Pen Pal at the Riverside Rest Home. There are several residents who don't have a pen pal and would love to have one. If you are interested in doing this fulfilling project, please contact Connie Ricker at 603-335-1242.

Women's Fellowship

Oh, what a wonderful month it has been!

The Spring Fling Fair was a huge success and we made approximately \$2000.00. Everyone worked together and even filled in at the last minute. I am truly grateful to everyone who made items to sell, had cookies, pies, and other sweets ready for the dessert table, ladies at their tables selling their treasures, and then all of the wonderful people who set up and then stayed to clean up. This was the true fellowship.

Then the Women's Fellowship's dinner at Newick's was wonderful. There were about 40 women there. I heard so many comments about how nice it was to sit and get to know each other and relax. I think we should find more reasons to spend time together!

I realized, as we were sitting around the tables last night, how very blessed I am to be surrounded by so many wonderful ladies. I thank God that he put you in my life!

Here are just a few of the events coming up this summer:

June 14th is our Women's Fellowship meeting after the church service

July 7th- meeting at Kathy Latchaw's home instead of our regular church meeting

July 21st-summer gathering at New Castle Commons

August- (date to be determined) boat trip out to Star Island

And, by popular request we will have board games and card games at the Tuesday morning meetings. So bring a friend and "let the games begin"! If you have a game, in good condition, you would like to donate, please see me.

Gratefully,

Kathy Latchaw

BACCALAUREATE SERVICES

First Parish Church sponsors a Baccalaureate Service honoring the 2015 graduating Senior Class of Somersworth High School. The service will be held on Thursday, June 11 at 7PM in the Somersworth High School Cafetorium, 9 Memorial Drive.

An invitation will be sent directly to graduating seniors via their parents. Friends will be invited via a news release, to the communities of Somersworth and Rollinsford. *Baccalaureate*, is a part of graduation festivities!

This service is of Senior Class blessing and celebration. While an optional gathering, it is a way for family and friends to see the senior in their graduation gown, share in a time of reflection with an intentional religious and spiritual focus.

Local religious leaders will facilitate the program, which includes a message, involvement of class officers and class advisors, as well as special music. After the service, Class Officers will plant a tree on school grounds.

As the sponsor, First Parish Church Deacons will greet and hand out programs; guide graduating seniors to a waiting area [where they will put on their gowns]; set up the refreshment tables [keep the refreshment tables tidy]; and help to clean up following the service and fellowship. Questions, speak with Pastor Mark.

Our monthly newsletter can be accessed entirely online! Check it out:

www.somersworthfirstparish.org.

Paper copies are available in the Narthex. If you prefer to have the newsletter sent to you in the mail, please send \$20 with your name and address to: First Parish Church, P.O. Box 228, Somersworth, NH 03878, Attn: Newsletter Editor.

If you want to add or change your birthday, anniversary, or email address information, please email any updates to lcwatman@comcast.net or just speak with Luise Watman.

If you would like to add an article to the newsletter, please email kenanddebhall@comcast.net or give Debbie Hall a copy in person.

Items to be put into the newsletter's calendar should be given to Brenda Davidson or emailed to her at birdsdaavidson@comcast.net.

The deadline for newsletter and calendar items is always at noon on the 3rd Friday of each month.



Community Toolbox is a small, non-profit "fix-it" program located in Portsmouth serving towns and cities in Rockingham and Strafford County. We believe that everyone deserves to live in a safe and healthy home. Our repairs are focused on providing three basic dignities: safety, health and accessibility.

We are on track to assist more than twice as many homeowners this year as last year, but we need help to make this happen. All repairs are completed with volunteer labor and we are in need of volunteers to help us with jobs such as: repairing/replacing floors, windows, doors, stairs, faucets, grab bars, ramps. Individuals with carpentry skills are especially needed, as well as those with plumbing and electrical experience. All work is completed Monday through Friday with a flexible schedule.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Cheryl VanAllen at 603-294-0479. To learn more about Community Toolbox, please visit



Christian Education



The summer session of Sunday School will begin on Sunday, May 31. There is a sign up sheet for teachers in the hall downstairs. Please consider taking a Sunday to share your faith and talents with the children. There are pre-planned lessons that are easy to follow.

During the summer months, if you are in church with your children and there is no teacher available, there will be a lesson and an activity on the table downstairs in classroom #3. Please feel to accompany your children downstairs and enjoy the lesson and activity with them.

Have you considered sending your child to one of our UCC Summer Camps? Have you considered attending one of our UCC Summer Camps as an adult? There are many options available. You can attend as a family, send a child, attend as an adult, as a grandparent you and your grandchild can attend together. Check out the list of available events. Two ladies from First Parish are attending the women's adult weekend on August 20-23, so if you would like to give it a try and don't want to go alone you could attend that week end. See Sue Vollkommer for more information. Check out the bulletin board downstairs in the Sunday School hallway-there is lots of information there, or speak with Sue. If the information you seek is not there, she will get it for you.

Table of Plenty

Our Table of Plenty coordinator, Chris Stolpe, has decided to step down as coordinator, but has generously offered to make her delicious bread for the suppers. Thank you, Chris, for doing a wonderful job as coordinator the past few of years. We appreciate the time and effort you gave it.

We now need a new TOP coordinator! Chris says the job is easy. The coordinator would:

- contact the Berwick's TOP co-coordinators, Ellen & Laura, to arrange a pick-up or delivery of the food. Occasionally purchasing some food.
- arrange for church members to provide desserts
- arrange volunteers to work at the TOP
- work with TOP coordinators to arrange jobs for volunteers at the supper
- make sure the hall is cleaned up after the supper.

We have wonderful volunteers who are willing to help. Everyone pitches in to make sure the supper goes smoothly. Ellen and Laura are always willing to help you make the supper a success. If interested, please contact Pastor Mark, Rich Whitten or Debbie Hall.

Missions

Thank you for signing up and bringing in the items for the ditty bags. The bags are put together and ready for deliver to the Seafarer's Friend in Portsmouth.

Our yearly Backpack Project will begin soon. As you are out and about this spring and summer, please keep an eye out for new and gently used backpacks. These may be brought to the church at any time and given to any member of the Mission Committee. Thank you for your help.