



Brookline Community Church

NEWSLETTER



June 2011

Message from the Minister

Two things come to mind this time of the year—
“Winter is snow to move out of the way, spring time to rake, summer time to mow the grass and fall time to rake again.” Are not the Seasons wonderful??

Now something for the church news and the needs of our state, nation and world—the Deacons have given an okay for a special offering during the last three Sundays in May for “One Great Hour of Sharing.” This is a special offering which will be used by the UCC and the UMC for needs above and beyond. It will be used to continue rebuilding after Katrina, rebuilding Haiti, to assist with floods in our own country, with health needs everywhere, with tornado damage in this nation, with educational needs, and the list is endless. This offering will go through May, and there will be envelopes in the pews. These donations will go to the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church and they will find many good places for them to be used.

Thank you for your caring,
David W. Smith



Calendar of Events

MAY

15 **Worship Service**

10:00 a.m.

CROP Hunger Walk

1:15 Sign-in, 2:00 Walk, St. Patrick's in Milford

22 **Worship Service, Children's Day Celebration**

10:00 a.m.

Youth Group Meeting

6:00-7:30 p.m.

29 **Worship Service**

10:00 a.m.

30 **Memorial Day**

JUNE

5 **Communion Service**

Confirmation Ceremony

10:00 a.m.

12 **Worship Service**

10:00 a.m.

19 **Worship Service**

10:00 a.m.

26 **Worship Service**

9:00 a.m. *summer meeting time begins*

Vacation Bible School begins

9 a.m.—Noon

27-30 **Vacation Bible School**

9 a.m.—Noon

Pretty In Pink Quilt Raffle

And the winner of the Pretty In Pink Quilt is...
Lynne Ouelette! The Deacons would like to thank all who purchased raffle tickets for this quilt. All proceeds will go toward the Deacon's PIN Fund.

That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil—this is the gift of God.
~ Ecclesiastes 3:13

Board of Outreach

Heifer Project

We continue to have Heifer Sunday on the second Sunday of each month, and are thrilled that we have received \$2795 in donations so far! Thank you to all who have contributed. This project will continue until the end of the year.

Senior Luncheon Update

Over 50 people attended the Senior Luncheon on April 16th, many said that the food was **excellent**.

Board of Deacons

Deacon Needed

The Board of Deacons still needs at least one more member. If you are interested please speak with Barbara Haskell-Higgins or any Deacon.

Sunday Service Sign-ups

Please don't forget to sign up to help with Sunday Services. We need volunteers to do the children's story, be lay readers, ushers, greeters, acolytes, and coffee hour hosts.

Board of Trustees

Fellowship Hall

Many thanks to Hank Ward for all his hard work painting Fellowship Hall - it looks great!

Trustee Position Filled

Judy Cook has volunteered to fill the available position on the Board of Trustees - thank you Judy!

Church Side Lawn Update

The very hot and rainless summer last year, combined with the inability of the church well to support watering the lawn, caused the center (the unshaded area) of the lawn to dry up and die. Dandelions, too hardy to die in these conditions, happily took over. Judy & Peter Cook have been working for the last month to eradicate the dandelions and other weeds in the lawn so that it can be reseeded in the fall. The Cooks have so far dug 17 large black plastic garbage bags full of the dandelions.

Newsletter Submissions

Please send any submissions for the next newsletter to Carol at ccherian@charter.net by June 15th.

Needed :

Sunday School Superintendent

The Brookline Community Church, dually-aligned with the United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ (Congregational), seeks a passionate and creative part-time (10 hrs/wk) Sunday School Superintendent.

Please send us a resumé or contact us for further information before May 27, 2011 at brooklinenh.sundayschool@gmail.com or Brookline Community Church

Attn: CE Administrator

P.O. Box 507

Brookline, NH 03033-0507

Pastoral Search Committee

Over the past month the PSC discussed the goals we felt are the most important for our Church during the period immediately after Reverend Smith's tenure as our minister. The results of this introspection have been submitted to the UCC to assist them with matching prospective Interim Ministers to us.

Our next activity will be to review candidates for the interim position. In parallel, we will begin to involve the congregation in defining the direction we want to take as a Church Family. This work will be crucial to finding the best person to be our minister during the next phase of our congregation's development. We hope and pray that each member of our congregation will take this opportunity to share their vision for our Church so that our next minister will be chosen wisely and will be well-equipped to shepherd us on our spiritual journey.

Board of Stewardship

We have been investigating possible fundraisers for our church.

One possibility is for members to volunteer time working at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, NH, for a day during the summer. The NHMS will donate \$7.00 per hour for each person who volunteers. More information about this activity will be included in the bulletin next week.

Please let Carol Cherian or Amy Fessenden know if you have any ideas for fundraisers!



On those hot summer days the best place to be is the beach! Explore tide pools and collect seashells. Learn about cool sea creatures like clownfish, sea turtles and dolphins. The beach is a beautiful natural playground and the perfect place for VBS!

As kids explore the wonders of the beach, they'll also discover the Big Answers to the Big Questions about Jesus, who He is and why they need Him. At SonSurf Beach Bash VBS, kids learn that there is only one truth: Jesus.

We plan on transforming the Brookline Community Church into SonSurf Beach Bash for Vacation Bible School. This year it will be held from Sunday, June 26th through Thursday, June 30th (9 a.m.—noon each day).

Pre-registration is required for all participants. Registration and release forms are posted on the church website, www.bccnh.org. Please complete and return them ASAP to guarantee your child's spot. Please be aware that we usually fill up within 2 weeks from the start of registration and subsequently, a wait list is formed. Registrations are not considered complete until all forms are received. To ensure we have adequate staffing and supplies registrations will NOT be accepted after June 10th.

Vacation Bible School can be an inspirational and educational adventure for your whole family. Volunteers are what make this program possible. Please consider sharing your time and talents as a very rewarding experience for yourself as well as the kids. Volunteer Registration Forms are posted on the church website. Please fill out and turn in as soon as possible. I have been volunteering for the last few years and get just as much out of the VBS experience as my children!

The program will begin on Sunday, June 26th. The children are encouraged to sign in between 8:45 & 8:55 a.m. each day. It is also recommended that parents/guardians sign their children out promptly at noon each day. The formal programming will begin at 9:00 a.m. each day and will end at 12:00 noon. Family members are welcome to join us for any part of the program, but we extend a special invitation to join us for our ending musical program on Thursday, June 30th at 11:30am.

I am looking forward to a wonderful week of sharing the fun, the music and the Bible study with your children! Please contact me with any questions at 672-5356 or coutufam@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Jen Coutu, VBS Director

Children's Day Celebration

Join us as we celebrate Children's Day on Sunday, May 22nd, during the Worship Service.

Christian Education Library Note:

We have recently added the Heifer International Global Education Resource Kits to the Christian Education Library. There are four different age levels available for borrowing. In addition to lesson plans, these materials include story books and activities that parents can do at home with their children. The CE Library is located in Fellowship Hall.

Adult Education

The Beginners Study of the Bible class is meeting at 7:30 on Thursday evenings at the church, all are welcome to join. Please contact Reverend Smith at the church, 673-7511, or Ann Desrochers at 672-3937, if you are interested in participating or would like more information.

Youth Group



May

15 Crop Walk - Family Participation
(No Youth Group Meeting)

22 Regular meeting 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
(Discuss Summer Schedule)



Youth Group members participated in a Lock-In at Hampshire Hills on April 29th



Confirmation Class

May 20-21

Confirmation Retreat at Wanakee United Methodist
Camp, Meredith, NH

June 5

Confirmation during 10:00 a.m. Worship Service



Confirmand Kurt Ferrell and Mentor Bill Dunbar teaching Sunday School together.



Christian Summer Camp Programs

Are you looking for a place where you can have all the fun of a summer camp program as well as the opportunity to renew your faith? If so, explore these opportunities:

UCC Camps:

✠ Geneva Point in Moultonborough, NH

www.genevapoint.org

✠ Horton Center in Gorham, NH

www.hortoncenter.org

✠ Star Island Isles of Shoals, NH

www.starisland.org

UMC Camps:

✠ Camp Aldersgate in North Scituate, RI

www.campaldersgate.com

✠ Rolling Ridge in North Andover, MA

www.rollingridge.org

✠ Wanakee in Meredith, NH

www.wanakee.org

Other Christian Camps:

✠ Camp Berea in Hebron, NH

www.berea.org

✠ Monadnock Bible Conference in Jaffrey, NH

<http://monadnockbible.org/youth/launchpoint/>

Camp brochures and registration information is also available on the second floor bulletin board (outside the Youth Room) or by contacting Ann Desrochers.



Many, many thanks to all who helped with this year's supper, we couldn't have done it without you!