

Beyond the Green Doors

The newsletter of the United Methodist Church
of Peterborough, NH for July and August 2010

Dear Christian Friends,

It's here! We have waited for months for summer to arrive. Only those who have lived in New England either all or most of their lives can fully appreciate the four seasons that New England has to offer. But sometimes it does require one to be patient for the coming of the season that we call summer. But it's worth the waiting for. The promise of more sunlight, warmer days, and then enough rain to keep the gardens growing and the lawns green is important.

But waiting, for many of us, can be a real challenge. We are so accustomed to instant results. I am still astounded that I can call Switzerland and talk with my son in less than a minute. Or I can turn my television or computer on and make connections almost in an instant with the outside world. No waiting. Wonders of wonders!

But it is even a greater wonder for us that we can be in instant communication in any given moment with the Creator of the Universe-the Lord God Almighty. These are the words that the Lord spoke to His people:

“This is what the Lord says, he who made the earth,
the Lord who formed it and established it- the Lord
is his name: ‘Call to me and I will answer you and tell
you great and un-searchable things you do not know.’”
Jeremiah 33:3

I like to refer to these words as God's toll-free number. You can call anytime, anywhere and it is free. It has been my experience that sometimes God does not answer my phone call when I think He should. But I have learned that He is always faithful in hearing my message and answering it in His time.

Just as we wait for the summer season to arrive, sometimes we have to wait for God to return our phone calls. We all know people who don't return phone calls, but our Lord is always faithful to respond to our messages in His time. We must all trust that in God's time the Lord will meet our needs. Prayer is much like a phone call. Now it is true that sometimes the Lord says, “Yes” to our prayers and then there are times when He may say, “No.” But with this said, one can be assured that God is always there with us to help us or carry us through all the seasons of life. For as Ecclesiastes says, “He makes all things beautiful in its time.” (Eccl.3:11)

May this be a summer in which you spend more time than you have ever spent, basking in the warmth and sunlight of His love.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Betty

July Birthdays

2 Alexander Lange	19 Chris Bartlett
10 Hayley Munroe	23 Florence Jarest
12 Wendy Dunning	24 Pat Wells
12 Julia Bartlett	29 Carol Edwards
15 Bill Owen	31 Christine Robidoux

July Anniversaries

1 Alden and Marion Wilcox
7 Ron and Patricia LaRoche
14 Steve and Patty Venning
17 Ron and Priscilla Crowe
26 Matt and Karen Keenan

Finance

As of June 27 we are at 50% of the year and have received 49% of the pledges.

\$34,227 (47%) of the anticipated income has been received.

Yard Sale -\$940.76

If you will be away this summer please be sure to send your pledges to the Finance Secretary.

Updates to the directory

Email address changes

Cindy and John Faust
in Peterborough - cynjon@myfairpoint.net
in Florida - cynjonfl@centurylink.net

Julia and Chris Bartlett
bartlettjad@aim.com

If you have any changes to your info in the directory please be sure to let Nancy Luscombe know.

August Birthdays

6 Karen Keenan	21 Michelle Lange
8 Elmer Roth	26 Lee Charlton
12 Amanda Bartlett	26 Molly Munroe
19 Mike Staley	28 Carol Owen
31 Pastor Betty	

August Anniversaries

8 Dick and Wendy Dunning
18 Steve and Kristel Gatcombe
21 Mike and Susan Staley
23 John and Cindy Faust

Off to Wanakee

The Munroes thank everyone who bought baked goods to help them raise money to go to Camp Wanakee, that beautiful, spiritual place in the woods. They made \$137. The church helped them out with the rest.

The whole family except, Charlie, were at Wanakee the week of June 27.

Emma and Jacob were at Wanakee Adventure
Hayley did Splish Splash and Dr. Suess
Tammy and Molly did You and Me,
where Tammy was the camp director.

Emma will be going again the week of July 18 to Survival Camp.

Be sure you ask them about their camp experience next time you see them.
Maybe they'll even sing you a camp song!

Looking Ahead

**Home Coming Sunday –
September 19
Chicken and Biscuit Supper –
September 25
Roast Beef Supper – October 16
Holiday Stroll – November 20**

**Administrative Council Meeting
August 23, 7:00 pm**

Summer Loose Change Offering through September 19 for **The Monadnock Area Food Bank**

according to the SentinelSource.com
the NH unemployment rate was
5.9% in May 2010

In the Peterborough Area (10 surrounding towns)
it was 6.3%

The number of people looking for work was 1,020.

Nationwide 55% of all school children participate in a free or reduced school lunch program.
No school during the summer, what will they eat?

Please prayerfully consider donating either cash
or non-perishable food items throughout the summer
to assist those less fortunate than ourselves.

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did
it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’”
Matt.25:40

The Laity Corner

Arnie Johnson, Lay Leader

Great blessings come to those who gather in God's name! That's what I have been reminded of after attending the New England UMC Annual Conference at Gordon College in Wenham, MA. I really didn't know what to expect, but I knew that good things happen when a bunch of Christians get together, if their minds and hearts are in the right place.

What happened reminded me of what the Human Resources Department encouraged while I worked at Peterborough Savings Bank/Primary Bank. You have probably seen it many times before, but it is the TEAM concept – Together Employees Accomplish More. In other situations, such at our church, I just change the Employees to Everyone so that it becomes Together Everyone Accomplishes More.

That same concept is what I saw at the Annual Conference. Did everybody agree on all that was put forth? No! And that is the way it should be. Everyone was given a chance to speak and present their opinion(s). I was very happy to see democracy in action. When all was said and done, we were one body, one Team, Jesus Christ's Team. We were just like what the Bible says in Luke 9:1-6:

¹And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. ²And he sent them forth to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. ³And he said unto them, Take nothing for your journey, neither staff, nor wallet, nor bread, nor money; neither have two coats. ⁴And into whatsoever house ye enter, there abide, and thence depart. ⁵And as many as receive you not, when ye depart from that city, shake off the dust from your feet for a testimony against them. ⁶And they departed, and went throughout the villages, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere."

We, as members of the congregation and members of the Peterborough UMC are members of the New England Conference of the UMC and of the National and International organization of the United Methodist Church. We are God's disciples and have been called, just as Jesus did so many years ago, when He "*called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.... to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick. And they departed, and went throughout the villages, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.*"

We are just like those chosen disciples; we are also chosen, given power and authority, and are told to go and preach the kingdom of God. We are lucky that we really don't have to leave our homes and loved ones to do the same things as the disciples of old did. All we have to do is be our normal Christian selves, and we too can minister, preach, heal, and witness to those who have less than us. Just be yourself and let God be within you and guide you. When all of us do that, we are each a member of God's TEAM, and Together Everyone Accomplishes More!

May God Bless You,
Arnie Johnson

New Hampshire District Day with **Bishop Peter Weaver**

**Installation service for new District Superintendent,
Rev. David Abbott**

September 11, 2010
Franklin UMC
Franklin, NH