

# **BEYOND THE GREEN DOORS**

**The newsletter of the United Methodist Church of  
Peterborough, NH  
May –June 2011**

**The Laity Corner  
Arnie Johnson, Lay Leader**

What a wonderful Lenten time and Holy Week we have just completed! I'm sure that all attending were truly blessed with the class on Methodism very ably facilitated by Barb MacInnes. Something new was learned during each session. Thank you, Barb!

The worship services for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter were very well attended and blessings abounded! Our thanks to all who participated and attended!

We now are in the church season leading up to Pentecost. Calendar-wise, the Day of Pentecost in Judaism is about a fullness of harvest – whether of grain, or the giving of the Torah. For Christian believers, Pentecost celebrates the day that the baptism by the Holy Spirit was first experienced by the original followers of Jesus. Pentecost Sunday (June 12) is the culmination of the Great 50 Days of Easter in the church calendar and calls for us all, once more, to invite the fullness of the Holy Spirit's work to be present in us and among us so that we may be enabled to serve our Lord with power and strength.

If you have already received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, continue to do all those things that will keep the power of the Holy Spirit close to you and within you. If you have not received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, now is the time to look inward to yourself and outward toward the love of God and Jesus, to pray, witness, and worship in the love and comfort of the Spirit that is here today for you to receive. As Jesus said to his disciples, and now to you, “*... you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*”

One way to prepare for Pentecost Sunday might be to pick up your Study Bible, look up and read all the scripture readings that have to do with Holy Spirit between now and June 12. Read and understand. If you don't completely understand, do some studying or ask others. The more we learn about the Holy Spirit, the better we will understand how it affects us and others.

Come now and become one with Christ, be baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit, and be truly empowered to do His mighty work on this earth! Become one of Christ's disciples commissioned and sent forth to serve with boldness! Be the one to now say courageously, as Isaiah of old said, “Here I am Lord, send me!!”

(The Laity Corner has top billing this time because Pastor Betty is away.)

**Chicken and Biscuit Supper  
Saturday, May 21  
5-7 PM**

**\$7- adults    \$4 – children under 12**

**Creamed chicken, biscuits, coleslaw,  
cranberry sauce, assorted desserts**

## May Birthdays

3 Greg Robidoux                      16 Lillian Snellman  
7 Kendall Sullivan                      22 Ginny Williams  
9 Patty Venning                      24 Nyssa Gatcombe  
15 Andrew Dunbar                      28 Sarah Nerz

## May Anniversaries

1 Kathy and Marty Stanton  
19 Erika and CJ Sullivan

## June Birthdays

4 John Banks                      5 Kathy Stanton  
29 B. J. Woodward

## June Anniversaries

8 Dwight and Ginny Williams  
19 Pat and B. J. Woodward  
22 Dave and Nancy Belletete

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear or if it is incorrect  
Please let Nancy Luscombe know.

### Adult Fellowship Pot Luck Suppers

**Saturday, May 14, 6:00 PM**

*Note change of date to second Saturday*

Ron Laroche will be talking on Benjamin Franklin. Ron always makes such an interesting presentation of historical figures, you won't want to miss this one.

**Be sure to sign up on the board in the fellowship hall.**

**Saturday, June 18, 6:00 PM**

*Note date moved to third Saturday*

Annual cook-out at the home of Barb and Jim MacInnes  
Everyone is invited, so plan to come and have a relaxed evening of fellowship, and perhaps a little ping-pong for those who want to play.

**Mark it down on your calendars and watch for the  
sign-up sheet in June.**

## United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will meet on Monday, May 9th, 7:00 PM at the church.

All women of the church are cordially invited to an evening of discussion and fellowship. For questions, call Barb MacInnes at 924-1952.

On June 13th the UMW will meet in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM (note change of time) for their annual potluck salad supper, followed by a program on Prayer and Self-Denial with a special offering. This is always a wonderful evening so we'd love to have as many of the women of the church as possible. Just mark it down on your calendar! There will be a sign-up sheet in June on the board just for a count.

### Natural Church Development *“Growing Healthy Churches the Natural Way”* Meeting: May 23, 7 p.m.

“What?” you say. “Natural Church Development,” I say, “and we’re thinking of doing it here at Peterborough UMC.” We are investigating using this system (internationally developed & used) for discovering and improving the health of our church. It begins with a survey, using church members and friends, that will measure our church health in 8 quality characteristics of healthy churches: Empowering Leadership, Gift-Based Ministries, Passionate Spirituality, Effective Structures, Inspiring Worship, Holistic Small Groups, Need-Oriented Evangelism, and Loving Relationships.

We have scheduled a meeting with a NEUMC-trained “coach,” Rev. Rodney Dobbs, who will explain the whole system to us. The meeting will take place May 23, 7 pm in the fellowship hall. All are invited to find out about the program. We need a lot of input to make this work, so please join us!

This is a five-step process:

**Step 1: Prepare.** Understanding NCD, gathering leadership buy-in, activating prayer, connecting with a NCD coach, and recruiting a Church Health Team to guide the process happen at this step.

**Step 2: Diagnose.** Take the NCD survey and explore the results through in-depth analysis within the congregation. Identify 3-5 key issues to address in next 12 months.

**Step 3: Plan.** Church Health Team develops and presents a strategic plan with measurable, actionable goals to address the 3-5 key issues in the next 12 months.

**Step 4: Implement.** Church Health Team, with the help of an NCD coach, leads the entire church in working and adapting the plan to transform the health of the church.

**Step 5: Evaluate.** At the end of the plan's implementation, the church will check itself to see how the plan brought real improvement to the church's health. At this point you might re-take the survey and begin the process again to work on a new minimum health factor.

There will be copies of the “Intro to Natural Church Development Booklet” available in the fellowship hall if you would some advance information. More information can be found on the Internet on the NE Conference web site at: <http://www.neumc.org/pages/detail/256>. The only way this will work for a church is for the whole congregation to be involved!

## **Transferred to the Church Triumphant**

Elmer Roth                      Ruth Roth  
February 9, 2011              April 6, 2011

### **Overcoming Grief Wednesday, May 18, 7:00 PM Marion Bagley Memorial Fellowship Hall**

At the request of the Pastoral care Team, the Rev. Dr. Mary Johnson will present material that will help individuals and family members in overcoming grief after suffering a loss.

This meeting will include a presentation, prayer, discussion and a questions and answer session.

**All are invited to attend.**

### **Happy Birthday, Church!**

Celebrated 50 days after Passover, Pentecost (also called Feast of Weeks or Shavuot) was one of three festivals that occurred in Israel each year. During the festival, the Israelites would give thanks and present offerings for the new grain of the summer wheat harvest. After spending 40 days with Jesus after his resurrection, Jesus instructs his disciples “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit” (Act 1:4-5). Ten days later, Jews from all over were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost, along with Jesus’ disciples. Acts 2:1-4 tells us what happened next: “When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” As Jesus had promised, the gift of the Holy Spirit was given to those assembled, allowing the apostles to preach the Gospel in all of the languages that those present spoke. As a result, thousands of people were converted and baptized that day. This is why we celebrate Pentecost as the birth of the Christian Church.

**Please wear red and join us in celebrating on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> .**

## **Finance**

We are at 30.8% of the year and have received 30% of the pledges.

Twenty six per cent of the anticipated income has been received.  
This includes \$410 received in response to the finance committee's letter.

One Great Hour of Sharing – \$100  
UMCOR for Japan - \$360  
Heifer Project - \$287.59

## **Native American Ministries Sunday Special Offering May 8, 2011**

Your gifts on Native American Ministries Sunday fund ministries that pave the way for those who aspire to serve Christ's church by making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Because of your generosity, seminarians prepare to serve, congregations become stronger and communities are transformed.

## **Peace With Justice Sunday Special Offering June 19, 2011**

When you give to Peace with Justice Sunday, you support ministries in the United States and worldwide to remove unjust systems and equip the victimized to live more fulfilled lives.

**Your gift makes a world of difference.  
Please give generously.**

## **Sponsor "Our" Child through World's Children**

The Missions Committee is still looking for sponsors for Arun Hanumanthu at the Methodist Boarding School for Boys and Girls in Andhara Pradesh, India. For as little as \$25 per month we provide Arun with room, board and schooling. Please put you donation in the collection plate clearly labeled "Sponsor A Child." Check out the bulletin board in the fellowship hall to read the correspondence we have received from him and to find our more about the work of World's Children.

**Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter  
From 2010 Annual Report**

In 2010 34 people (16 adults and 18 children) were served from  
Bennington, Greenville, Hancock, Jaffrey, Marlborough and Milford

Income received from donations, grants, rental income, towns' fees, interest  
\$99,307.95

Operating expenses-administration, guest services including maintenance  
\$97,557.39

Saturday, May 7 – belated celebration of MATS' 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Our Town Quartet performing at the Monadnock Country Club  
\$20 per person with open bar and other light fare

Saturday, October 23 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Antiquarian and Used Book Fair at  
Peterborough Town House 10AM- 4PM  
Admission \$3; 18 and under free  
Proceeds benefit MATS

**MATS receives the \$450 from our local mission budget.**

**Remember the Food Bank**

Any Sunday bring in non-perishable food items or paper goods  
and leave them in the fellowship hall under the easel.

Once a month they are delivered to the Monadnock Area Food  
Pantry at All Saints.