

February 2013



CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATION CHURCH

The Good News

The Pastor's Ponderings

Yesterday afternoon, a few of us got together to clean out a closet at the church in preparation for the spring fundraiser that Kathy and Sue are chairing. Since there is a need for storage, a few of us decided to tackle the big back closet that held much of the liturgical decorations.

During our clean up, we found some cool things that I did not know that CVCC had. There were cool signs, art supplies, and crafts galore. All of these artifacts showed signs of an incredibly active congregation where everyone shared in the fun and in the work. I had a childhood flashback to the first time I watched *Cinderella*. I could imagine all of those little mice and birds singing and sewing a dress. For them, tailoring was not a chore, it was fun! As we continued to dig into this closet, finding unusable and deteriorating junk, we, the grunts, found ourselves laughing and joking. Finding one's self covered in decades of dust and mice droppings became a badge of honor. As disgusting as it may seem, I would do it again if the company were to be as enjoyable and the goal as necessary.

I thought back to our recent January suppers. Those involved will tell you that the camaraderie was worth the effort. Hectic and crazy kitchens can be a good time for all ... excepting Charlyne Gray, who spends her entire time scrubbing pots and washing dishes. (Maybe she enjoys that too. Ask her if you would like.) My point is, that working together is fun.

This church of ours is full of opportunity to work. To make the place fiscally flush, we have to do fundraisers. To have successful fundraisers, we all have to do our part. When we all do our respective parts, we can all have fun. So, lets be a church that is flush and has fun.

Blessings,
Martell

Moderator's Note

Here we are starting a new year at Conway Village Church. Time seems to fly by now a days. I would like to thank all that were at the Annual Meeting last Sunday. There was a lot of business discussed and decisions made.

I would like to thank all who helped with the January Suppers. It takes the help of everyone to make any fund raising event a success. There are going to be many excit-

ing happenings this coming year at The Brown Church.

GOD BLESS ALL

Paul Weld
Moderator



**Conway Village Congregational
Church**

United Church of Christ

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Conway, NH 03818

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Email: bshelton@thebrownchurch.org

Website: www.thebrownchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Martell Spagnolo

Minister of Music: Roger Miklos

Secretary: Bev Shelton

Church Sexton: Sandra Bridges

Deacon for Month February

Jean Hamilton

February Trustees of the Week

Feb. 3 - Ed More

Feb. 10 - Carl Vitters

Feb. 17 - Carl Vitters

Feb. 24 - Peter Klomp

Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 9-11 and 5:30-7:30 by appointment only. To schedule an appointment call Bev in the church office Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00 and 1:00.

Diaconate

The Diaconate of the CVCC has worked diligently this year with Martell to promote meaningful and fulfilling experiences for worship, prayer and praise of God for our congregation and community. We are thankful for Martell's dedication and expertise in bringing our church "back" to God and to the Bible. Your Diaconate has welcomed your insights and suggestions this year that have lead us to initiate a more contemporary service once a month, a change in our format for communion, initiation of Prayer Cards that inform our congregation of prayer needs, and the introduction of the New Revised Standard Bible to enhance and facilitate your personal prayer and Bible study. We continue to offer these Bibles for your purchase.

During each Sunday of the Lenten season this year, we invited the congregation to participate in, and to experience different types of communion. We also coordinated the decoration of the sanctuary for each season. The Diaconate has worked with Martell to plan Lenten services and the supper, and the family and candlelight Christmas Eve services. We have participated in worship services through readings, and assisting with communion, and have worked with Roger to coordinate our musical program with the lectionary each month. Throughout the year, the Diaconate has orchestrated monthly services at Mineral springs, and has supported special worship

services with other area churches. The Diaconate is also responsible for maintenance of the CVCC membership list, and has reached out to individuals via letters, phone calls, and visits to encourage participation and involvement in the life of our church. We have also visited and made calls to members and friends of the Church who have been ill or hospitalized, as well as those who have been homebound, or in need. In addition, we have organized receptions after funerals and memorial services.

The Diaconate continues to coordinate ushers for all services, Coffee Fellowship hosts/hostesses, and the organization of flowers for Sunday services. Special thanks to Marcia Hill for her efforts with the flowers this year! Thanks also to all who have served as ushers and/or Coffee Fellowship hosts and sponsors this year!

We look forward to an exciting 2013 spiritual journey for the CVCC.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Wiggin
Board of Diaconate Chair

Next month's Newsletter deadline will be Jan. 25. If you have anything to submit please see Bev or email your info to bshelton@thebrownchurch.org



February 2013

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 Men's Break- fast 8:00am	2
3 Sunday Service 10:00am	4	5 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Zumba Class 6:00pm	6 <i>Outreach Meet- ing 6:30pm</i>	7	8 Men's Break- fast 8:00am	9
10 Sunday Service 10:00am	11 <i>Music and the Developing Brain 6:30- 8:00pm</i>	12 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Zumba Class 6:00pm	13 Ash Wednesday Supper 6:00pm Service 7:00pm	14 Valentines Day Ladies Tea 3 3:00pm	15 Men's Break- fast 8:00am	16
17 Sunday Service 10:00am Mineral Springs Service 1:00pm	18 <i>Trustee Meet- ing 6:30pm</i>	19 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Zumba Class 6:00pm Cabinet 7:00pm	20	21	22 Men's Break- fast 8:00am	23
24 Sunday Service 10:00am	25	26 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Zumba Class 6:00pm	27	28		

JANUARY ATTENDANCE

Date	Total in Attendance	Weather	Special Day
1/6/2013	60	Snow flurries/cold	Epiphany Sunday
1/13/2013	52	foggy/ damp	Baptism of Jesus Christ
1/20/2013	56	cold	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
1/27/2013	53	cold/sunny	Annual Meeting



Coffee Fellowship



Feb. 3 -



Feb. 10 -



Feb. 17 -



Feb. 24 -



There are openings to be filled for Coffee Hour. See Nancy Wigin or sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.



- Donna Danielson,
 John Eglit
 Thomas Garrity
 Gary and Laura Keim
 Melanie and daughter
 Kale Webster and his battalion
 Ward Young,
 Helen Hutchins
 Kathleen Wayman
 John Gray
 Gail Gray
 Christine Fournier
 Jannette Williams
 Charlotte Altenbern
 John Harriman



Trustees

The trustees have been meeting on a monthly basis or more often as needed during the past year. Although there are several facets of our church life that fall under the domain of the Trustees, our main concern seems to be maintaining the fiscal stability of the church.

For the past several years our annual budget required substantial withdrawals from the endowment in order to remain current with our financial obligations. We have responded to such nuisance calls as: the pipes are frozen and there's no water, there are basement windows that are broken, the furnace isn't running, our insurance has been cancelled to less urgent calls to replace light bulbs all of which require attention.

Each year we discuss ways we can begin to catch up with the many deferred maintenance items that require attention. From the improvement we would like to see in the sanctuary, to the repair of the roof, replacing and painting the shingles; additional parking that would help to eliminate much of street parking. We have talked about a major gift campaign to accomplish many of these things, but then we look at the annual budget shortfall and realize that trying to raise \$100K-\$200K in addition to the annual budget-

ary requirements would be futile. We are planning to submit proposals to local foundations who may decide to support some of our capital needs, especially maintaining our historic building.

While we all realize our membership is a graying and that it has diminished over the past several years we all need to be positive and vigorous in our support of our church, however that support falls. Let us all project that Yankee Spirit and make it become a contagious happening in our community.

Trustees: Peter Klomp

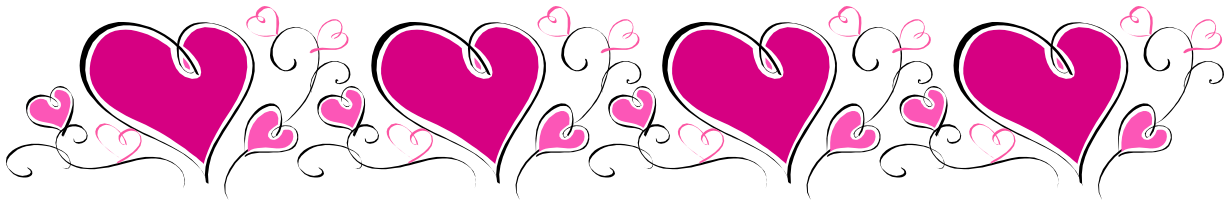
John Edgerton

Duddie Andrews

Nancy Irving

Ed More

Beth Campbell



Flowers are needed for the month of January. Please contact Marcia Hill @ 356-3190, if you can supply flowers for the service.

Outreach

Our Food Pantry mission has grown over the past year. We were very busy in 2012 as you can see by the comparison figures from 2011 and 2012 below. We were hoping to move the Pantry to the office but did not make it.

We held a Volunteer Luncheon recognizing all who helped in the Pantry. If we did not have these volunteers, the pantry would not be able to function the way it does. The committee sends out a "HUGE THANK YOU". We participated in several Food drives at Shaw's Supermarket.

Our other mission is the Kairos Prison Ministry. The Reynolds and Vierus's serve diligently to provide services to the inmates there,

Thanks to everyone who volunteer, pray for and donate fund to these outreach missions. We never seem to have "quiet" year. God bless all of you for serving .

In 2013, we will continue to move forward with plans to relocate the pantry to our "new" home and we will continue to support the Kairos Ministry.

The Outreach Committee



Christian Ed.

The Board of Christian Education decided to order a new curriculum this year. The curriculum is Seasons of the Spirit which follow the lectionary readings that Martell uses in church every Sunday. This has been useful for the teachers planning the lesson because the children first hear the information during children message and then again during Sunday School. The children are learning about stories of the Bible and how those stories can relate in life outside of church.

Sunday School attendance ranged from 7 children to 1 child depending on the day. The children love making the crafts and sharing them with you the congregation. It is great to see how excited they are to share them. The children again colored the bulletin covers for the two Christmas Eve services; they were pleased to show everyone which one was theirs.

The Board of Christian Education would like to thank the teachers, Anne Getchell, Dawn Vitters, Nancy Wiggin, and Susan Klomp; the classroom helpers Megan Vitters and Dana Saxby. We are always looking for more teachers, so if you are interested please see one of the board members. The Women's Bible Study under the direction of Susan Klomp continues to meet on Tuesday mornings, (see report on the next page). New this year is the Men's Bible Study which meets on Friday morning under the leadership of Peter Klomp.

Respectfully submitted

The Board of Christian Education

Conway Village Congregational Church
132 Main Street
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Monthly Calendar of Events

CVCC February Events

Feb. 11 – Music and the Developing Brain II at 6:30-8:pm

Feb.13 – Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm with a supper at 6:00pm

Feb. 14 – Valentine Tea Party at 3:00pm

Every Tuesday – Food Pantry open 9:00am-11:00 & 5:30-7:30pm

Ladies Bible Study @9:30am

Zumba @6:00pm

February Birthdays

1st Paul Getchell
2nd Mary Schiller
3rd Barbara Barker
3rd Mel Collard
6th Sara Barton
8th Phyllis Breeden
8th Jane Kitchen
11th Marcia Hill
20th Elise Ohlson-Moore
20th John Harriman
22nd Richard Wilcox Jr.
23rd Susan Proctor
24th Roger Miklos

