



Conway Village Congregational Church
“The Brown Church”

The Good News

October 2024

Volume 13 Issue 10



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The End of an Era?

*“Let the words of my mouth
 and the meditation of my heart
 be acceptable in Your sight,
 O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.”*
Psalm 19

These past weeks we have been disassembling our Estey Organ, built in 1906, and purchased the same year the sanctuary of the Brown Church was established. We have been separating wooden pipes from metal pipes, reclaiming and recycling them properly. In the process, it’s easy to recall the “sweet sound” of the Estey which had, not ornamental pipes on its front (*like most organs*), but pipes which played “**stereo-like**”, an innovation for its time. The organ was built in Brattleboro, Vermont by Jacob Estey who, though originally trained as a plumber, reinvented himself by creating organs for small sanctuaries that sounded more like the grand organs of much bigger churches. He did this by “**turning pipes in on themselves**”, thus creating a sound twice as full as the pipe length. It was a state-of-the-art instrument of its day. The organ fostered a church community known for its choirs and musical programs.



Our congregation, which first gathered on Main Street in Conway Village, was created by people who saw slavery as an evil against humanity, *necessitating their separation from a church community that did not!* They were creating a new community of faith. It was a forward thinking, moral, innovative church looking to provide a thoughtful, faith sharing environment which could help others examine their faith in new ways. They believed they could make a difference by sharing their insights within the community which made up the Mount Washington Valley.

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Some will say that the removal of the Estey marks the “**end of an era**”. Yet, the same reality our original community of faith faced we face today. Going forward, we ask ourselves:

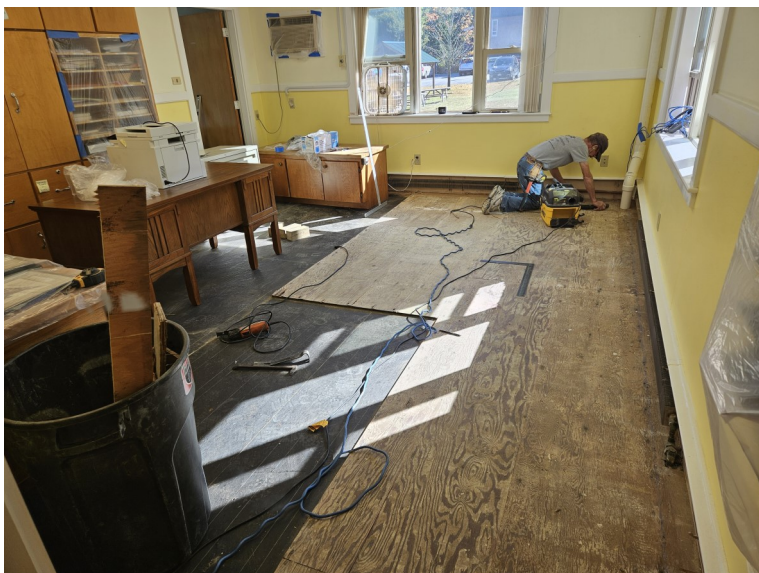
***How is God asking us to Change?
What is God asking us to Become
As We continue to Serve our Community?***

The question before us this year is not what the Covid-19 pandemic, and the December flooding, has taken from us. The question we need to answer is how God is challenging us to share our faith. Are we to be tied down by old traditions, customs, routines, assumptions, perceptions, anxieties? Or are we being released to be the imaginative community of faith we have always been in our 118 years of witness? Our Pledge Program this year will be more interactive and imaginative, representing how our community of faith has always functioned.

The **19th Psalm** ends with King David singing and asking God to make him transformational, in every word he speaks, and, in every deed, he performs; David seeks to be an instrument of Divine Spirit. We continue this request as we create a new era for the Conway Village Church.

Yours in faith,
Rev. John Hughes

Damaged subfloors removed from downstairs offices & conference room.





CVCC Food Pantry

As mentioned in the previous newsletters we have been asking for back-up helping with the Pantry. At the end of the year, we will be ending our time as coordinators. Due to Paul's health, he is unable to do what he has done in the past. We are willing to show anyone that is interested in this how it works and what it entails. If interested, contact the office.

God Bless, Paul and Sylvia

Outreach Committee

Anne Getchell, Charlyne Gray, Marilyn Hughes, & Charles Monaghan



The old classroom getting rebuilt for our new Food Pantry (above). Johnathan Saxby & John Girouard bringing in the new pantry commercial refrigeration (right). Jonathan Saxby & John from Optimum setting up new refrigeration (bottom left). The new Pantry is slowly coming together!!!!



The heavens declare the
glory of God;
the skies proclaim the
work of his hands.
Psalm 19:1

Trustees

October means the Fryeburg Fair. Eighty bushels of apples have been delivered and the peeling, prepping and baking has begun. Thank you to Ella and her crew for the many hours of baking and to all those who are hand peeling and cutting the apples. The building smells like crisp which is so nice after what we have been through. Four hundred and eighty pans will be made.

We still need help in the booth. Please call the office if you have not volunteered yet. It is a long week for those who have to work multiple shifts.



Carl and crew will be setting up the fair booth the week of the 24th. Be sure to tell your friends to come see us between September 29th to October 6th.

Flood Recovery Update The mechanical room (below) is completely cleaned out and walls are being rebuilt. The mezza-

nine will be next. This will hold the heat system equipment to keep it out of any flood waters. We are reviewing bids and costs to get the boiler installed as soon as we can. The sanctuary will have a different system which will provide heat and air conditioning.



The hot water heater is up and running, the propane is connected and the stove is running. The downstairs hallway and classroom have a new floor. The pantry has 2 new refrigeration units and shelving is going up.

The offices will need a new subfloor before carpet can be put down. Hopefully this will be done in the next 30 days.

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Melody has moved back in her office and it is great to have her back. We are slowly getting back to where we were before the flood. We appreciate everyone's patience as we get all the work done.

We sent out a Trustee Appeal letter on August 1st and as of the end of September, we have received 18 donations totaling \$11,100. If you have not donated yet, please consider doing so. Very much needed and appreciated.

Blessings
Anne Getchell

Trustee Board

Anne Getchell, John Edgerton,
Duddie Andrews, Nancy Irving,
Nancy Divine and
Tom Workman, ex officio
member, Treasurer



Above, sheetrock in mechanical room completed!
Old subfloors getting hauled away (below).

New flooring installed in downstairs hallway
and new pantry area.

Below, Martha Morrison, Anne Getchell's sister,
picking up our delicious apples.



October
2024



DEACON MINISTRY

It's FAIR time again! October comes around so very fast year after year. As I prepare this piece, we are strategizing and planning coverage for peeling, cutting, baking and SELLING our world-famous apple crisp. It is always a stretch to finesse all the moving pieces for this monumental task, it's a wonder it all gets done, and it typically all goes very well. Praying for good weather, wonderful faithful patrons of all things "crispy", and generous volunteers that keep the stamina needed to be successful with this huge fundraiser.

AND, we have another big event this month as well! An evening of amazing MUSIC at the **Majestic Theatre**. On **October 19th**, "**Flooding the Village with Music**" will be presented by local musicians offering their time and talents to help us raise funds for our flood-raising needs. This event will be general admission from 7-9 pm (may overrun as we have a few lively musicians who love to entertain!!) Tickets will be available soon and are \$25. Please look for more information soon as we finalize the "playlist" and details. This



will be a very exciting night and NOT TO BE MISSED! It will be live-streamed for anyone to watch from anywhere, so spread the word! As a fundraiser, the live stream will be available at the general admission pricing.

Our congregation continues to look forward. We are hoping to get into the sanctuary very soon. Our resiliency as a group astounds me personally as many of us have had challenging events to work around as we recover from the flood and look for ways to creatively restore the church so we can plan on the future life in a restored multiuse building. It will be awesome to finally get back into our familiar spaces.

We give our sincere thanks to the generosity of the Majestic Theatre and their staff who have welcomed us during this time of transition. It does take a "village" and our Conway Village community has helped support us tremendously. It is all so very much appreciated.

Come to the fair, come hear the music. Look for updates for re-opening all of our missions and starting to hold our church services back at the church! We are blessed. We are tired, we still have a lot of work and we stand ready for it all. God Bless, hope to see you all soon!

Louise Saxby
Your Deacons, Louise, Judy, Beth, Jill and Charles

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR



Join us for an evening full of outstanding musicians who are sharing their talents to reopen our building and support our church programs. Thank you to all the performers and to The Majestic Theatre for their continuous support!

***Fund Raiser For
The Conway Village
Congregational Church***



***Saturday October 19th
7-9 PM
Tickets \$25.00***

Flooding the Village with Music

At the Majestic Theater

***DellaValla Bluegrass Trio
Adriana
Another Story
Katherine Rhoda
Simon Crawford
Dana Cunningham***

Go on-line for tickets at www.conwaymajestic.com



Prayer REQUEST

Cathy Currier
 Cynthia Saxby
 Prudy Shackford
 Alice Proctor
 Colleen Albert
 Elise Keeney Edgerton
 Linda Frechette
 Alice Spear
 Curt Reynolds
 Arielle Staal
 Tom Steele
 Carol Baribeau
 Sandy Stowell & Lisa Horne

Mark & Caroline Weld
 Nancy Vlass
 John Edgerton
 Eileen Redmond
 Debbie Kelly
 Jean Hamilton & Family
 Greg Turgeon
 Paula Burgess
 Teresa Bernhardt
 Bonnie Kimball
 Pat (Gahagen) Goetzinger
 Suzanne & Eddie
 Misty
 Charlotte



Fresh Homestyle Meal



Free Community Dinner



We **TENTATIVELY** will be open
Monday, October 21
 Everyone Is Welcome!!
Mondays 4—5 pm

Thursdays, 1:00 pm

BIBLE Women's STUDY



The Chosen study begins on Thursday, October 17th @ 1 pm. Season 4 has 8 Episodes that lead us up to Holy Week.

Each Episode has a Bible Roundtable discussion led by a Protestant Bible professor, a Catholic priest and a Messianic Jewish Rabbi. This helps us understand Old Testament teachings, Jewish traditions and the life, the times and teachings of Christ thru the eyes of his disciples and followers. Come and follow with us each week as we grow our faith and our relationship with Christ.

We would love to have you join us!!
 Judy Workman
 Women's Bible Study Facilitator



October BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

-  Keira Isabell McGove
-  Richard Quint
-  Jane Galloway
-  Cindy Thibodeau
-  Mitzi Fitch
-  Dr. Christopher Getchell
-  Emily McLlarky
-  Linda Frechette
-  Carl Vitters
-  Liza Graustein
-  Charlyne Gray
-  Gabe Necochea

Fridays

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

9:00 AM

Everyone is welcome to study God's Word with us. If you are interested in attending either of the Bible Studies, please call or email the church for the location of that week's meeting. Bible studies are currently being held in private homes while the church building is being renovated.

Sunday Worship Services

10:00 AM

Meeting at the Majestic Theater until we are able to return to our church

In person or on zoom

To join us online please go to Zoom.com use this Meeting ID: 832 6656 0783 the Passcode is: 074610

October 2024 Worship Schedule

Sunday, October 6, 2024 – *worldwide communion*

Psalm 8

Scripture: Genesis 2:18-24

Mark 10:2-16

Sermon: “**1+1=1** or **1+1=3** ... *which is correct?*”

Sunday, October 13th

Psalm 90:12-17

Scripture: Genesis 3:8-19

Mark 10:17-27

Sermon: “**At Such a High Cost**”

Sunday, October 20th

Psalm 91:9-16

Scripture: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Mark 10:35-45

Sermon: “**Who Wishes to be Great?**”

Sunday, October 27th

Psalm 126

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:7-9

Mark 10:46-52

Sermon: “**Let Me See Again**”



The September 29th and October 6th Worship Services will not be broadcast on Zoom. Please join us at the Majestic for worship if you are able.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 4:30pm Diaconate	3 No Women's Bible Study	4 9am Men's Bible Study	5
See you at the Fryeburg Fair						
6 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre	7	8 4:30pm Trustees Fellowship Hall	9	10 1pm Women's Bible Study	11 9am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	12
13 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre	14	15	16 4:30pm Council Fellowship Hall	17 1pm Women's Bible Study	18 9am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	19 Flooding the Village with Music Majestic Theatre  7-9 pm Benefits our Brown Church
20 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre Guest Musician Katherine Rhoda  Articles Due Today!	21 Dinner Bell <u>Tentatively</u> Starts Today 4-5pm	22	23	24 1pm Women's Bible Study	25 9am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	26
27 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre	28 Dinner Bell <u>Tentatively</u> 4-5pm	29	30	31 1pm Women's Bible Study  Happy Halloween		