

## wierwille words

You have often heard me share Psalm 8:

*O God, how full of wonder and splendor You are! In life I see reflections and hear sounds of Your majesty wherever I turn. As I contemplate the vast and amazing universe around me, I am awestruck that You would care about me personally. Yet, You create each of us in Your image, call each of us a child of Your creation, have chosen us to be Your servants; assigning to all of us the fantastic responsibility of carrying on Your creative activity. O God, how full of wonder and splendor You are!*

I feel privileged to serve as your minister, pastor/teacher and fellow pilgrim on our faith journey. There are many moments along the pathway that feel sacred, spirit-filled and as we find our calendar leaping toward the Pentecost celebration life's challenge for many of us today is quite similar to those gathered behind closed doors at the time of Jesus' ascension -- to open the doors and allow the wind of the Spirit to alight on our shoulders, move through our hearts and minds!

As a United Church of Christ pastor I was glad that we seized a critical moment to share the story of our denominational heritage and the defining tenants of our covenant faith. With some trepidation about cost of a full-page ad in NY Times I still felt strongly that we put our best face on and step forward boldly to speak directly in response to the media mania that was flying around The Rev. Jeremiah Wright from Chicago's Trinity United Church of Christ. I'm not sure that media talking-heads ought to set the tenor of any debate that is happening now in our country. I find much of that style of banter not very helpful most of the time. However, in following up on that ad and in another full-page Pastoral Letter in USA Today, our denominational collegium leadership has urged all UCC clergy to help initiate a sacred conversation about racism.

As that new church birthed at Pentecost, we too need to be open and appreciative of the diverse language, ethnicity, belief, wonder and splendor of all humankind; realizing that our deepest common humanity is grounded in the extravagantly inclusive love of God rather than race, religious creed or national origin. My hope is that we can find our voice to move into this sacred conversation journey toward a spirit of healing and justice among all God's people. Please pray on this and share your thoughts, ideas, commitments on how best we might be the spirit-filled body of Christ in our time and place. May God's awesome blessings abound.

**May 2008**

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**Minister: Rev. Richard Wierwille**

**Worship Service: Sunday 10 AM**

**Church School: 10:00-11:15**

**Email: [wlcc@valley.net](mailto:wlcc@valley.net)**

**Web Site: [www.westlebcc.org](http://www.westlebcc.org)**

**Phone: 603-298-8096**

**Church Office Hours:**

**Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-3:30**

**Wednesday 9:00-12:00**

**BIRTHDAYS**  
**MAY 2008**

3 Ruth Guernsey  
7 Averill Tinker  
17 Natalie Morgan

**WEST LEBANON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**EDITH CHAPMAN & DR. ROYAL & MARY**  
**WHITNEY SCHOLARSHIP**

Applications are now available on the bulletin board for the Chapman/Whitney scholarship. This fund was established from a bequest left by Edith Chapman in 1995. She was a lifelong member of our church who was dedicated to education. Additional funds were added to the initial investment from the estate of Dr. Royal and Mary Whitney.

This scholarship is awarded to individuals accepted or enrolled in an accredited two or four year institution and is open to all students of any age. Please return to the office by May 18, 2008.

**EMERGENCY NEEDS**

THE DIACONATE IS WORKING TO COMPOSE A LIST OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE WILLING, IN AN EMERGENCY, TO PROVIDE MEALS, VISITATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION TO MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY IN NEED. PLEASE CALL JOANN ALLAN TO BE PUT ON THE CALL LIST AT 802-296-770.

**COMMUNION CLASS**

There will be a Communion Class, during the Worship Service, for students in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade and up. These classes will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Please see a member of the Christian Education Committee if you are interested in having your child participate.

Adam DalPra, Katie DalPra  
Daniel Adam, April Akers  
Shirley Rediker, Susan Schwarz  
Diane Adam

**TRUSTEES REPORT**

The Trustees met on April 10, 2008 and discussed the following projects and issues.

Don Henry Jr. & Sons did a wonderful job cleaning the Drake Room floor. Thanks to Richard Gage for overseeing this project.

Wayne Bonhag met with Irving Oil to discuss the boiler repairs needed. Most of the repairs have now been completed, but there is still one more part to replace. Many thanks to Wayne for his persistence in following up with Irving.

The committee is looking at adding more lighting in the sanctuary and reviewed a lighting layout used in another church's sanctuary.

The applications for the Edith Chapman/Dr. Royal & Mary Whitney Scholarship Fund are available on the bulletin board by the back door. The award will be made on Children's Sunday.

The Trustees hosted a coffee hour on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Their next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2008.

Debra Ford  
Co-Secretary

Liz sez,

Moms believe their children are smarter, prettier, and have great possibilities. Moms with special needs children see them as angels sent to love even more than the average children. Mom's love touches and directs their own kids, foster kids, other Mom's kids of all ages from one to 100 years old.

### THE BABY CONTEST

The mothers in a big city  
bedecked with neon glow  
decided to celebrate with

"THE BEAUTIFUL BABY SHOW".

Many mothers entered  
their babies for the test  
to determine which was sweetest  
and which was prettiest.

They dressed the girls in ruffles  
and put ribbons in their hair.

The little boys wore bow ties  
and long slacks for the affair.

Each child looked like an angel,  
each was beautiful and sweet,  
thus not one winner could be picked.  
to sit in the beauty seat.

Each Mom's child was a winner  
within its mother's eyes.

Not one child was chosen  
and not one won the prize.

Remember Mom always loves you.

Remember Mom on Mothers Day.

Sez Liz

## FROM THE HISTORICAL ROOM

There is a lot of interesting reading in this room. There are several papers left out on the table as well as the adjacent book case. For those interested in history, the Annual Reports of the Lebanon Historical Society make for good reading. In the tenth Annual Report, Historian Robert H. Leavitt has a very interesting article on all the schools in Lebanon from the date of the first town sponsored school in 1768 through 1968. From the time of founding until 1762 there were no children in the town. From then until 1768 the few children who were here were "schooled" in private homes. During the 200 year span that Mr. Leavitt's report covers 39 schools were built and used. There is also a map showing the location of those schools. Many were in areas that some of us never heard of, such as "Podgum Lane", "Butmanville", and Hubbard Hill". The first school for higher education came into being in 1835 in the form of "Lebanon Academy", or the "Lebanon Liberal Institute". All items in quotes came from referenced reports. Take some time one day and check into the Historical Room. The door is open and you might be surprised at what you find.

Submitted by Historical Committee

## WANT TO HEAR WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WLCC ?

Announcements will be given by the Liturgist 5 minutes prior to the start of worship each Sunday morning. Please arrive 5 minutes before the regular start of worship for brief announcements and then you are invited to join in silent prayer and enjoy the prelude before the commencement of the service.

Sincere thanks to the Upper Valley Home Schoolers for spending a morning raking and cleaning the Church's lawns, banks and yard! It looks great!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Camp News:** Anyone interested in attending camp this summer, please see Shirley Rediker for registration forms. Dates and price are available on the poster on the CE Board. Scholarships are available. **Communion Class:** We are setting up a communion class for 2nd -8th grades for May 4th, 11th and 18th. These youth will then join the congregation for communion on church school Sunday, June 1st. If interested see Diane Adam. If you do not want your child to participate alternative lessons will be offered. **Teachers for Sunday School:** We are still looking for a K-1 teacher or teachers if you prefer to team teach. We are also looking for Subs for current teachers. If you are interested see Adam DalPra.

**Teachers for next year:** We are going to start recruiting teachers for next year soon. We will be offering a class to go over materials, expectations, and answer any questions about teaching in the fall before classes start.

**New Chair and members:** The Christian Education Committee underwent some recent changes to its membership. Committee Chairwoman Laura Dykstra stepped down to focus on other needs. We would like to thank her for her years of support and dedication to the youth of the congregation. Fulfilling her spot as chair will be Adam DalPra. We also gained two new members in April Akers and Kate DalPra. These new members will bring enthusiasm and new ideas to our committee. The other dedicated members of the committee include Susan Schwartz, Diane Adam, Shirley Rediker, and youth representative, Daniel Adam.

**Vacation Bible School** will take place June 23-27 from 6-7:30. The week will end with the Chicken BBQ and Strawberry supper on the 28th. VBS is being headed by Kate DalPra. The theme is Reap What you Sow. It is based on the Heifer International Project, which helps educate children about the environment and how to help others around the world. If your child is interested please contact Kate DalPra. There is no age limit restriction, youth of all ages are welcome.

**Confirmation Class:** Pastor/Teacher Wierwille is planning on holding a confirmation class starting in the fall. (continued)

It will be offered to the youth who are in 7th grade and up. These classes will delve deeper into what it means to be a Christian and how to live like one. If you or your child are interested please see Pastor/Teacher Wierwille or a member of the Christian Education Committee.

## CHURCH SUPPERS

I want to thank everyone who furnished pies, salads, casseroles for the suppers. If there is anyone who would like to be on the pie making list please notify me, Ethel Montuori at 802-295-5562. I would like to ask if anyone purchased a pie in a regular pie pan to please be sure to return it to the church. We have the Chicken BBQ & Strawberry Supper on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Ethel

## STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Stewardship met on Wednesday April 23. We unanimously elected Peter Simpson as Chairperson. We also welcomed our newest member, Judi Strong. Preliminary plans for our annual stewardship campaign were discussed. This discussion will continue over the summer. Also discussed was our committee's vacancy. We still have an opening for one more committee member. Please talk with Gary Wells, Judy Macnab, Mark Estes, Debbie Ford or Peter Simpson if you are interested. Stewardship is hosting coffee hour on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Earlier in the winter the women of the church gathered on a Saturday morning for a delicious potluck-BRUNCH. Oh what good food we had. This gathering was special, not only because of the delicious dishes but also the laughter and friendship. We watched the first half of a DVD about the first 50 years of the UCC. We learned that we, the UCC, are the first denomination to have a woman minister, as well as a Gay minister. We also had our early beginnings in Massachusetts. We learned the Liberty Bell was hidden under the floor boards of a UCC church. There is so much we can be proud about. The rest of the time was spent in sharing Heloise type hints.

I want to say I tried the one about pouring boiling water, from a foot above the cloth, onto a fruit juice stain after communion one Sunday. It WORKS!!!! We have so much to share with each other.

I recently attended the Spring Forum of the state Women's Fellowship in Wakefield. I always enjoy these gatherings as it is nice to have a chance to talk with others from other churches. I like to discover what they are doing and to get ideas for us. It was wonderful to be led in worship and receive communion by Mary James the pastor of that church.

In the morning we had a speaker from Littleton telling about her Jesus Doll. I am in hopes we can make one for ourselves. It is a wonderful way to have Jesus live with us and our families in a very different way. The afternoon program was given by a representative from Bethany Faith talking about foster parenting and foster children. In particular she explained how we can be of help. It was extremely informative. What was wonderful is that I was able to tell the group what we, in our church, do with the Suitcase Project. Our Suitcase Project made a big impression with them. It made me proud of all the work we have done. Many thanks for all who have contributed, their suitcases, the donations of goods, their time, as well as the monetary donations. You truly are a great FAMILY!

(continued)

We are in hopes that on Thursday, May 22 we will have a potluck dinner and a speaker from Child and Family Services to speak with us about our continued support of the Foster Children of our Upper Valley. Please keep your ears and eyes open in church and on the bulletin on Sundays for more on this. Come join us and see what ideas we can come up with.

Grace Dickerson, one of the women of this glorious church.

We are updating our "Keys Issued" list for Church keys. Many have been issued over the years for one-time or short-term uses.

Please let us know if you have a key, and are still using it, so we can enter your name on our new list.

We also would be most grateful if folks who have a key, and no longer have any use for it, would let us know, and return it at your convenience, so we have keys available for current users.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**

The Church Directory has recently been updated. Check in the Kilton Room for copies of this new Directory, dated May 1, 2008.

*One of life's greatest joys is multiplying our gifts by sharing them with others.*

**CABINET MEETINGS**

“The officers of the church and a representative of each committee and organization shall comprise the Church Cabinet. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday every other month to formulate plans and programs, and to deal with matters that do not require a special meeting of the church.” Fifteen voting members shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any regularly constituted meeting. The officers and one or more members of each committee should be represented at each meeting and report on the activities of their group. Please try to have representation at the Cabinet Meeting on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

### **MISSING CASSEROLE DISH**

Someone picked up the wrong casserole dish after the last pot-luck supper on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The tape with my name was found in the Kilton Room, so the dish made it that far. It is a large, square Corning Ware, with veg/fruit logo. It does match a set I have had for many years and I would like to have it back. Would you please check your kitchen? Thank you. Millie Hubbard.

We also have many dishes waiting to be claimed after the supper. There are some Crock Pots down in the kitchen in the Drake Room, as well as an assortment of dishes in the Kilton Room. Be sure to check it out after the worship service on Sunday. Thanks.

This year Memorial Day will be celebrated on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **SPRING & SUMMER FLOWERS**

Do you have a “green thumb”? Would you like to help with some of the grounds at the church and the parsonage? Perhaps you could find a few people and “Adopt A Flower Bed”. There are always Spring plants to go in, weed and water. The Flower Committee would be delighted, and the grounds would again be lovely. If you have questions, call someone on the Flower Committee.

Strengthen the Church Offering will be taken On Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **MEMORIAL DAY**

# MAY WORSHIP

**Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 5:30 p.m. S.A.T. (Spiritually Awesome Time) Service**  
**Spiritually Satisfying Brief Worship**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat eve**

**Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Communion Worship & C.S. Vestry Worship**  
68; 1Peter 4:12-14,5:6-11; John 17:1-11  
*Empower Faith*

**Scripture:** Psalm

**Message:** *Forecast: Prayer Showers Strengthen &*

**Hymns:** All Hail the Power; Praise to God; My Faith It Is An Oaken Staff

**Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Pentecost/Tools for Hope/Blanket Sunday/Mother's Day**

**Scripture:** Psalm 104, 1Corinthians 12:3-13; Acts 2:1-21

**Message:** *Birth: A Gifted Community of Wind & Fire*

**Hymns:** Holy, Holy, Holy; Holy Spirit, Truth Divine; Spirit of Gentleness

**Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m. S.A.T. (Spiritually Awesome Time) Service**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday eve Spiritually Satisfying Brief Worship**

**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Peace Justice Sunday/Special Intergenerational Worship**

**Peace Pole Dedication in honor of Brianna Mayes following Service**

**Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Memorial Day Holiday Weekend/NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Scripture:** Psalm 131; Matthew 6:24-34

**Message:** *Choice: Mine or Thine – Bright Eyes With Myopic Focus*

**Hymns:** I Sing the Mighty Power; Great Spirit God; All Things Bright

## Looking Ahead to Summer Worship

**Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 10:00 a.m. Communion/Church School Sunday/Strengthen Church**

**Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Music Sunday Worship Service**

**Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Father's Day Breakfast – 10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship on Parking Lot**

**Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Worship**

**Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Independence Holiday Weekend Outdoor PicnicWorship**

**Wear something patriotic & bring a “Brunchdish” to share**

**Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Worship**

**Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Congregational Hymnsing/Worship**

**Please share your favorite hymns with Music Cmte/Office**

**Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Annual Outdoor Picnic Worship at Storr's Pond**

**Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 a.m. Guest Minister and Communion Worship**

**Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. Worship**

**Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. West Lebanon Congregational Church 240<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Period Clothing and Worship at Original Gathering Site**

**Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am. Worship**

**Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup> 10:00 a.m. Labor Day Weekend/Guest Minister Leading Worship**

**Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 10:00a.m. Christian Ed Homecoming/Communion Worship**







## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Bill Macnab, Ellen Patterson & family, Katie Chaffee,  
Dean & Sandra Hutchinson, Paul Audette, Jerry Damren,  
Hillarie St. Pierre, Mike Foote, Darrell Turner, Sue  
Moretti, Linda Rogers Nash, Randy Perkins, Rosemarie  
Wick, Tiah Luciana Elanos, Donna Hoyt, Hope  
Dauphinais, Marian Carr, Dick Abbott, Mary Ann  
Hambleton, Tom McGonis, Bev Newell, Brianni Beland,  
Ellen Burke, Ethan & Ada Warren, Cole Timlake, Bruce  
Johnson, and Jim Gove.