

wierwille words

Friends of God, Body of Christ, People of the Spirit

These words from a faith affirmation shared in our Church School curriculum remind me of the power that abides in our journey of faith. In November we conclude the regular time of the annual church calendar and move from a reformation faith language of Creator, Redeemer, Spiritual Presence to an Advent compassionate incarnation of One who leads by example and gives all for the sake of a new world. One comes among us healing the broken, giving rest to the weary.

The coming Advent event gives the Gift of God in new and fresh words and ways and calls again for our generous Thanksgiving in response. As Friends of God we give our hearts, minds and hands in the new world of God's making and better understand ourselves as the Body of Christ and the People of the Spirit.

The holi day season moves upon us rather suddenly and can easily find ourselves co-opted, even overwhelmed by the busi ness external demands of time, energies and resources. My hope and prayer is that we can each take time to watch and listen and find the hope that is within us and be inspired by the vision of Emmanuel: God among us. May all find Peace in Christ in their hearts and lives.

*We believe in God, the wise Creator who rules as does the sun by day
and the moon by night; light to warm our skin, radiance to calm all fears,
and hope to move our hearts in the ways of costly love.*

*We believe in Jesus Christ, the wise Redeemer who reigns not by force nor by might, but
leads by example; the One who gives all for the sake of a new world in which justice
and compassion will finally heal the broken-hearted and give rest to a weary earth.*

*We believe in the Spirit the wise Counselor who draws us out of our diminished selves,
speaking words of deep affirmation and encouraging us forward
Into the compassionate way and being of Christ.*

November 2009

Minister: Rev. Richard Wierwille

Worship Service: Sunday 10 AM

Church School: 10:00-11:15

Email: wlcc@valley.net

Web Site: www.westlebcc.org

Phone: 603-298-8096

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-3:30

Wednesday 9:00-12:00

Pastor's Office: Tues, Wed, Thurs a.m. or by appt.

NOVEMBER 2009

ANNIVERSARIES

3 Judy & Henry Leavitt

BIRTHDAYS

3 Thomas Cooley
7 Nancy Simpson
10 Lilea Hansen
10 Molly Meagher
16 Carolyn Mitchell
19 Mickey Baker
29 James Burnham
30 Wayne Bonhag

OCTOGENARIAN LUNCHEON

On Sunday, October 25th, the Diaconate hosted approximately 40 Octogenarian guests and friends for a wonderful luncheon served in the Kilton Room. There were delicious casseroles and salads (thanks to all who cooked for this event), with cake and ice cream for dessert. Mark Pageau did a marvelous job serving as MC, and also provided piano music, accompanied by his daughter, Jaelyn, who has a beautiful, young voice. Molly Bonhag also contributed to the music program. It was determined that Ruth Morck was the oldest Octogenarian, 95 years, to turn 96 in January - Congratulations! Each 80+ year-old guest received a beautiful, handmade angel bookmark, compliments of Carolyn Grass. All who attended had a truly wonderful time!

Tracy Bickford
for Deacon Board

Liz sez,

We don't always take time to survey

our life and its genuine gifts.

LET'S BE THANKFUL

Let's be thankful for our veterans fighting for our country's sake despite the painful sacrifices that they are forced to make.

Let's be thankful for our liberty.

Let's cause others to realize that we must all join forces to praise and not criticize.

Let's be thankful that in America we may expand our education and we may choose the privilege to worship in a congregation.

Let's be thankful for our leaders and for our happy families.

Let's be thankful for love and wisdom, our homes, sunshine and trees.

Let's be thankful to climb hurdles that stalk or block our way.

Let's be thankful for each other not just on Thanksgiving Day.

Let's be thankful this Thanksgiving and let's pray for wars to cease.

Let's thank God for all we love and cherish.

Let's all pray for lasting peace.

Often stopping to bow in thankful prayer awakens our senses to how fortunate we are and how much we really have as American Christian People.

Happy Thanksgiving to all--- Sez Liz

**Grafton Orange Association Fall Meeting
Sunday, October 25, 2009
Thetford Center, Vermont**

This year our association is celebrating 100 years. We are a unique association as we bridge two states, Vermont and New Hampshire. As the role call was taken the individual churches gave their established date as well as the date when the current building was dedicated, and other interesting historical facts.

During the course of the meeting we talked about the importance and the meaning of **OCWM**, Our Church's Wider Mission. Tom Kinder, from the Thetford Hill church, who went to Synod as a representative from the Vermont Conference, gave a report about Synod. Hal Drury, on one of the national boards, from the Corinth Church will keep the Association informed about news from the UCC headquarters in Cleveland during the next two years. He is on a national committee who is responsible for giving monies to the start-up of new UCC churches. He told us of about 5-6 new UCC churches who are in their infancy. We learned about the upcoming, March 2010, New England Women's Celebration which will be in Burlington, Vermont. More will follow about this and I hope that some of the women from our church will be able to attend. I also gathered information about emergency preparedness bags. More information will be forthcoming about these as well.

The program was given by Yorke Peeler. Yorke, was a former minister in Norwich, Vermont, he and his wife are now living in Concord at Havenwood Heights. Yorke gave an amusing and informative history of the association from its inception.

Some think Association meetings are dull and boring. I enjoy going to them and would encourage others to say yes, to be a delegate from our church. I find the meetings interesting, and an opportunity to meet others from other UCC churches and very worthwhile. I feel it is good to share ideas with each other's churches. It also gives you an opportunity to visit another local church.

The Spring meeting will be at the Rumney Community Church. In the spring there will also be the Spring Training Workshop. This year it will be held in Hanover at the Church of Christ at Dartmouth.

Grace Dickerson
Delegate

Stewardship Invitation

Please join us Sunday, November 8th for Stewardship Sunday. Our returning visiting steward is Matt Van Wagner. If you've experienced Matt's sermons during previous year campaigns, you'll agree that he is an inspiring speaker. If you have yet to have the privilege of listening to Matt, please consider joining us for worship.

The Stewardship Committee wishes to thank our in-church stewards Bob Sanderson, Bethany Adam and Tim Rediker for sharing their stewardship stories with the congregation during worship. Our own experiences are the most meaningful and inspiring.

You should have received a letter from the Stewardship Committee by now and if you haven't read this letter yet, please take the time to read it. Our church is at a critical point financially. Our current year pledges are not enough to meet our basic expenses. Please consider what the church means and has meant to you and your family over the years when you fill out your pledge card this year. We sincerely thank you for your continued care and support of our church!

REMINDER

Please check the calendar on the bulletin board outside the Kilton Room and see if there is a vacancy for greeting, ushering, or coffee hours that will fit in with your schedule. Signing up for one of these opportunities gives you a chance to get acquainted with others while also providing a very important service for the church family.

COMMUNITY DINNER HELP

November 1, 2009 – Set Your Clocks Back!

Women's Brunch, Oct 24, 2009

A small but good group gathered on Saturday, October 24 for a Potluck Brunch. It was a rainy dismal day outside but in the Kilton Room there was delicious food, and a wide range of ages from teens in to the octogenarian years.

The focus of discussion was about where our ancestors came from. Interesting to see the spread across the world of our ancestors. The largest number came from England, Ireland, Scotland and Germany. The rest were spread across the world coming from Norway, Russia and China. How fitting that we sang the hymn, In Christ there is no East or West, as we came together from around the globe to join in West Lebanon. We also marked on the map states we had lived in. It was not a surprise that the most popular states were New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and others on the East coast. As the countries spanned the globe, the states we lived in spanned the United States. On that Saturday morning we were truly evidence of the uniting of the states.

Our next women's potluck brunch will be in February. The date is undecided so keep watching for this in the upcoming Steeple. We hope you will mark that date on your calendar and join us for good food, a fun time, and most importantly wonderful fellowship.

Grace Dickerson

HELP!! We need volunteers to help prepare and serve the once-a-month Community Dinner. The same crew has been doing this for many years and needs help.

Two of our members recently moved out of the area and the rest of us are getting older. The dinner our Church sponsors is held on the third Thursday of every month in the basement of the Sacred Heart Church. We meet at the Church at 3:00 p.m. and are usually finished by 6. There is a set menu and the work is not difficult. The rewards are many. The folks we serve are our own neighbors. Members of the current crew are Walt & Nancy Pyer, chairs; Lorinda Poirier; Jean Brooks; Kathryn Wheeler; Carol Campbell; and Millie Hubbard. Ask any of us for more information and believe me you will be welcome. Please Come!!!!

Please mark your calendars. There will be an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 25, 2009 at 7:30 pm at the Lebanon United Methodist Church. All are welcome. An offering will be received of donations and canned goods which will be donated to the First Baptist Church food pantry and the LISTEN Center Food Bank.

TRUSTEES REPORT

We met on Oct 8th 2009 and began the 2010 budget process. Without all the committees' entire budget request, we tabled it to our November meeting.

Ken Alger has been awarded the 2010 plowing and snow removal contract.

We would like to thank Phil and Norma Gomez for sealing up a deal with Patriot Fuel this year. Phil also spent an entire day with Patriots service tech going through each furnace, making sure everything was ready for the winter season. Also thanks to Phil for meeting on a Saturday morning with Scott Allan and Ken Alger. He showed them how a pump and float system works that gets rid of all the drainage from the Drake room kitchen. Phil did a maintenance process on the system which found a faulty float which was replaced, thus avoiding a failure which could have cost a couple thousand dollars.

We have also accepted, with regret, the decision of Dana Michalovic resigning after her three-year term. We will be seeking a replacement for the 2010 year.

Respectfully yours
Trustees

Keep in Prayer: Bill Macnab, Dean & Sandra Hutchinson, Jerry Damren, Jackie Lary, Hope Dauphinais, Dick & Betty Abbott, Sarah, Maggie Wells, Woody, Maria, Jan, Kara Haney, Nelson & Helen Crawford, Audrey Macie, Jan, Donna Hoyt, Marilyn Haney, Wendy, Brendan Hickey, Martin & Christine Jenkins, Phil & Evelyn Pillsbury, Jeff Flanders, Sue Gattie, Bill & Carolyn Mitchell, Nelson Johnson, Neil Steve Plumley, Steve Lyons, Malcolm Grobe, Helga Zuttermeister, Margaret Adams, Amy White, David Friedline, Melissa Billings, and Kara Haney.

WEST LEBANON UCC SUPPER SERIES 2009-2010

Chicken & Biscuit
Sept. 19, 2009

Super Casserole
Oct. 17, 2009

Soup, Stew & Chowderfest
Nov. 21, 2009

Roast Turkey
Jan. 23, 2010

Pot Roast
Feb. 27, 2010

Ham & Bean Dinner
March 27, 2010

Chicken & Biscuit
April 24, 2010

Chicken BBQ & Strawberry Shortcake
June 19, 2010

5:00 – 6:30 P.M.
Adults - \$8, Seniors - \$7
Ages 5-12 - \$5, under 5 – free

Soup, Stew and Chowderfest Dinner coming right up on November 21st ! Join in the fun and enjoy the good food! Sign up to share your best and/or favorite "chowda".

Worship Opportunities for November 2009

- Sunday, Nov. 1st** **10:00 a.m.** **All-Saints Day Worship/Holy Communion/Diaconate Envelopes**
Scripture John 11:32-44; Revelation 21:1-6
Message *Not The End Of The Story: you haven't seen anything yet!*
Hymn NCH 417, NCH 576, PH 72
- 2:30 p.m.** **Chapel Worship with Genesis Care Center Residents**
- Sunday, Nov. 8th** **10:00 a.m.** **Stewardship Covenant Sunday Worship/Consecrating Pledges**
 Matt van Wagner, Guest Preacher
- 2:30 p.m.** **Chapel Worship with Genesis Care Center Residents**
- Tuesday, Nov. 10th** **1:30 p.m.** **Bible Study Discussion – 1 Samuel 1 & 2**
- Sunday, Nov. 15th** **10:00 a.m.** **Worship Celebration**
Scripture 1 Samuel 1:4-20, 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-25
Message *Faith/Hope For The Future Intertwined In Promises Made and Kept*
Hymns PH 234, PH 224, NCH 119, PH 223
- 2:30 p.m.** **Chapel Worship with Genesis Care Center Residents**
- Tuesday, Nov. 17th** **1:30 p.m.** **Bible Study Discussion -- John 18**
- Sunday, Nov. 22nd** **10:00 a.m.** **Worship Celebration**
Scripture 2 Samuel 23:1-7; John 18:33-37
Message *Are You Who You Say You Are? a world of God's love*
Hymns PH 195, PH 345, NCH 305
- 2:30 p.m.** **Chapel Worship with Genesis Care Center Residents**
- Tuesday, Nov. 24th** **1:30 p.m.** **Bible Study Discussion -- Luke 21**
- Wednesday, Nov 25th** **7:30 p.m.** **Community Thanksgiving Worship at Lebanon U. Methodist**
All are welcome! Donations and Canned Goods to local pantries.
- Sunday, Nov. 29th** **10:00 a.m.** **First Sunday of Advent/Lighting the 1st Advent Candle**
Scripture Jeremiah 33:14-16; Luke 21:25-36
Message *Advent: A Sign of Things To Come, God's gracious interruption*
Hymns PH 109, PH 107, NCH 609
- 2:30 p.m.** **Chapel Worship with Genesis Care Center Residents**

MISSIONS AND SOCIAL ACTION

Thanks to all of you who joined the effort to ease hunger locally and globally through the CROP Walk held on October 4th. Your participation as a walker or sponsor was much appreciated. We had a larger than usual turnout from WLCC this year, and \$1,150 was raised.

Once again this year, we will be asking for your support for the Listen Holiday Basket Program. We expect to receive the requests from a local family soon, and will post a list of “wishes” in the hallway, as usual. Kristin Farquharson, the Holiday Basket Program Counselor, reports that last year 220 families received a Holiday Basket. For the past few years, we have been able to fulfill the requests of a family with children, and two senior citizens. Last year the mother of the family we helped wrote this:

“We want to take time out to thank you very much. You made Xmas wonderful for us. May God bless you and your family for your selflessness. Your family made the holiday very festive for us as well as happy. Thank you and again bless you.”

The Missions committee will be meeting November 5. After the successful H2O Project, with its global outreach, we are looking for local mission projects. Please contact any one of us with suggestions. Of course, our support continues to be crucial for the Listen and Haven food pantries, and donations of money or goods are always needed.

The Missions Committee

Linda Oidtmann (2009 Chair), Lori Lounsbury (Secretary), Averill Tinker (Treasurer), Sandy Tisdale, Jean Brooks, Bill Mitchell, Grace Dickerson.

PIE BAKING CLASS

What better time could be had on a Sunday afternoon than to attend a pie baking class? This is what 13 men and women, plus Elisabeth's two children, did on Sunday, October 17.

The instructor was Elisabeth Berthasavage, our own parishioner and an instructor for King Arthur Flour. Elisabeth went over the basics of pie crust making. While the pie dough was chilling she guided us in making an apple filling. As you can imagine the tricky part was to come with rolling out the dough, putting it in the pie plate and adding the filling.

It showed that Elisabeth is a well versed and a successful teacher as we all made beautiful pies. Thanks to Elisabeth's guidance and much to our surprise we had no problem with the sticky pie crusts. The pies looked beautiful. We all took them home to bake and to enjoy.

Many, many thanks to Elisabeth for her patience, her wonderful sense of humor and willingness to share a bit of her baking knowledge with us. On saying goodbye she challenged us to make more pies for the church suppers. That we will, I am sure.

I also want to thank **King Arthur Flour** for the donation of the flour we used in class as well as thanks to the **Poverty Lane Orchards** for the donation of apples. How fortunate we are to have generous businesses like these.



Grace Dickerson