



The Steeple

The Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

18 Maple Street • West Lebanon • New Hampshire • 03784 • 298-8096

Volume XL, Number 3

September 2011

wierwille words

September has always seemed to be a pivotal month for me – transitioning seasons and schedules, concluding *summerease* and shifting into *hyperfall*, kickstarting the academic calendar. I believe beginnings are usually easier than endings; starting new things seems fresh, clean, definitive. Many of us can remember eagerly anticipating being back with our pals the first days of a new school year looking forward to meet new teachers and athletic/educational challenges. But won't we all miss those *lazy, hazy, crazy dayz of summer?*

This reminiscing approach is flawed if we stay focused on those people, places, activities of the past and end up missing *the real flow of living in the moment* that Jesus brought and taught:

Love God. Love Eachother. Celebrate Life in all its shapes/times/places!

Much is being made this year as we *Remember 9/11* ten years ago. We want to take time to honor and lament the human lives tragically lost that day, the almost unimaginable horrific destruction of property, and the devastating radical change in the way we approach life. Since 9/11 we could list the innumerable programs initiated in the name of security. Here in our neck-of-the-woods we've witnessed expanded border patrols and National Guard activation with continuing loss of life, hardening of hearts and far reaching economic distress. Does anyone really feel safer, more secure?

Could September become that pivotal transforming locus-in-time when we would all take a breath and recall ***our call to live in the way of Christ!*** - it certainly is not about building bigger walls between people! or becoming more me-and-mine rather than ours-as-a-gift-of-God!! Could September become that month when Saving Grace and Abiding Love energizes, softens, welcomes, hospitable moments into our lives when we realize and live God's grace and unconditional love. As the bell tolls on 9/11 may it be a symbol our being together in homecoming to:

Love God. Love Eachother. Celebrate Life in all its shapes/times/places! Pax, DW



WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

Worship Opportunities for September 2011

- Sept. 4th**
10:00a.m. Sunday Worship / Holy Communion / Labor Day Holiday Wkend
Scripture Isaiah 6:1-3; Ps. 96:11-12; Acts 17:22-28; 1 Cor 10:14-18; John 6:41-51
Message Coming Home: a filling, healing sanctuary celebration
Hymns *O Grant Us God, Take My Gifts, O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*
11:15a.m. Sunday *The Wired Word!* Adult Bible Roundtable Discussion
- Sept. 11th**
10:00a.m. Sunday Worship - Christian Ed Rally Day - 9/11 Memorial Reflection
Scripture Jeremiah 12:11; Psalms 139:7-12; Matthew 12:38-40
Message Coming Home: home is where the heart is groaning
Hymns *For The Healing of the Nations, Standing At The Future, O God of Love*
11:15a.m. Sunday *The Wired Word!* Adult Bible Roundtable Discussion
- Sept. 18th**
10:00a.m. Sunday Worship / Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Scripture Jeremiah 4:23-28; Colossians 1:15-20; Romans 8:18-27; John 1:14
Message Coming Home: joined together as to become one
Hymns *Thank Our God, Womb of Life and Source of Being, Christ Is Made*
11:15a.m. Sunday *The Wired Word!* Adult Bible Roundtable Discussion
- Sept. 25th**
10:00a.m. Sunday Worship /Native American Ministry & Earth Sunday /Food Bin
Scripture Genesis 1 & 2; Psalms 148; Mark 10:42-45
Message Coming Home: celebrating life together as people & planet
Hymns *O How Glorious, We Yearn O Christ for Wholeness, There's a Wideness*
11:15a.m. Sunday *The Wired Word!* Adult Bible Roundtable Discussion

SEPTEMBER
ANNIVERSARIES



- 9 Nancy & Mark Pageau
22 Jeanne Sanderson & Ike Hartson
30 Linda & Frank Maynard

SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS



- 2 Chelsea Potwin
3 Judy Alger
5 Jean Brooks
7 Kimberly Henry
9 Malachy Flynn
11 Erik Rediker
13 Meghan Hicks
14 Grace Morse
17 Jeff Bonhag
17 April Akers
19 Tom Morgan
20 Mary Bonhag
22 Daniel Adam
26 Marion Chapman
26 Ken Roberts
27 Clay Pyer
29 Kyle Hansen

LIZ SEZ

Summer weather, weddings picnics,
vacations, family gatherings, etc.
invite us to over indulge.

THE LOSER



He admitted he was overweight.
He wanted to be thinner,
so he indulged in half a meal
when he went out to dinner.

He left with a doggie bag
to take home that night.
Someone ate the other half.
Fido never got a bite.

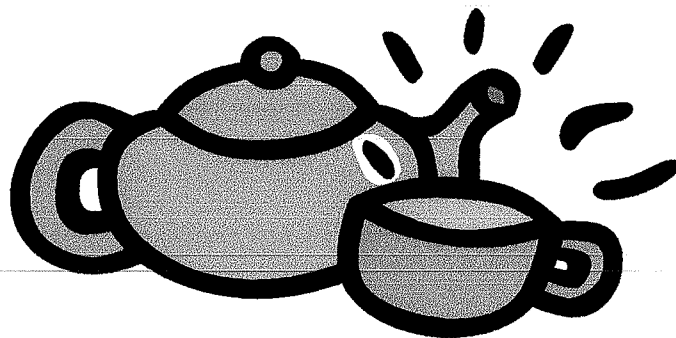
Some dieters lose more than
weight. even the old dog can
be a loser.

Sez Liz

Sunday, September 18, 4:00 p.m.

Granite State Ringers Concert

The Granite State Ringers, New Hampshire's only community bronze handbell choir, will perform a concert in the Mary Keane Chapel. The choir director, Joan Fossum, has been involved with handbells for more than 25 years. The Granite State Ringers is a member of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers comprised of members from many NH communities. The choir uses five octaves of Malmark Handbells and five octaves of Malmark Handchimes. Three selections will be with organists Jeremy Cooper and Donna Butler at the 1930 Casavant organ. Suggested Donation, \$10.



Mad Hatter Tea Party

On Saturday, August 19th there was a fun filled Mad Hatter Tea Party in the Kilton Room. The day was a picture perfect summer day, with bright sunshine and blue skies. The sun was not any brighter than the 42 women and girls who attended the party. All wore hats and many wore gloves. There were all types of hats, small hats, sun hats, gardening hats, baseball hats, wide brimmed hats and

small brimmed hats. Plain hats, baseball hats with the big **B** front and (and one who wore a baseball hat brought a very special type of glove – a baseball mitt – how fitting was that and what a clever idea), hats with a few flowers and hats with many flowers, hats with ribbons, short ribbons and flowing ribbons and hats with scarves. It can be said there were all types of hats and hats of all colors.

The table was set with all sorts of goodies to eat and tea to drink, hot and iced and lemonade. Fun and games were had by all and we all learned about tea. The **March Hare** was there though the Dormouse must have been asleep and missed the party. I can only surmise Mad Hatter and Alice looked at the wrong watch as they were so late they missed the important date.

A picture will be posted on the bulletin board of all there.

So unique was the fact there were three tables with three generations at them. The three generation families were the Sanderson's, the Seymour's and the Munn's. Those three tables were a wonderful sight. Folks at the other tables were having a gala time as well. The afternoon ended with a robust chorus of the song, The More We Get Together.

I thank everyone who participated in making this such a successful and fun event. I also thank all who helped, especially Nancy Simpson, Carol Campbell and Judy Alger, as well as all who contributed food and the decorating of hats. Without everyone's help the party would not have happened. Would you believe there were fourteen ladies who wore their hats to church the following day. It has been years since we have had that number of women wearing hats in church. Remember the days when that was the fashion!

Grace Dickerson

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The CE committee will be kicking off the Sunday school year with a Blessing of the Backpacks on Rally Day, September 11th!

Please bring the children and get them registered for Sunday school and get their backpacks blessed for another school year!

We will be using the one room schoolhouse concept again this year and the Whole People of God curriculum, so please consider volunteering to help the teachers during the school year.

A sign up for volunteers will be in on the bulletin board by the back door.

We are excited that another year is beginning and look forward to seeing familiar faces and perhaps some new ones!

Abby Robbins, (one of the students in Sunday school) challenged us last year to support a country that needs our help and the whole Sunday school will be assisting Abby in realizing her dream of "Operation Help a Country"

Students will select a country and we'll go from there.

Please stay tuned for upcoming events as it will be a fun and exciting year!!

Respectfully submitted by

Laurie Tostenson on behalf of the Christian Education committee

"INSPIRED MUSIC" FESTIVAL



If you were at WLCC on Sunday, July 10, at 3:00 p.m., I believe you will agree that we were all "inspired" by the wonderful music and talents of John Tostenson, Bob Sanderson, and Molly (aka "Molly fingers"). Our guests were entertained with great music, inspirational lyrics, some humorous anecdotes in between songs, and the guests were encouraged to clap their hands and sing along, at times.

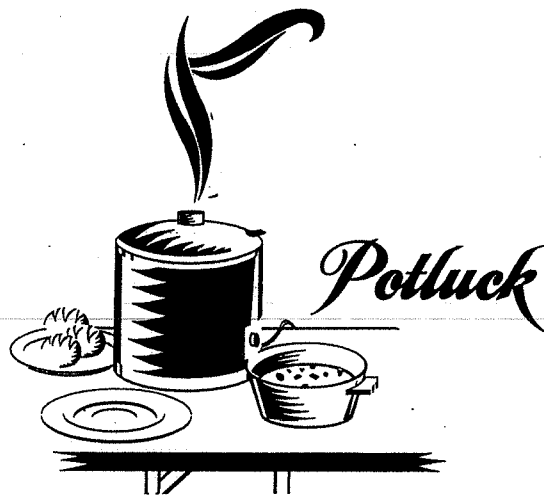
Scrumptious desserts, including homemade cheese cake, apple pie, cake, and lemon squares were provided following the concert in the Kilton Room. The event raised over \$600 for the Capital Campaign - Steeple Fund. Thank you to all who came and enjoyed, and we truly appreciate the gifts of song and spirit that John, Bob and Molly added to make this a successful event!

Capital Campaign Committee: Wayne Bonhag, Deb Ford, Tracy Bickford, Al & Dana Michalovic and Scott Allan



On Tuesday September 13th at 5:30, anyone interested in playing bells this year will gather to clean the bells and then eat a light supper at a local restaurant TBD. Anyone who is interested in playing bells is invited to come, even if you have never played before. If enough people are interested, a beginner choir may be formed.

Regular rehearsals will begin on September 20th at 6:00. Call me if you have any questions. (603)448-0275. Averill Tinker



Women's 'Falling Leaves' Potluck Brunch

**Save the date
Saturday, October 8, 2011
10:00 to 11:30**

**All are invited to join us at the next women's potluck brunch called the
Falling Leaves Brunch**

**It will be a true potluck, bring what you would like. There will
be a sign-up sheet by the back door a few weeks before the brunch.**

**At this brunch we will invite the women of the Greater
Hartford United Church of Christ to join us in fun and festivities.**

Remember to mark your calendars.



If you are going to be heading for a warm and sunny spot for the winter season, please either call or email (wlcc@valley.net) so we can get your Steeple mailing to the correct address.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Your Missions Committee has taken the summer off. We will be meeting in September to put our heads together, with renewed energy and start thinking. We here at the West Lebanon Congregational Church are so blessed in so many ways and there are so many in the world who have needs. We will be thinking of ways, other than the regular United Church of Christ 5 for 5 offerings which we may be of help to those in need. We invite any and all suggestions of how to help those less fortunate in the world.

May the shine of the new steeple be a beacon for us to be a light in the lives of others.

Grace Dickerson



**The Family of Susan Blanchard Johnson
1/9/1934 - 7/15/2011**

Family and friends gathered at WLCC for a celebration of Susan's life on July 15, 2011, with Robert Sanderson leading the service.



Holly Jane DalPra was joyfully welcomed into the DalPra family on July 18, 2011, at 6:25 AM. She weighed 6 Lbs. 15 Oz. and was 20.5 inches long.

MANY THANKS!

The DalPra family is eternally grateful to their church family for their prayers and support, and are thrilled to welcome their third daughter! Kate, Adam, Rosemary and Matilda May.



Molly Bonhag announces that the Intergenerational Choir will resume rehearsals on Tuesday, September 13th. If you like to sing, come and join us at 7:00pm in the Kilton Room.



A Sacrament of Baptism Service was held at a lovely out-of-door worship service on July 17th. The Church Bell was rung for the first time since completion of the newly remodeled steeple. Deborah Ann BoCash, Connor James Brown, Tanner Francis Brown, Payton Ashley Hayes, Meghan Elizabeth Hicks, Amanda Lynn Howe, Jeannie Sawyer, Richard Sawyer, and Donna Munn Stender were all baptized by Rev. Wierwille on this glorious Summer Sunday!

Christmas Bazaar



The Christmas committee met recently to work on planning for this year's bazaar. The committee members are: Grace Dickerson, Amy Stebbins, Carol Campbell and Nancy Simpson. They discussed their notes from their post bazaar meeting in January. There is a need for people to create baskets to raffle off. If you have an idea for a basket or wish to donate a filled basket, please speak to any committee member. After Labor Day we will have a poster up soliciting workers for the day of the bazaar. If you worked on a table last year and would like to work on that same table this year, please speak to a committee member. The committee also planned the week before the bazaar and it is as follows:

November 28	wreaths
November 29	set up
November 30	set up
December 1	pricing
December 2	pricing.

The committee will next meet on September 17th. The craft group works Thursday mornings from 9 to 11. Any questions, please contact the committee.



FOOD BIN SUNDAYS

The Missions Committee collects non-perishable Foods on the last Sunday of each month. The donations are delivered on alternate months to The Haven or the LISTEN Center. Many thanks for all your help.



Coffee Fellowship

Coffee Hour Hosts

September 4	Nominating
September 11	Christian Ed
September 18	Mission
September 25	Music
October 2	Pastoral Relations
October 9	Stewardship
October 16	None (Luncheon)
October 23	Growth
October 30	Diaconate
November 6	Flowers
November 13	Historical
November 20	Bell Choir
November 27	Trustee
December 4	Women's Fellowship
December 11	Delegates
December 18	Capital Campaign
December 25	Christmas

CABINET MEETING



The next Church Cabinet Meeting will be held in the Kilton Room on Tuesday, September 20th, at 7:00 p.m. All Committees should be represented and all Officers should plan to be Present. The meetings are open to all members of our Church Family.



WOMEN'S RETREAT

RETREAT FOR UCC WOMEN

A two day retreat for New Hampshire UCC Women will be held October 14 and 15 at the Brookwoods Conference Center in Alton, NH this fall. The theme for this year's retreat is "Inspired by women, Past and Present" and is based on 2 Timothy 1:5-6a "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you..."

Retreat leader will be Joann Snow Duncanson, a poet, author, public speaker, humorist and newspaper columnist for over 25 years. She has written and performed programs on the lives and works of both Emily Dickinson and Celia Thaxter.

Spiritual Leader will be the Rev. Joyce Lovejoy a retired UCC pastor from New Boston.

Costs will be \$60.00 for one overnight and three meals. You do need to bring your own bed linens or a sleeping bag. For more details look for the Fall issue of the Women's Link which will be out the first of September. Or contact Esther Murray (603)224-4943, 98 Mountain Road, Concord, NH 03301 (email area. please put women's retreat in the subject

Cell phone vs. Bible



Our Prayer Line is very active and available for anyone who is either in need of prayer, or knows someone who is ill or injured and would like to be included in our collective prayers.

Rev. Wierwille makes hospital, nursing home, and home visits as well as providing at-home Communion. Just let us know.

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our Cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pocket?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go ... hmm... where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Diaconate: Carol Campbell Al Michalovic Trustee: Debbie Ford Flowers: Jean Brooks				1 9:00 Work Meeting	2	3
4 10:00 Worship Communion Diaconate Env. 11:15 <i>The Wired Word</i> Bible Study	5 LABOR DAY!	6 6:00 pm Growth	7	8 9:00 Work Meeting 6:30 Trustees	9 KMUV Demo Day	10
11 10:00 Worship Church School Rally Day 11:15 <i>The Wired Word</i> Bible Study	12 6:30 <i>Pastoral Relations-Parsonage</i>	13 10:00 QUAIL HOLLOW <i>Piano</i> 5:30 Bells 7:00 I/G Choir 7:00 Diaconate	14 <i>Piano</i>	15 9:00 Work Meeting 5:00 COMMUNITY DINNER 6:00 Missions	16 KMUV	17
18 10:00 Worship Church School 11:15 <i>The Wired Word</i> Bible Study	19 OCTOBER STEEPLE DEADLINE	20 <i>Piano</i> 6:00 Bells 7:00 CABINET MEETING	21 <i>Piano</i>	22 9:00 Work Meeting	23 KMUV	24
25 10:00 Worship Church School FOOD BIN 11:15 <i>The Wired Word</i> Bible Study	26	27 <i>Piano</i> 6:00 Bells 7:00 I/G Choir	28 <i>Piano</i>	29 9:00 Work Meeting	30 KMUV	

The Newsletter[®]

ACTIVITIES PAGE

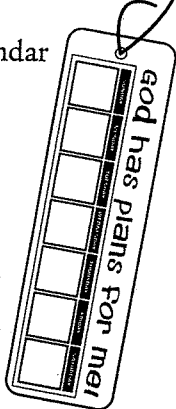
VOLUME 33, NUMBER 9

A daily reminder

Make this bookmark to remind you that God is with you every day.

What you need:

- An old calendar
- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Glue stick
- Pencil or marker
- Stickers
- Hole punch
- Ribbon or yarn



What you do:

1. Cut out the first line of squares from an old calendar, including the days of the week along the top.
2. Cut the cardstock into a rectangle a little larger than the calendar section.
3. Glue the calendar section onto the cardstock.
4. Write "God has plans for me" (Jeremiah 29:11) on the bookmark.
5. Add stickers or other decorations on the back.
6. Punch a hole on one end of the bookmark.
7. Loop some ribbon or yarn through the hole.



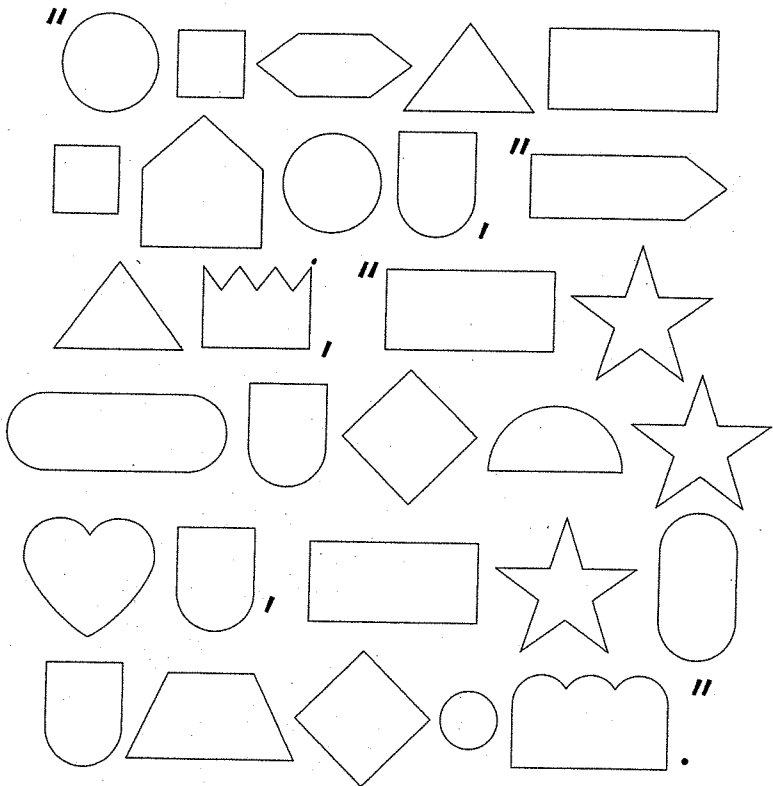
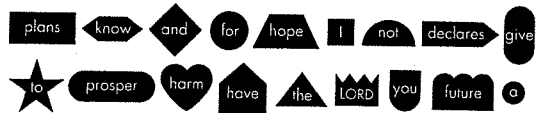
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GOD'S PLAN

When we ask God for guidance, he will show us his perfect plan for our lives.

Directions: Use the shape code to the right to write out Jeremiah 29:11, NIV.



Answers: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11, NIV)

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The Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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US POSTAGE
PAID
WEST LEBANON, NH
PERMIT NO. 3

Return Service Requested

September 2011

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.



"Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted,
forgiving one another,
as God in Christ
has forgiven you."
Ephesians 4:32, NRSV