

Bartlett Church News

Bartlett Union Congregational Church

Web Site: www.Bartlettchurch.net

Volume 6 Number 2

Bartlett, New Hampshire

February 01, 2010

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

As you may know, we lost some members recently.

We miss the people who have left our fellowship. They shared gifts of faith, knowledge, experience and leadership with us all, and we are the poorer for our loss. We notice it most in coffee hour, where we miss their friendship.

Churches should not lose friends, and we need to learn from this experience. We need to ask ourselves what part we as the church played in our loss. What can we learn and fix from this?

The first lesson is that our communications failed, apparently because people didn't feel free to bring questions and concerns to appropriate officers or boards within the church. We can start there.

- Meeting schedules can be posted on a bulletin board where all can see them, with agendas and summaries of previous meetings posted as soon as available.
- The same information – schedules, agendas and meeting summaries, including the monthly financial report – can be published in the newsletter.
- All meeting announcements, written or verbal, can be accompanied by an invitation for interested people to attend meetings.
- Each meeting agenda can have time for visitors to speak if they wish.
- Contact information for all board and committee chairs and church officers can be posted so that people who want to bring a business item to a meeting can arrange to have a place on the agenda.
- Newly updated copies of the church directory and church bylaws can be made available to all members and active friends.

Issues come to committees and boards from individuals, and through discussion people try to find a solution that's acceptable for everyone involved. Sometimes there's no compromise or change that works for everyone, but everyone should feel that leaders listen and try to make a situation better – more workable, more faithful – or even more fun.

As we welcome new members and friends, pleasing everyone becomes more of a challenge. Our responsibility – the trust we are given as the people of God in this time and place – is faithfully to seek to understand everyone's gifts, concerns and desires. Honoring each other by appreciating each other's presence and possibilities is church at its best.

We can't turn back the clock and erase the problems of the past, but the future lies ahead, and it's never too late or too early to do the right thing.

Love, *Andy*

Bartlett Union Congregational Church

Officers & Committees for 2010

Elected and the Annual Meeting - January 10, 2010

Moderator:	Rob Owen 2010	Christian Education:	Lee Coffield
Treasurer:	Bert George		Judi Coffield
Financial Secretary:	Mary Miller		Mary Miller
Asst. Financial Sec.:	Lee Coffield	Marketing:	Ellen Hayes
Clerk:	Judith Botsford		Rob Owen
Board of Deacons:	Jean Garland		Judy Ludgate
	Jim Iovino	Flower Committee:	Evelyn Bailey
	Greta George		Nancy Hodgkins
	Lee Coffield	Social Committee:	Greta George
Board of Trustees:	Bert George		Evelyn Bailey
	Benson Howard	Bushee Thorn Mt Tr:	Rob Owen
	John Ludgate		Mary Miller
	Carroll Hayes		Ellen Hayes
Delegates to the	Rob Owen	Nominating Com:	Jan Clemons
No Country Assoc.	Jean Garland		Mary Miller
Board of Music:	Ellen Hayes		Judi Coffield
	Jan Clemons		
	Nancy Lawson-Jacobs		
	Evelyn Bailey		

Happy Birthday

Feb. 18 Phyllis Linger
Feb. 19 Janet Green

If you have not seen your birthday printed
In the newsletter, please give your date to
Judy so we will have it in our records.

Music Department

Ellen Hayes

Choir Practice is back on track
And rehearsals are on Friday
afternoons at 3:00 pm. We will be
practicing Lenten music soon. If your
Would like to join us, please call Ellen
At 374-6611.

Famous February Suppers

The Church Mice are ever so busy getting ready to serve you their delicious Saturday night suppers in the month of February. The ladies have been making calls soliciting food. If you are donating food each week, please have it to the church on Wednesdays. Desserts should come with you on Saturdays.

The menu consists of Meat Lasagna, Spinach Lasagna, Baked Beans, Turkey, ham, Pot Pie, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw, potato salad, Home baked rolls and brown bread and pies, cookies and squares for dessert.

The Mice are looking for workers for these dinners as well. We need bus people and dishwashers. Greta is the chief cook in the kitchen, but she still needs helpers. Give Greta a call if you can help her out at 374-2328.

The cost of the "All you can eat" meal is \$8.00 a person or \$4 for those 5-14 and under 5 is free. Plan To come and enjoy a fun-filled evening Of fellowship and great food. The Mice serve from 5-7:00 pm.

February is a month Of special Days

- Feb. 14th Valentine's Day
- Feb 15th Presidents Day
Celebrating Washington's
And Lincoln's Birthday
- Feb. 17th Ash Wednesday and the
Beginning of Lent
- Feb 06th Famous February Supper
- Feb. 13th Famous February Supper
- Feb. 20th Famous February Supper
- Feb. 27th Famous February Supper

Bartlett Church Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Bartlett Church was held on Sunday, January 10, 2010. There were 25 in attendance. The business of the church was conducted. Bert George gave the report of the finances of the church and Committees reported on their actions for the year of 2009.

A general meeting for all church members will be held on January 31st to discuss the amendment to the By-Laws as well as a report of the group working on the Vision process of the church.

A Note from your Editor

Judith Botsford

Winter is definitely with us, however we just had our "January Thaw" with buckets of rain and roaring rivers. Now lets get some good snow so we can get out and enjoy winter in the North Country. Our "snowbirds" had a taste of winter recently, but am told it is back to normal now and they are enjoying the warmth of the south.

Have been asked to make a change in our newsletter by moving the date of printing up so that the newsletter will be out before the beginning of the month so people can plan their calendar. This means I need help from you all.....the date For the DEADLINE will be moved up to the 2nd from the last Sunday of the month. In February I would ask you to please have your news to me by Sunday, February 21st. February is a Short month so perhaps if you write this date on your calendar it would help to remind you. Also, PLEASE Send me articles from each of the Committees so everyone will stay Current with what is going on in our Church family.

Thanks, *Judy*

Notes from a 5th grade School teacher

God is like BAYER ASPERIN - He works
Miracles

God is like COKE - He's the real thing
God is ilke HALLMARK CARDS - He cares
enough to send the very best.

God is like GENERAL ELECTRIC - He brings
Good Things to life.

God is like SCOTCH TAPE -You can't see
Him, but You know he is there.

God is like ALLSTATE - You're in good hands
With Him.

God is like the US POST OFFICE - Neither
Rain Nor snow, nor sleet, nor ice will
keep Him From His appointed
destination.

God is like BOUNTY - He is the quicker
Picker-Upper...can handle the though
jobs and He won't fall apart on you.

Did you know.....

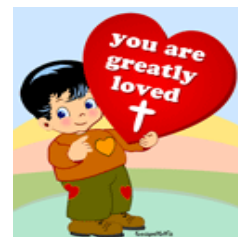
That Onions set out in a dish will
ward off germs?

Set an onion in a bowl around your
home or desk at work. The onion will
absorb the germs and keep you from
getting the flu.

Give it a try!

Christian Education

Judi Coffield



The Christian Education committee has been moving along regularly with youth group, just about every other Sunday night. Meetings are going great! This next meeting will be a first of its kind! The kids are going skiing at Black Mountain first, we will have lunch & lesson at Bart's Restaurant after service & then head over to the mountain. (the good price "deal" starts at 12:00pm!)

We will be encouraging our children to help out at the February suppers this year as they are experts in dish washing and drying as this is mandatory as part of youth group!! Bible study is part of Christian Ed and I am not up on when the group meets but I understand it is happening & that is really great!

Happy February, Judi C.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

Lee Coffield

The search committee has been meeting to discuss several applications we have received for the permanent minister position. We went for many months without receiving any at all. We lost our two co-chairs of the committee, Don Linger and Ernie Hiscox, and so went back to the original list of names that had been submitted for the committee and went to the next name in line, Bert George. Bert has agreed to serve on the committee and was involved in a recent meeting. We continue to base our search criteria on the congregational survey we did several years ago when Tom Morton left and John Shaw was filling in. The upcoming visioning process may bring new light to this subject but we continue to be comfortable with what we have right now. We continue to be hopeful and believe God will bring us the right candidate when the time is right.

DEACONS

Lee Coffield

The deacons continue to meet monthly and to discuss pertinent items on a weekly basis as they come up. We continue to advocate the food bank, stressing that people need food all the time, not just at the holidays. While we highlight donations on communion Sunday, I would encourage everyone to bring something with them every week - even if it is just a can of soup. We plan on doing food baskets throughout the year and will get names of needy Bartlett families perhaps from the school. We also talked about a clothing bank for those in need, but, storage space is a problem and with the planned renovation project, we have tabled that for now. We sent the military care packages at Christmas time but have not heard anything from either military member. We would like to do more visitation to housebound people in the village and to newcomers but the latter is difficult with the privacy issue today, perhaps we can do this in the better weather and can find a way to identify newcomers.

We have lost Diane Anderson as a deacon as she and Charlie have left the church. This is a big loss and we are so sorry to see them go. We will be considering adding a new member of two to the diaconate.

Remember, "What lies behind us and what lies before us are small matters compared to what lies within us," and "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Phil. 4:13)

Lee



Photo taken at the Bartlett Church Annual Meeting
January 10, 2010

**Happy Valentine's
Day**



**Don't forget those
Famous February suppers**

Saturday, February 6th 13th 20th 27th

**Bartlett Union Congregational Church
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