

Bartlett Church News

Bartlett Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Web Site: www.Bartlettchurch.net

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Bartlett, New Hampshire

June 1, 2009



A Note from your Pastor . . . Susan "Andy" Jepson

Dear Friends,

The season of Pentecost is upon us. The longest part of our church year begins with the day of Pentecost, when we celebrate the coming of the Spirit upon Jews gathered in Jerusalem. They had come to celebrate the giving of the Law; we celebrate the giving of the Spirit.

Jesus promised that, once he was gone, God would send an Advocate or Friend (there are several translations of this word) that would enable the disciples to minister among all people as Jesus had ministered among them. *Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father . . .*

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. (John 14:12 & 16, NRSV)

From now until Advent, we focus on living and growing in the Holy Spirit, learning to be God's Word and do God's work in our world. This is the season of discipleship.

That means that we're the disciples, and it's a good thing we have each other! We're a community-based faith, descended from a Pentecost community of working men and women, Roman soldiers, rich merchants, doctors, radical priests and reformed prostitutes, servants, landowners, tax collectors, slaves. Jesus ministered to people and called them to be ministers for each other, inviting and enabling them - and us - to find better, more meaningful relationships with each other and with God.

Now our Christian Church is a collection of every imaginable kind of "churchness". It is hierarchical on one hand and individualistic on the other. Sometimes exclusive, teaching that only one narrow path leads to God, it can be wide open, welcoming any honest seeker on a journey of faith. It despises politics and/or money as offensive to God's holiness, and it understands both as tools for ministry in God's name. It leaps into social issues, leading us to profound change in how we see each other, and it cloisters itself to avoid the messiness of life, choosing a segregated community life deemed sufficient to the needs of the faithful, or a solitary life of simplicity and prayer for a world going amok. It cannot be all things to all people in each manifestation, but there is a path and a door and a home for everyone who comes.

We in Bartlett are a microcosm of the wider church, negotiating differences and possibilities to be in worship and mission together. In its work the Search Committee consider how our strengths and differences can be honored by new pastoral leadership . . . Deacons craft a context for our mutual ministry, worship and service that brings our individual and institutional best to God's work . . . our Trustees seek a balance of old and new, needed and wanted, traditional and innovative, in the work of managing our assets . . . the Mission Committee brings us opportunities to learn and work together for the world beyond our walls and our experience.

Challenging? Yes. Impossible? No. After all, we have Jesus' promise that we will do greater things than he, AND we have the Spirit to guide us - AND we have each other. What more can we possibly need?!

Love,
Andy

SPECIAL DAYS

Happy Birthday

June 03 Celia Dustin
June 11 Mary Miller
June 20 Sally Pelletier
June 29 Marion A. Owen

Happy Anniversary

June 21 Peter & Sally Pelletier
Pelletier
June 25 Jim and Mary Miller
June 30 Mike and Doris Kirk

June Worship

June 07, 2009

Trinity Sunday
First Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 6:1-8
John 3:1-17
Sermon: **Woe Is Me!**

June 14, 2009

Second Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 17:22-24
Mark 4:26-34
Sermon: **The Lord Is My Gardener**

Bartlett Church Mice

The Church Mice of the Bartlett Church met on June 18 at the home of Greta George. Attending were Greta, Evelyn Bailey, Jan Clemons, Carol Santacrose, Ellen Hayes and Judy Botsford.

The business of the meeting was to make decisions of upcoming events for the season. The first was to plan the Memorial Day luncheon which follows the parade and services in the park. Preparations for the luncheon will begin at 10:30 on Monday, May 25th to be ready at noon.

The 50's dance was discussed and it was decided to cancel the street dance and have a 50's theme pot luck supper and 50's music in the dining room. The DJ will be cancelled and we will have taped music and Ellen will play some of those old tunes on the keyboard.

The strawberry shortcake booth in the park on July 4 was planned. Greta asked that we have 6 "pickers" on the day before to pick the strawberries and then 4 or 5 "pluckers" back at the church to prepare the berries for serving. Ben Howard bakes the shortcakes and sets up and runs the booth at the park with the assistance of some of the ladies.

The Concert in the park, on Wednesdays in August, will have desserts and drinks sold by the Sunday school and youth group this year rather than the church mice.

It was discussed that the cost of juice at coffee time was an extra cost so it was decided to have a basket for donations.

Bible Study News

Beri Hiscox

We are continuing in the study of the Book of John whose emphasis is on the Deity of Christ. We will be taking the summer off beginning the week of June 21st, after Fathers' Day. We will be starting up again in September.

Meanwhile, just to keep your thinking sharp, I've put in a short Bible Quiz for fun. See how many you can get right!

Bible Quiz For June 2009 -Do You Know Who?

- (1) WHO is the Word (Logo)?
- (2) WHO was fed by ravens?
- (3) WHO walked on water?
- (4) WHO was Jesus' human cousin?
- (5) WHO killed a giant with one stone?
- (6) WHO when bitten by a serpent, was unharmed?
- (7) WHO was the Queen who saved her People?
- (8) WHO asked Jesus to heal his Mother-in-law?
- (9) WHO were the "Sons of Thunder"?
- (10) WHO tore the lion in half?

Answers coming next month

Junior Choir

Beri Hiscox

The junior choir has been great this year. They got a good start in October and have performed for the Church several times for special occasions, the last being Mother's Day.

They have been dedicated and faithful in using their musical abilities in the Lord's service. Their sweet voices and pretty smiles have cheered many hearts. Their names are: Robyn Coffield, Crissy Coffield, Ally Wanek, and Kaylee Hiscox.

We will be celebrating their "specialness" by having a Jr. Choir outing on May 31st after Church. We will be going out for burgers and mini golf to celebrate. They are spectacular children, and very special. I have enjoyed working with them and watching them grow in self confidence, developing into a cohesive team. They have learned rhythm, tone, pitch and following directions.

Ellen Hayes has been a wonderful accompanist and added to the overall fun.

Thank you ladies!

We will be off for the months of June, July and August but will be back next fall!
Have a great summer.

Watch out for Children

School is about to be out for the summer, so please be on the "look-out" for children riding bicycles and skateboards in the streets around town.

**Peace Begins with a Smile
Keep a Smile in Your Heart**

A Note from your Editor

Judith E. Botsford

We are going to try something new this July and hope that you will enjoy it just as much as the 50's street dance.

On Saturday evening, July 25th we are going to have a 50's Pot Luck Supper and taped music of the 50's. We will also have some singing of old 50's songs.

There will be no charge; however you are asked to bring a dish whether it be a main dish, salad or dessert to share. There will still be room enough to kick up your heels and dance if you wish.

Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend. Bring your friends too. We still would like to see those 50's poodle skirts and saddle shoes for the ladies and dungarees and t shirts for the gents.

Summer is just about upon us and I hope that you have some fun times planned with your family and friends. Bill and I have reservations for almost every weekend this summer for camping with our family and RV friends.

Would like to let everyone know that we will have one issue this summer which will incorporate July and August, so please plan ahead and send my anything that needs to be printed before the summer issue. I am still having trouble getting committees to send me reports so that everyone will be informed of the Church 'goings-on'.

The deadline for news for the summer issue is June 21st. Please lets make this an informative newsletter *so send me your news.*

Christian Education

Judi Coffield

Christian Education is going terrific! We had a youth group meeting this past Sunday; it was a blast! We have two more youth group gatherings scheduled for June 7th and 14th. Our Confirmation class is moving along wonderfully! Andy has been teaching with new handbooks. Nancy Wanek stood in for Andy this last class and we are very grateful! It has been a team event with all of the parents and grandparents to thank. We don't have a final confirmation date set, but are striving to reach a goal of completion. Right now we are going with the flow until we all feel they are ready to be confirmed. Beri Hiscox wants to take the youth choir out for some fun on May 31st which I think is a great way to finish out the season.

Happy Summer!

Judi Coffield

Mary Miller

Lee Coffield

Bartlett Church

Bartlett Union Congregational Church

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Dates to Remember

- Sunday, June 14 FLAG DAY Don't forget to fly your flag
- Sunday, June 21 FATHER'S DAY
- Sunday, June 21 Deadline for the July-August issue for the Church Newsletter