

Bartlett Church News

Bartlett Union Congregational Church

Web Site: www.Bartlettchurch.net

Volume 6 Number 3

Bartlett, New Hampshire

March 01, 2010

A Note from your Pastor

Susan "Andy" Jepson

Dear Friends,

If you're looking for a good book to read during your Lenten journey, I suggest the Gospel of Luke, from beginning to end. Luke's Gospel is scheduled for Sunday lectionary readings during this liturgical year, and some of the passages have been the basis for sermons, here and throughout Christendom, beginning with the First Sunday of Advent this last December.

It's not that you've never heard a lot of this, or read or even studied it. But we seldom pick up one of the Gospels and read it as a separate book, with a plot and purpose and sequence of events that isn't obvious when we get it once a week in chunks.

There's a bookmark with this newsletter that divides the Gospel into a reading for each day from March 1 through Easter Eve. Some readings are longer than others, but none should take more than 15 minutes.

A friend introduced me to a One Year Bible back in the early '80s, and I've read one daily ever since. They come in different versions, and most of them follow the same pattern. On January 1, they begin at the beginning of Hebrew Scripture, Psalms and Christian Scripture. Every day you read about 1/365 of each section, and by midnight of December 31st, you're reading Malachi 4, Psalm 150 and Revelation 22, ready to start again the next day with Genesis 1, Psalm 1 and Matthew 1.

Reading the Bible this way has given me an ever-growing sense of the WHOLE story, not just its main episodes and characters. Academic studies don't introduce the characters as people with lives that interconnect and overlap. We understand that only about people we know, but we need to know the people in our Scripture this way.

So get to know these people in Luke and treat yourself to some new friendships during Lent. Live with the people of Jesus' time as Luke saw and understood them. Learn how much like us they were, and how much like them we can be.

Love,
Andy

Happy Birthday

March 12 Ernie Hiscox
March 14 Bill Botsford
March 19 Ray Bailey
March 20 Carter Miller
March 21 Christine Coffield
March 23 Beri Hiscox
March 26 Evelyn Bailey
March 26 Ellen Hayes
March 27 Jim Clemons

Happy Anniversary

March 26 Bert and Greta George

MuSic Department

Ellen Hayes

Choir rehearsals are being held Sunday mornings at 9:00 before the worship service. If you would like to sing with us, please come join us.

Flowers

Evelyn Bailey

Spring seems to have arrived With some beautiful spring flowers Recently. If you have flowers to share please contact Evelyn Bailey at 374-2217.

Christian Education

Judi Coffield

Hello everyone! The youth group had a wonderful time skiing at Black Mountain together along with Dan Wanek, Mary Miller & Pastor Andy. I should not say wonderful, I heard the conditions could have been better as we all know. We had pizza at Bart's along with at lesson plan. Several more youth group meetings are scheduled and actually posted on the door downstairs.

The children will continue to participate at the February suppers and also will be scheduled in to assist during service in the near future.

Bible Study is being held at the home of Nancy Hodgkins. Andy is planning an additional study as well.

News from the Deacons . . .

Beginning in March, we'll hold one service a month downstairs. We have friends we haven't seen in months because they can't climb the stairs, and even some of us who can climb them may like a break. In March we'll have our Communion Service downstairs where everyone can get to it.

It'll be wonderful to see friends who haven't been able to join us for months!

From Our Treasurer

Bert George

Bartlett Congregational Church Operating Statement - Monthly

Jan-10

Income:	Actual	Budget
Pledges	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 4,500.00
Other Contribution Inc	<u>856.00</u>	<u>340.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 6,858.00	\$ 4,840.00

Expenses:

Pastoral Staff	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 1,533.00
Administrative *	792.31	450.00
Building & Grounds	777.19	1,342.00
Missions	<u>750.00</u>	<u>00.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES *	\$ 4,839.51	\$ 3,325.00

EXCESS INCOME/LOSS \$ 2,016.49 \$ 1,515.01

- This reflects a correction of \$196.96 in the expense "Admin printing" on the financial statement presented To the Prudential Council. 2-14-10

Average weekly operating fund income to day \$ 1,371.00
Average weekly income needed \$ 810.00



Thing Spring!

The Bible is a many-splendored thing.

**Some of the things we read there are awesome -
and some are awful.**

**Some things hold truth for all people in all times and places.
Some things come from ages whose importance is lost in the
past.**

**Some things don't fit in either category –
each of us must do some digging and discerning
to find the truth for our lives.**

Let's Study Our Scriptures – SOS!

SOS for life

SOS for truth

SOS for faith

SOS for a journey of LOVE and LEARNING

Come SOS – Study Our Scriptures – beginning in March

***Interested folks – Please meet with Andy right after worship on Feb.
28th***

A Note from your Editor

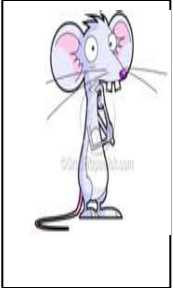
Judith Botsford

Spring is just around the corner! But wait, winter is surely not over yet so we are due some more snow before the spring flowers pop up out of the ground. Around Jackson we are already seeing plastic lines where the maple trees are being tapped, so that is another sign of spring is on its way.

Keep your articles and photos coming, people. We need article of interest from everyone. March 21st is the deadline for the April issue. Thanks, **Judy**

Famous February Suppers

Greta George



The Church Mice would like to give a giant **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with the February Suppers. Without everyone coming together it would never have happened. We truly appreciate all the food donations, financial donations, the helpers who came to cook, serve, do dishes, clear tables, the person who emptied the garbage and the one who vacuum. the floor every week, to the person or persons who decorated the room, the person who put out the signs and lit the ovens for us and to the marketing group to did all the fliers and got them out and got the event in the newspaper every week. People saw your great works and came. **Job well done.** I think we had a GREAT month thanks to everyone coming together to make it happen. You are all every special and I'm proud to call you all friends. *Greta*

Deacons Report

Lee Coffield

The deacons have been active - meeting regularly and trying to come up with ideas/programs that will help our members and those of the community. We have been discussing several topics we are considering implementing. We will continue the food bank, but also are considering a clothing bank - for children and adults - to be run in conjunction with identified needs from the school. We want to identify a way to be able to identify newcomers to Bartlett to welcome them. We want better visitation with our housebound members. And, as part of that, we are going to buy a traveling communion set so our minister can bring that sacrament to people unable to come to church. We are talking about having a service downstairs occasionally to include people who cannot climb the front stairs. We made a donation to a local family who recently had a serious accident and then lost their home/business to a fire. We are thinking and praying about replacements for the 2 deacons who recently resigned.

Thought for the day, "Remember, you may be the best Christian somebody knows..."

SAVE THE DATES! SUNDAY, MARCH 14 – SUNDAY, MARCH 28 – SUNDAY, APRIL 11

It is **very important that you be a part** of the **CHURCH VISIONING PROCESS**.

The church needs every member and friend to participate as we review the past, determine where we are, and decide what's important for the future of our church.

These three meetings are an opportunity to **share and record our knowledge, beliefs, concerns, and goals for the Bartlett Union Congregational Church, UCC**. The meetings will be **after church until about 3 or 4 pm** on these Sundays.

By prioritizing these meetings, and using them to discover the **common goals** we share, we will find **unity as a congregation** and determine the best **plans for our future**. The unity of purpose will make **church growth**, both in membership and participation in community life, happen faster and more effectively.

It's not easy being congregational. **Each member has a say and an equal vote** in what happens, so **each of us has a responsibility**. For members it is to listen, suggest, consider and vote. The leaders have the added responsibility of making sure each voice is heard, all votes are counted, and the decisions of the group are carried out. **The congregation determines its own course**.

You are the important part of the process. You have, by your membership in this church or your decision to attend, shown your support and belief in the importance of the Bartlett Church to both the church family and community. **Your input is vital** to making this process a success.

Please make every effort to attend all these meetings! We need YOU!

March 14

Pot Luck lunch after church, followed by discussion of **Our Church's History**.

What church events do you remember?

What events were key events in the church's history?

We will learn about how our church was started and how it has evolved in its 100-plus year history.

March 28

Another Pot Luck. Then: **Where are we at today?**

Discussion questions talked over in small and large groups will lead us to a picture of the congregation, both factual and spiritual.

April 11

Pot Luck Lunch and . . . **Looking at the Past and the Present**

Our discussions will lead to discovering our common goals and concerns.

Got a question or want more information? Call Rob Owen, 986-0235

Famous February Suppers

Pearl and Belvin Barnes

Belvin tells us that he has washed
Many dishes ant these suppers over
The years.

Janet Green is Selling Sodas

**Greta Geroge and
Her granddaughter Brooklyn**

The kitchen crew



Left to right

**Mary Miller, Judy Botsford, Carol Santacrose
Evelyn Bailey, Ellen Hayes and Nancy Jacobs**

Note the delicious food on the buffet line.

Left to right: Green Bean casserole and Macaroni and cheese
Spinach Lasagna, Meat Lasagna, Chicken legs and Chicken
Fingers...it goes on and on with delicious food

**These are the
Church Mice**

Upcoming Dates to Remember

March 14 Daylight Savings Time

March 14 Dr. Donald Derse will be preaching
Visioning meeting following worship service

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 28 Palm Sunday

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