



The Pastor’s Piece By Pastor Sue Davidson

Is it summer or is it fall? It is always a mystery to me this time of year. The temperature and humidity tell me that it is summer. Yet there are those days that ‘fall is in the air’. What I have noticed is the mountains and how they have changed over the last month. There were many days that a haze existed either from the humid air or the drifting effects of fires north or west of the Mt. Washington Valley. One of my favorite views of the mountains is the clouds that hang low and then the sun hits the peaks. Even snow on Mt Washington is beautiful!

As I considered worship for October, that is the last three Sundays of the month, I was drawn to a passage of scripture in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus had been on the mountain with a few disciples and he was transfigured before their very eyes. Upon coming down from the mountain, the disciples attempted a healing without success. The disciples asked Jesus, “Why couldn’t we drive the demon out of the boy”? Jesus replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

Move mountains, do we really believe this or do we just hear and say, “Not possible. “ As you may have learned in these past months, I like to develop worship in a series. Most importantly, I want to make sure that if a week is missed, those in worship on any given Sunday morning do not feel left behind.

There are five Sundays in the month of October. I will be away the first two, which will be led by the laity using a vast number of resources to plan worship that will be inspiring and spirit filled. The remaining Sundays I will be planning worship around the theme of ‘Move Mountains’.

- God is on the Move
- Mountains Can Seem Like Obstacles
- Mountains as Opportunity and We Can Move the Mountain

While the thought of moving mountains seems impossible, a reminder to us all is that nothing is impossible with God.

Each morning I listen to ‘Pray As You Go’, <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>. It is a daily prayer session, designed to go with you wherever you go, to help you pray whenever you find time, but particularly whilst traveling to and from work, study, etc. It is not a ‘Thought for the Day,’ a sermon, or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and questions for reflection. I find the music especially calming and insightful. The one that struck me this week is simply titled, “The Lord Will Provide.” These are the words:

*In some way or another, the Lord will provide
 It may not be my way
 It may not be your way, but He will
 At some time or another, the Lord will provide
 It may not be my time
 It may not be your time; we will
 Trust in the Lord, and the Lord will provide
 Yes we'll trust in the Lord, and the Lord will provide
 Trust in the Lord, and the Lord will provide
 Yes we'll trust in the Lord, and the Lord will provide*

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May our worship reveal the path to moving mountains not only for us as a community of faith but in our own lives as we learn about harnessing the power of faith in God.

YOUTH & FAMILY

By Jenny Terry & Helen Goss

Rally Day on September 10th brought four youth back to church and since we have added a few more! It was wonderful to share the return of children and our Choir in the same Sunday. The church was filled with the Spirit! Now as we move into October, we are planning some fun times in our faith studies and outside the church as well, as we enjoy the fall season!

Currently, we are using our Bibles received in June at the end of the school year to understand what this collection of books contains. We are trying to accomplish this at all age levels of learning and enjoy the process at the same time. If you see the kids at Fellowship after service, ask them what they have learned about the Bible. It can be a conversation starter and a way to become better acquainted with them!

We continue to enjoy the **Children's Message** with Pastor Sue and others when she is away. It is awesome when we hear that the parents reinforce these messages at home!

We are also looking at our church traditions and rituals while reviewing the contents of the Worship Bulletin, so we can better understand what makes up a church service. In addition, the children have decided they would like to be part of Communion and will be joining the congregation on October 1st, which just happens to be World Communion Sunday.

Our hope is to have a glorious Sunday in October to go to *Sherman's Maize* for an outing after church. We welcome anyone to join us! We will announce the week before we plan to go.

Then on October 30th we are joining the Vaughan Learning Center in the parking lot for our **2nd Annual Trunk or Treat** from **4:30 – 6:00PM**. Again, EVERYONE is welcome to join in! All you need is a trunk or pick-up body to decorate and/or come in costume and share in the fun! **We will be accepting candy donations to help fill the trunks as we are trying to break our record of sixteen trunks/trucks from last year.**

We look forward to a spooktacular month and hope to see you at church!

Lectonaries

October 1, 2023

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday

Children's Story

Psalter Reading: Psalm 33:1-3

Gospel Lesson: 1 John 4:9-11

October 8, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Story

Jesse Red Horse, Lay Leader

October 15, 2023

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Story

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-8

October 22, 2023

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Story

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

October 29, 2023

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Story

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:39-45

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 12:1-2

Artist: Abeels
Age: 15
Congregation: Trinity United
Church of Christ,
St. Louis MO

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
NEIGHBORS IN NEED 2023
ucc.org/nin



"God saw everything God made and behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31

MISSION COMMITTEE

The **Neighbors in Need** offering, which we will receive on October 1, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through our national Justice and Local Church Ministries office, <https://tinyurl.com/2bfyatb>, you can find resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace

advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

With your assistance, we together can help our **Neighbors in Need**. Please give generously. And remember, contributions to **Neighbors in Need** can be made online at anytime: ucc.org/nin.

Mission Committee

By Deb Smith and Mary Lou Waite, Co-Leaders

BLOOMING CRAFTS WORKSHOP

Blooming Crafts Workshop to resume on Mondays starting October 2, 2023, 6:30 to 8 p.m. (No Monday Holidays) in the Howard Room of the Reverence for Life Building.

Workshop Goal: Mission's Fundraising for Community Scholarships & Mission's Outreach

Handcrafts: Crafty Crafts, Quilt Blocks, Knitting, Crocheting. All are welcome to join the workshop: Newbies & Experienced. Come work on projects or share your favorite craft ideas. We have the tools needed-sewing machines, donated fabric and yarn or you can bring your own.

Come whenever you have a free Monday or as often as you like. We look forward to you joining us!

Homemade handiwork items are WELCOME DONATIONS to enhance our display for fundraising.

Deb Smith - Crafty Crafts 508 320 5127
Mary Lou Waite - Handcrafts 508 272 0734

I COME WITH JOY
 A HYMN CELEBRATING WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
 By Muriel Magg - Music Team Chair

Every year on the first Sunday in October, (October 1 this year) Christians around the globe celebrate **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**. On that day, Christians in every culture break bread and pour the cup to remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church and remember that they are part of the whole body of believers. Whether shared in a grand cathedral, a mud hut, outside on a hilltop, in a storefront, or meetinghouse, Christians celebrate the communion liturgy in as many ways as there are congregations. World Communion Sunday can be both a profound worship experience and a time for celebrating our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world that gather as a family at the table.

Brian Wren, (b. 1936) was born and raised in Romford, Essex, England. His B.A. and Ph.D. degrees are from Oxford University. He was ordained in 1965 and was pastor of the Congregational Church (now United Reformed) in Great Britain, but now is a citizen of the United States, where he is active as a lecturer, pastor and full-time hymn writer. Brian is married to Susan Heafield, a United Methodist minister, who sometimes collaborates with him in composing congregational songs. Brian Wren is widely recognized as one of the top hymn writers in the world. Fourteen of Brian's hymns are in the United Methodist hymnal, and countless others are sung by congregations of all denominations. Brian worked for many organizations involved in fighting poverty and promoting peace and justice.

Brian Wren, wrote this month's featured hymn titled, "I Come with Joy" (# 349 in our New Century Hymnal). Much of Brian's subject matter comes from worship in regular churches like ours. "I Come with Joy" was written for Brian's home congregation as a summation of a sermon series his wife preached on communion.

The hymn gives us new ways of seeing things because joy isn't the emotion, we first associate with the sacrament. The mood of communion is usually more solemn than joyful. Brian Wren's song reminds us that communion is this little breakthrough of God's kingdom on earth. Everyone has enough. No one is excluded. No one is considered a better person than another. It is about sharing. Looking out after one another. What could be more joyful than this practice in a world where exclusion, judgmentalism and division are the order of the day?

The first stanza of "I Come with Joy" reminds us that we can come to the table with joy because it is a reminder that we are forgiven, loved and free.

The second stanza places the worshiper with "Christians far and near."

By the third stanza we are being shaped as one in Christ's love and strangers now are friends.

The fourth stanza describes Christ's presence within the faith community as well as in the communion meal.

The final stanza functions as a sung benediction. "Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways."

Through the singing of this hymn, we are molded into the body of Christ in worship and return to the world as Christ's "people in the world."

"I Come with Joy" is sung to the tune DOVE OF PEACE, a Southern Harmony composed by William Walker in 1835.

So, we celebrate communion. The great thanksgiving. The great reminder that there is much to be joyful for. We are in the hands of a loving God who has placed all we need within us to be joyful. **LET US COME WITH JOY!**



“The View from My Window”

By Jennifer Perkins, Vaughan Administrator

Greetings!

Vaughan Community Service has been busy this past summer continuing to meet the needs of those in our community.

Sadly, there are many in need but gratefully, Vaughan can help and is helping.

Vaughan Food Pantry is experiencing higher than normal demand for food. We continue to see new families signing up for assistance (Pre-pandemic, we served 100 families monthly. Today, we are assisting 200 families monthly and the number is rising.). Thanks to the generosity of many businesses, foundations, and individuals, we continue to meet the need financially and we are able to keep our shelves stocked full of essential pantry items.

The Vaughan Food Pantry was blessed to welcome two gentlemen from the Church of Latter-Day Saints who were seeking to fulfill their volunteer duties and they did so with us! Elder Kael and Elder Jacob remain assisting us every Tuesday and Thursday morning as we receive local donations from Hannaford, Shaw's, and Walmart. The volunteers truly believe they were Heaven sent!

The Vaughan Learning Center ran a successful summer camp program and has returned to their school curriculum. Along with new children, Vaughan Learning Center has welcomed new staff members as well.

Upcoming in November is the annual MWV Radio Food Drive. Stay tuned for more.

Warmly, Jennifer Perkins



Picture above:
Front row L-R: Lucille Russo, Elder Kael, Elder Jacob
Back row L-R: Penny Robinson, Marge Silva, Marcia Bailey

DEACON'S CORNER...

October has arrived and when you receive this we will be up to our elbows in **blueberry crisp**, Hopefully, enjoying another perfect Fryeburg Fair weather season!

Your Diaconate continues with their monthly meetings to see that the pulpit is covered and a meaningful service is provided. **We are thrilled to share that Pastor Sue has agreed to stay with us through the end of this year!** However, this is not so that we rest on our laurels. The **Search Committee** has met with Rev. Gordon Rankin, our advisor in this time of transition, and are working faithfully through this period of discernment to find our next settled pastor.

We have an updated **Church Directory** as of August and will be posting updated address and phone information in the monthly *Congregate* as we learn of them. Please help us by supplying these changes to Denise in the Church Office as they happen. If you are in need of a current directory, they are available when you come to church or call the Church Office. (603-356-2324)

Pastor Sue will be away on October 1st and October 8th. Currently, we are seeking a pastor that is qualified to provide communion, as October 1st is World Communion Sunday. It is our fervent prayer that this can be accomplished. **On October 8th, Jesse Red Horse will be bringing us the message from his faith journey.** He is very enthusiastic about sharing, so I hope you will make a special note to join us for this service!

October 8th is also **"Pastor Appreciation Sunday,"** and although **Pastor Sue** will be traveling on that Sunday, we want her to know how much her being amongst us this year has meant to us. ***"The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching" (1 Timothy 5:17).*** This verse from 1 Timothy certainly describes the passion Pastor Sue shares for her calling!

Faith Fellowship time with Pastor Sue continues in her office on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays when she is here. In October there will be a meeting on *October 25th*, so put it on your calendar now to attend. Going forward, we should be thinking about someone to host this group so that it can continue after the end of the year.

Here's to seeing more familiar faces along with new friends coming back to church! May you be well and get your vaccinations as they become available so that we can hold the flu and COVID at bay.

Enjoy the beauty of this fall season!

Your Faithful Diaconate – Helen Goss (Chair), Julie James (Vice Chair and Scribe), Lee Coffield, Laurel Ekberg, Muriel Magg, Fred Starkey and Gerry Tilton, Deacon Emeritus

THANK YOU !!!

A heartfelt **"THANK YOU"** to **ALL** who helped make the **Fryeburg Fair Blueberry Crisp** event another anticipated success! It takes many, many loyal workers to make this fundraiser happen and as an aging community of faithful servants, the question becomes more evident each year of how much longer can we do this? It is something we will be considering and discussing in the months ahead as growth in our church with younger families is such an apparent need.

Vaughan Learning Center

By Heather Ouellette, Director

Vaughan Learning Center has started off with a great year of learning. The school year is packed full of fun things and many activities planned. We will be having our 2nd annual Trunk or Treat on October 30th from 4:30-6PM. If you want to do a trunk let Heather know 603-356-5213. We are always looking for items if anyone has anything to donate: Laminator Sheets, Lysol Spray, Hand Soap, Trash Bags Unscented, Baby Wipes Unscented. Thank you in advance!



Busy Bee



Patrick and SpongeBob



Madi and Jenni



Lucy and Karen

October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 Eyreburg Fair Begins Pastor Sue away 9:00am Fair Baking 10:00am World Communion Sunday 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship 2:00pm - 5:00pm REVOLVING CLOSET- TEENS</p> 	<p>2 Pastor Sue away 9:00am Fair Baking 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>3 Pastor Sue away 9:00am Fair Baking 12:00pm - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>4 Pastor Sue away 9:00am Fair Baking</p> 	<p>5 Pastor Sue away 9:00am Fair Baking 1:00pm - 2:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>6 Pastor Sue away 9:00am Fair Baking 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>7 Pastor Sue away</p>
<p>8 Eyreburg Fair Ends Pastor Sue away 10:00am Worship Celebrations 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship</p>  <p>Laity Sunday</p>	<p>9 Pastor Sue away 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>10 Pastor Sue away 12:00pm - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>11 Pastor Sue away</p>	<p>12 Pastor Sue away 1:00pm - 2:45pm Food Pantry Open 5:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p> 	<p>13 Pastor Sue away 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 10:00am Worship Celebration 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship 11:30am Mission Committee meeting 2:00pm - 5:00pm REVOLVING CLOSET-TEENS</p> 	<p>16 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>17 12:00pm - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open 4:00pm Trustees meeting 5:00pm Discernate meeting</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19 1:00pm - 2:45pm Food Pantry Open 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 10:00am Worship Celebrations 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship</p>	<p>23 New Letter DEADLINE November Congregate Findings Articles Due 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>24</p> 	<p>25 9:30am - 10:30am Faith Fellowship</p>	<p>26 1:00pm - 2:45pm Food Pantry Open 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 10:00am Worship Celebration 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship</p> 	<p>30 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 2:00pm - 9:00pm Beach Festival Rehearsal</p>	<p>31 12:00pm - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 1:00pm - 2:45pm Food Pantry Open 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>3 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>4</p>



- 10-06 Beckett MacMillan
- 10-12 Sally Kratt
- 10-12 Patricia Bean
- 10-13 Scot Santos
- 10-13 Cindy Russell
- 10-14 Cheryl Furtado
- 10-15 Tim Psaledakis
- 10-16 Mark Schiller
- 10-17 Mary Ellen Shea
- 10-17 Megan Croce
- 10-17 Elaine Spratt
- 10-19 Marcia Smith
- 10-19 Julia Edwards
- 10-20 Robert Bechtold
- 10-22 Elaine Paul
- 10-22 Sean McGrath
- 10-23 Madeline McGrath
- 10-24 Matthew Schiller
- 10-25 Muriel Magg
- 10-25 Mike James
- 10-26 Harry Smith
- 10-28 Joseph Leighton
- 10-30 Sean Racicot-Psaledakis

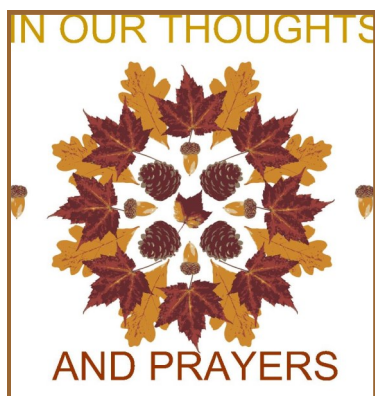


- 10-15 Russell and Dortehea Seybold
- 10-16 Peter and Muriel Magg

Update to Church Directory

**Fred and Barbara Starkey's new address:
134 Lamplighter Park
North Conway, NH 03860-5174**

**Also, Evelyn Porter's information was omitted due to an editorial error:
Evelyn Porter
PO Box 519
Intervale, NH 03845-0519
603-496-2314
hambru35@yahoo.com**



Please pray for those dealing with illness, surgery or recovery, especially:
Bob Borchers; Evelyn Porter; Sandy and Greg George; Linda Hyde; Audrey Vorperian and Laura Jean Beeler.

Remember those in our extended care facilities.

At Merriman House:

Liz George-Hussey; Cynthia and Conrad (Connie) Briggs and Marilyn Elliott

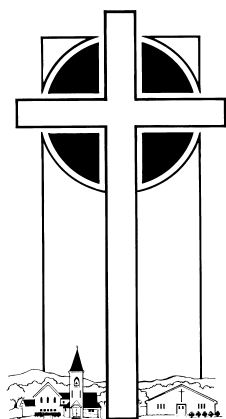
At Mineral Springs:

David Tilton

Please call the church office with prayer concerns if you wish names to be listed in the next Congregate Tidings.

The Congregate Tidings
First Church of Christ, Congregational
United Church of Christ
PO Box 401
N Conway, NH 03860-0401

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



TO:

**COMING ATTRACTIONS...
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY!!!**

By Helen Goss, Chairperson

Stewardship Sunday is November 8th. This is always a special Sunday when we dedicate our pledges for the coming year. This campaign will be out in the month of October, so be watching your mail for this information. **This will be a lay service Sunday with a bit of a twist.** More information will follow in the Stewardship letter. It is time to take a good long look at where we want First Church of Christ to be now, expectations for the future, and how we propose to get there. This Sunday is not all about the \$\$\$\$. Your attendance is welcomed and needed!



CHURCH & VAUGHAN STAFF

Pastor: Sue Davidson
Church Administrator/Editor: Denise Leighton
Organist: Floyd W. Corson
Associate Organist: Muriel Magg
Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir Director:
Anne W. Polak
Vaughan Administrator: Jennifer Perkins
Vaughan Learning Center Director:
Heather Ouellette
Church Sexton: Mark Schiller

Worship Service at 10 A.M.
Church Office (603)356-2324
Fax Number (603)356-2106
E-mail address:
churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com
***Website: www.firstchurchnc.com**
Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstchurchncnh

***Please note our newly refreshed website!**
Thank You Barbara Sisson!!!