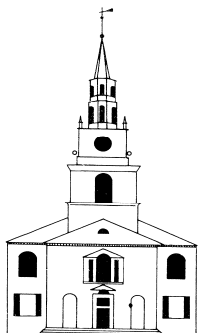


Church Matters

July 2011



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
27 North Pleasant Street
Middlebury, Vermont 05753

Rev. Andrew Nagy-Benson, Pastor
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.

midducc@comcast.net (802) 388-7634 (office)
www.midducc.org (website)

“SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVIN’ IS EASY”

Well, maybe not easy, but certainly different! There are vacations, kids at camp, friends and family dropping in—a season to enjoy not having another meeting! In between the swimming and barbecues, don’t forget that the Church Garden needs your help—weeds need to be pulled, and produce needs to be picked. Sign up with Hannah and Emily.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you.

When this edition of *Church Matters* is sent and delivered, Jennifer Smith and I will be with the Senior High Youth Group in Washington, D.C. In these days *before* the trip, my desk looks like

a to-do list gone wild. (I won't say anything about Jennifer's desk.)
So, please pardon my brevity this month.

As I hope you know, I eagerly await our service trip adventure and look forward to the ways it will move and grow and inspire and challenge us. We have been talking about going to D.C. for many months. It's time to stop talking and start doing!

During the homecoming worship service on July 3, the youth and I will share some impressions of the week with the congregation. Four young adults will be CONFIRMED that day as members of our church. What better way to welcome confirmands to this service-minded congregation than a week-long service trip!

Our youth and its leaders are deeply grateful to the congregation for its support. The growth of our youth ministry program over the past year or so is due in large part to your financial and prayerful encouragement. It feels like a kind current is carrying us forward. We thank you . . . and we thank God . . . for that.

See you in church.

God bless you,
Andy

Rev. Andrew Nagy-Benson

I have a glove here in my hand. The glove cannot do anything by itself, but when my hand is in it, it can do many things. True, it is not the glove, but my hand in the glove that acts. We are gloves. It is the Holy Spirit in us who is the hand, who does the job. We have to make room for the hand so that every finger is filled.

–Corrie ten Boom

Our Work and Home

GARDEN TOOLS NEEDED



Our farm-to-table program needs some basic garden tools. If you have an extra hoe, spade, trowel, etc., that you would be willing to donate, please drop it off at Charter House before 12 noon, Monday through Thursday, or bring it to church on Sunday for Kristen Andrews or Ginny Heidke. The AmeriCorps volunteers will arrive on July 1, and they need tools to effectively work the fields.

VISIT TO TUSCANY

The Italian Dinner served on Sunday, June 12, to support PINS was a huge success. The Board of Missions and Social Concerns invited one and all to come to “Italy-in-Middlebury” and to enjoy a sumptuous meal. They wish to thank any and all who helped with the dinner. The generosity of those who made food, volunteered labor, bought tickets, and donated extra money was astonishing. Besides having fun, we raised almost \$1,350 for PINS, just in time for summer. Thank you!



THE BLUEBERRY BASH

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

Come and celebrate our 6th Annual Blueberry Festival. This year we invite you to pre-order:

- Frozen, Unbaked Pies\$12
blueberry, blueberry peach, blueberry rhubarb
- Scones\$9 per half dozen
- Blueberry Meringue Tortes\$15 made to order
- Cheesecakes\$8 made to order
blueberry swirl or blueberry lemon

Pre-orders begin July 1 for pick up around August 6. To place an order, call Joyce Haggarty at 388-3335 or email Diana Cotter at dfcotter@comcast.net.

Of course all the blueberry treats you've come to love will be available at the Festival on August 6.

MEN'S THURSDAY LUNCH



On the third Thursday of the month, July 21, the men will meet for lunch at Rosie's Restaurant on Route 7 South at 12 noon. Anyone interested in joining us, please just show up at Rosie's.

If you have any questions or you need a ride to lunch, please call Mal Chase at 989-0037.

PRESERVATION & BUILDING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCE PLANNING MEETINGS FOR CHURCH ADDITION

The Committee has reviewed the three-year-old list of ideas and has renewed the hope for an addition for our church. However, we need to renew our perspective and review past suggestions to bring them up to date.

A letter has been mailed by Pastor Andy to our members and friends detailing the efforts, as well as providing a summary of our past hopes and dreams and a short list of questions. House Meetings, with some light food and drinks served, will provide an opportunity for a discussion of these questions.

Following are the list of hosts for these meetings. Please sign up to attend one discussion. The lists will be posted in Fellowship Hall starting on Sunday, June 26. If you cannot make it into Fellowship Hall, please call Pat and Mal Chase, and they will add your name to the House Meeting of your choice.

AED: AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR



At a recent meeting of the Board of Deacons there was a discussion concerning the possible purchase of an AED (automated external defibrillator) for use by occupants of our church. AEDs are designed to be operated by members of the lay public with little or no training and are used in the event of a cardiac arrest (cessation of heart pumping action). Cardiac arrest is due to an abnormal cardiac rhythm, typically following a heart attack. By delivering a strong electric shock directly to the heart, AEDs stop the abnormal cardiac rhythms and very often the heart will resume a normal rhythm and start pumping blood again, averting a fatal outcome. Today, AEDs are found in many public places, including airports, schools, sports facilities, and churches.

At the May 11 Church Council meeting, it was noted that a generous individual graciously made an anonymous donation of \$500 towards the purchase of an AED, and the purchase was approved. The cost of the AED (with the wall cabinet) is \$1,427. With our generous donation of \$500 plus the \$200 discount we will receive by purchasing the device through MVAA (Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association), the remaining cost will be about \$725. The device will be located in the hallway between the sanctuary and fellowship hall, so that it will be available to every each and every group that might occupy our church building. Several of the Deacons plan to update their BLS (Basic Life Support/CPR) training at a course offered by MVAA, and this course will include the use of an AED.



ALL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

The All Church Fellowship met at the home of Mona and Larry Rogers on June 8 for their Annual Meeting, Salad Luncheon, and Garden Tour. There was a tasty array of salads to enjoy, including shrimp, fruit, potato, pasta, vegetable; a summer feast.

Mona's gardens are beautiful and a pleasure to visit. Thank you Mona, for your hospitality.

This being the Annual Meeting, officers were elected:

President: Alice Munson,

Vice President: Harriet Hayes

Secretary: Ruth Stewart

Treasurer: Becky Fifield

Auditor: Marion Cartland

Bazaar Chairpersons for 2013: Gale Burns, Pat Chase, and Virginia Heidke

This year's Bazaar chairpersons are Nancy Foster, Cathy Chase, and Nicole Foster. In 2012, Mona Rogers and Pat Zeliff will chair the Bazaar.

The group voted to continue to provide cookies each week for the Community Lunches, coffee for Fellowship Hour, and to recruit volunteers to host Fellowship Hour.

PUBLICIZE YOUR EVENT

A Message from the Membership & Communication Committee



Do you have a church event you want to publicize in our local newspapers? The Membership and Communication Committee will help you get your event into the calendar of events pages of our newspapers. Please send an email to Chairman Nancy Foster (rfoster@gmavt.net) and Judy Jessup (tankooduke@myfairpoint.net),

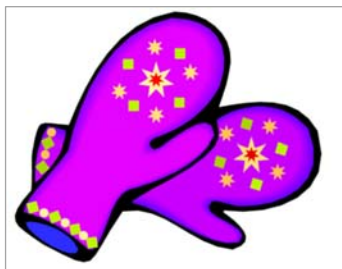
giving us a concise version of the information to be posted to the calendar of events pages. We will get that information to the correct contacts at the papers. It is important that we receive this information two to three weeks before the event is scheduled to take place to ensure publication in a timely manner.

SERVICES ON COMMUNITY TV

Missed the Sunday morning service? You can view each week's service on Middlebury Community TV, channel 15. The previous Sunday's service can be seen on Monday at 4 p.m., Tuesday at 8 a.m., and the following Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

In addition Sunday services can be viewed at anytime on MCTV's website: www.middleburycommunitytv.org.

LET YOUR CREATIVITY FLOW



The Congregational Church of Middlebury will hold its annual Holiday Bazaar in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, November 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Now is the time to decide what you can make and donate and get started on the project. I have heard that there will be wooden puzzle crèches

for sale, and handmade toys have been made. Also there will be several new, exciting changes this year:

The lunch will be soup, salad, sandwich, and dessert. There are many combinations that can be made to fit everyone's tastes and appetites. The "Soup to Go" table was such a success that we will offer it again this year.

There will be a Winter Warmth (not just knitted items) table, which will have a variety of items—sweaters, vests, mittens, hats, scarves—made of different materials.

There will be a Toy Box with several handmade toys for sale.

Handmade wreaths, decorated by the youngsters of the church, will be sold. We will also be selling Christmas trees.

The Kids' Craft Table will feature items made by children of all ages for children to give as gifts to family and friends.

We will continue to offer the Food Table, the Quilt Raffle, Attic Treasures, Men's Crafts Table, the Garden Center, the Church Cookbook, and 10,000 Villages at the Holiday Bazaar.

VERMONT CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST ANNUAL MEETING

The 216th Annual Meeting for the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ was held on June 3–5 at Castleton State

College. The theme of this year's meeting was "Looking Up: A Faith Worth Living," and Dr. J. Benjamin Guess, director of communications for the national office of the UCC, was the keynote speaker. The meeting also included these workshops:

"From Glee-mail to Spacebook" with Rev. J. Bennett Guess; "Toward a Hopeful Future: Why the Emergent Church is Good News for Mainline Congregations" with Jim Thomas, business manager/stewardship associate, Vermont Conference UCC; "New Keys for an Old Door: Unlocking a New Idea of Church" with Rev. Karen Lipinczyk, Rev. Cordelia Burpee, and Pastor Alan Parker, Church Growth Committee, Vermont Conference UCC; "21st-Century Youth in a 20th-Century Church" with Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer; "A Faith Worth Living; It's Easy Being Green" with Rev. Adrienne Carr, Environmental Ministries Committee chair, Fred Taylor environmental activist and teacher, and Pastor Susanna Griefen, Department of Mission chair, Vermont Conference UCC; "Introducing *Faith Practices*" with Rev. Pam Lucas, associate conference minister, Vermont Conference UCC; "Open and Affirming: A Faith Worth Living" with Rev. Mark Pitton; "Church Songs of Zimbabwe" with Brendan Taaffe; "Creating a Health Care System Aligned with our Faith Values" with Rev. Debbie Ingram, executive director of Vermont Interfaith Action; "The Heart Compels Action: Female Incarceration and What Can We Do About It" with Rev. Sala Nolan Gonzales, minister for criminal justice and human rights, Justice and Witness Ministries, UCC; "Human Trafficking" with Rev. Loey Powell, minister and co-team leader for the Cleveland-based team of the Justice and Witness Ministries, UCC; "Responding to Homophobic and Transphobic Bullying as Faith Leaders" with Rev. Emily Heath.

The meeting was attended by Jackie Davies, Nick Marshall, Larry Rogers, Andy Nagy-Benson, and Mal Chase.

THE AGE OF STUPID

I viewed a film at Middlebury College last year and was so moved by it that I purchased the DVD in hopes of sharing it with as many people as possible. Though the title sounds a bit sarcastic, the film is anything but! I found it the most compelling presentation yet on why we must get the full attention of our government regarding climate change. It is sobering, powerful, and unique in format!

The feature presentation is just 89 minutes in length and very well done. For those who may want more, there is a second DVD with 6 hours of extra footage.

I would like to loan this to anyone interested in learning more about this issue. I am offering it on a first-come, first-served basis and ask that each person return it within 7 days so I can keep it moving to all those interested. Please email or call me to reserve.

Sincerely,

Patty Hallam

388-1561, pattyhallam@gmail.com

This film focuses on six narrative human stories: a new low-cost Indian airline company, a mountain guide in the Alps, a Katrina hurricane victim and oil worker, a Nigerian woman and the effects of Shell on the country, an Iraqi family that are now refugees in Jordan, and a UK man trying to build a wind farm. The set up of the film is a man composing a cautionary tale to be transmitted into space from the world's archive (a station in the Arctic) in 2055 about how we destroyed our world, even though we knew it was coming, and we knew what to do to avoid it.

The film pulls you into the human stories, explores issues of personal choice and current hypocrisies, vividly depicts how we already are seeing the effects of climate change, and presents a call for international action to reduce emissions.

“Think *An Inconvenient Truth* with personality.” –*Los Angeles Times*

Our Children

Our Church School finished the year with a well-attended Children and Youth Sunday on June 5. It was beautiful from beginning to end with the children and youth offering their talents in all parts of the service. I know that May and June are busy months for parents and children, so I would like to thank all of those who participated for their dedication and enthusiasm.

Pastor Andy and I will lead a group of ten Senior High Youth to Washington, D.C., on June 26. This is sure to be a life-changing experience for all of us. I hope that you will be able to join us for the Sunday, July 3, church service. Members of the Senior High Youth Group will share their experiences with the congregation. It will also be a joyful service where Pastor Andy will confirm four of our youth. Hope you can join us!

Although no Church School classes are offered during the summer, there are activities available for children attending church. Pastor Andy still gives children's messages, grab bags with activities can be located on the back pew, and children's books are available in the Narthex.

It's never too soon to start thinking about Rally Day on Sunday, September 11. The start of the Church School is a great time to invite new families. Think about spreading the word this summer.

Wishing you a wonderful summer,

Jennifer H. Smith

Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Facilities Update



Fix-It Thursday in July is the first Thursday of the month—July 7. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m., and we will primarily work on tasks in the Church, including painting and minor repairs in Fellowship Hall, the Nursery, and in the Music Library Classroom. We are always ready and willing to have additional workers join us.

On Tuesday, May 17, a renovation of the Nursery began. In May, the cabinets on the east wall were removed and a chair rail and baseboard were installed. In June, the pipes near the ceiling were cleaned and the upper and lower portions of the walls were painted. Work has now started on the ceiling.

This summer three major projects will be undertaken.

1. The first and more obvious project will be the painting of Charter House, at least half of it. This effort involves the removal of lead paint; we are working as though the entire outside of the house is lead paint, although we know that part of the building is not. While the building is scraped of the old paint, some carpentry will occur on the fly. We will replace decayed wood, if any, as we go. While this work is happening, please observe the signs indicating which doors can be used for access. As part of this effort, the shrub at the southeast corner of Charter House will be removed. At the same time, the bed of irises will be dug up and split: some will be replanted in the grass area by the south ramp door, others are for the taking. Let me know if you might like some.

2. During the summer the insulation in the “attic” of the Church will be redistributed and increased. One concern is rain or snow entering through the north gable vent. If this happens, the rain/snow will settle on the flooring immediately above the pulpit area of the Sanctuary. The area of the plywood flooring will be increased and covered with a material to trap any moisture and hold it until it evaporates or sublimates. Secondly, the insulation on the dome has shifted considerably; this insulation will be removed and redistributed over the flooring of the entire attic space; new foam insulation will be installed over the dome.
3. The interior of Charter House is also undergoing lead remediation work on the second floor. With the assistance of MCCC, we are removing or enclosing any areas of potential lead paint exposure. Efforts have started in the west end of the house.

The June Fix-It Thursday crew had a busy day. Accomplishments in the Church were:

1. Signed and dated the fire extinguishers: one appeared to be under capacity, one had no plastic loop on it, there was one in the attic by the town clock. The two extinguishers were fixed by Fire ProTec.
2. Sanded, primed, and painted two kitchen counters. Another coat of paint is needed.
3. Removed two exterior insulation boards that cover vents from north wall of Church.
4. Switched fan directions for air circulation system in the Sanctuary.
5. Moved three tables in the Sanctuary to the storage areas off Fellowship Hall.
6. Stored six foam cushions for the bells in the balcony.
7. Removed three storm windows from Sanctuary windows.

8. Removed four storm windows from Fellowship Hall and stored them in the closet under the stairs.
9. Estimated the positioning for a wheel chair in Sanctuary. Probably a half-day effort to remove a pew by the most rear east post. Carpet may be ok as is, but there may be a section between the pew ends that needs a plastic strip on the floor. Molding from pew end will be moved to the “new” pew end that will be to the east of the post. We could duplicate the effort on the most rear west post. TIME FOR LAST COMMENTS. Met with Mark Gleason after Church on June 18 to discuss final details.
10. Hung two boards for bulletin boards on west wall of Fellowship Hall. These need a second coat of paint.
11. Radiators in Sanctuary were scraped and painted. It was noted that one radiator (northeast corner) appears to have leaked some water during the past year or two. We will have to check the connection.
12. Took care of two spots in the pulpit area: filled holes, sanded, primed, and then added final coat of white paint.
13. Reinstalled the door seal at bottom of Seymour Street door.
14. Replaced the rubber feet and upper leg bumpers on folding chairs in Fellowship Hall. We need to order about forty more bumpers.

Mal Chase
Facilities Manager

Our Families

JONATHAN'S NEW(S)

Congratulations are in order for our most recent Interim Minister, Jonathan New. In May he received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Andover Newton Theological School.

Currently the Rev. Dr. New serves as Interim Minister at First Congregational Church in Burlington.

From the Church Office

Summer Church Office hours are in effect; the office will be open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and *closed all day Friday*. Pastor Andrew Nagy-Benson will be in the office most mornings, except Tuesdays (his day off). Staff meetings will be held each Monday, from 9 to 9:45 a.m. The phone system is “on” 24 hours a day, so *please* leave a message if you call during that time. Items for the weekly bulletin need to be in by Wednesday at 9 a.m. each week. *Please respect this deadline.*

- **To reach Andy for an after-office-hours emergency**, please call his home (545–2535). Andy’s email address is pastorandy27@comcast.net
- If you have a **facilities issue**, please contact **Mal Chase** (his cell phone, 989–0037 or home 382–9325).
- The church email is midducc@comcast.net.

- Mal Chase's church email is mal.chase@comcast.net.
- Our mailing address is 27 North Pleasant Street.
- If you know of someone who is ill, having surgery, has a new baby or grandchild, or just needs a friendly visit, please contact the Church Office (388-7634). We would rather hear about things twice than not at all. Thanks for caring.

LOOKING AHEAD

The submission deadline for the August 2011 issue of *Church Matters* is **Monday, July 18, at 9 a.m.** Please send items to Meg Wallace via email at wallace@middlebury.edu; mail at 1331 S. Bingham St., Cornwall, VT 05753; or phone 462-2788.

JULY VOLUNTEERS

LAY READER:

July 3: Youth Group member
 July 10: Mal Chase
 July 17: Ed Williams
 July 24: John Emerson
 July 31: Nancy Rucker

USHERS: Mona Rogers, Bill Fifield

ALTERNATES: Margaret Carothers, Tom Bechtel

GREETERS:

July 3: Margaret and Peter Carothers
 July 10: Amy and John Emerson
 July 17: Mona and Larry Rogers
 July 24: Nancy and Ron Rucker
 July 31: Michele and Dan Brown

Please contact Dick Weed (425-4612) to volunteer.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

- July 3: Nancy and Ron Rucker and Tana Scott
July 10: Dick Cramton, Betty Thurber, and Sara Marshall
July 17: Jennifer and Joe Smith, Cindy Marshall
July 24: Penny and Bob Campbell and Leanna Maglienti
July 31: Jim and Louise Wright

Please contact Alice Munson (545–2175) to volunteer.

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|-------|----------|--|
| 1 Fri | ALL DAY | Church Office closed—summer hours |
| | 5:00 PM | Community Supper, Fellowship Hall and kitchen |
| 3 Sun | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship, Holy Communion, Confirmation, no Church School, nursery care provided |
| | 11:00 AM | Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall |
| 4 Mon | ALL DAY | Church Office closed—Independence Day |
| | 11:30 AM | Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room |
| 5 Tue | 11:30 AM | Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room |
| 6 Wed | 11:30 AM | Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room |
| | 2:00 PM | All Church Fellowship meeting, F.H. |
| 7Thu | 9:00 AM | Thursday Fix-It Crew, Fellowship Hall |
| | 11:30 AM | Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room |
| 8 Fri | ALL DAY | Church Office closed—summer hours |
| | 5:00 PM | Community Supper, Fellowship Hall and kitchen |

10 Sun	10:00 AM	Morning Worship, no Church School, nursery care provided
	11:00 AM	Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall
11 Mon	9:00 AM	Staff meeting, Pastor Andy's office
11 Mon	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
12 Tue	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
13 Wed	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
	12:00 PM	BMSC, Charter House conference room
	1:15 PM	Prayer and Peace Gathering, Pastor Andy's office
	7:30 PM	Church Council, Grade 5/6 classroom
14 Thu	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
15 Fri	ALL DAY	Church Office closed—summer hours
15 Fri	5:00 PM	Community Supper, Fellowship Hall and kitchen
17 Sun	10:00 AM	Morning Worship, no Church School, nursery care provided
	11:00 AM	Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall
18 Mon	9:00 AM	Staff meeting, Pastor Andy's office August <i>Church Matters</i> deadline to Meg Wallace
	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
19 Tue	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
20 Wed	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
	1:15 PM	Prayer Circle, C.H. conference room
21 Thu	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
	12:00 PM	Men's Lunch Bunch, Rosie's restaurant
22 Fri	ALL DAY	Church Office closed—summer hours
	5:00 PM	Community Supper, Fellowship Hall and kitchen

24 Sun	10:00 AM	Morning Worship, no Church School, nursery care provided
	11:00 AM	Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall
25 Mon	9:00 AM	Staff meeting, Pastor Andy's office
	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
26 Tue	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
27 Wed	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
28 Thu	11:30 AM	Community Lunch Buffet, Charter House dining room
29 Fri	ALL DAY	Church Office closed—summer hours
	5:00 PM	Community Supper, Fellowship Hall and kitchen
31 Sun	10:00 AM	Morning Worship, Food Shelf collection, no Church School, nursery care provided
	11:00 AM	Fellowship Hour, Fellowship Hall

