

Volume 14  
Number 2  
Apr/May/Jun  
2008

# Timely Tidings

From the Congregational Church of Peacham, Vermont

**Sunday Service: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. followed by coffee hour -all welcome**

PO Box 205  
Peacham, VT 05862  
802-592-3330

**Pastor**

Rev. Dr. Robert A. Potter  
1514 Vertical Mile Rd  
Wheelock, VT 05851  
802-626-8075

**Secretary**

Mary Williams

**Choir Director**

Brenda Bandy

the Fourth of July. Friends come home for the summer and others leave for vacation.

But what intrigues me through it all are the deep hungers of the human heart- the quiet moments in our life and faith when we are aware that so much more is happening that never gets on the calendar or into our busy schedules.

I am acutely aware of this as I prepare my own heart for memorial and committal services this spring for loved ones. There are the public events, of course, but it is the deep, private feelings and thoughts that are equally significant in our shared individual faith journeys and as searching pilgrims.

It is so easy to focus on the events, but no pastor or preacher 'worth their salt' forgets for very long about those deep hungers of the human heart. They bring us to our knees and back to our old beloved meetinghouse or to the cemetery where we feel the gentle breeze on our faces, see the distant views, smell the fresh grass of spring and give thanks for the unscheduled life of our own soul.

## Upcoming Events

April 12	Flea Market	9:00-2:00
	Light Breakfast	9:00-11:30
April 16	Fellowship	Noon
May 11	Children's Service	9:30
	Mother's Day Brunch	11:00
May 21	Fellowship	Noon
June 8	Youth serve Breakfast	

## *From Dr. Potter's Pen*

There is an amazing and undeniable movement and momentum in our olde church's life seen at a measurable and significant level. It is the flow of Sundays and special events with which we are all familiar.

They started early with Easter this year which means an early Pentecost celebrating the empowerment of the church by the Holy Spirit. Then there will come Mother's Day, Children's Sunday, Memorial Day plus all the activities around

Yours Faithfully,



**“Whoever you are, and  
where ever you are in life's  
journey, you are welcome in  
this church.”**

## **Christian Education**

We have been having some fun in Christian Ed this semester. On March 9, 2008, we went sliding up on Academy Hill. It was windy out but the kids loved it. On March 16, 2008 we made Easter cards to send out to 35 of our friends of the church and we also had an Easter Egg hunt.

The Youth Orchestra has been practicing every Sunday after church for the performance that was scheduled for March 19, 2008 that had to be rescheduled due to freezing rain to April.

The confirmation class continues to meet regularly. They are over half done with the program now. The mentors and candidates meet separately and also with Rev. Potter for different lessons. Thank you again for all of your hard work- candidates and mentors!

Mark your calendars now for the end of the year program which will be on May 11, 2008. The children will be doing the service that day, please invite your family and friends to this special service. The end of the year breakfast that the children do for the congregation will be on June 8, 2008. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year that we have done this as a thank you for all the support that we receive all year.

Just a reminder to all children in the community of all ages, you are always welcome to come and participate in any of the programs that we do. We would love to have you come. Thank you to everyone that supports the Christian Ed Program.

Lisa Moore  
Superintendent

## **Help Light the Steeple**

Two years ago, I received a call: "Did you know that the church's steeple has not been lit for weeks"? I assured the caller that the problem was not paying our electric bill, although that has gone way up, but the failure of the timer (and the difficulty at that height of replacing it). Whether cresting the last hill before the village on the Bayley-Hazen Road or approaching the Fire Department curve on Mack

Mountain Road, the first sight of the steeple tells us we are home.

In the bulletin for the Sawyer Memorial Congregational Church in Jonesport, I read last summer that the steeple was being lit in memory of a loved Jonesport resident. I thought many in Peacham would want to do the same, and Bob Potter tells me this type of program is offered by many churches. The church council has decided that we will offer to the community the opportunity to light the steeple, in memory of or to honor a family member or friend. During March, the steeple was lit in memory of Ray Anderson.

Electric bill aside, there is much work that needs to be done to maintain the steeple. Ron Craig, Co-Chair of the Business Committee, tells me that the light fixtures need to be repaired, and that explains why one of the lights is out.

Several members and friends have initially responded to the new program enabling people to light the church spire for a night, a week, or longer. The hope is that through the years this will become another way to express our stewardship. It brings together in the church and community support for the lighting of the dominant visual symbol of Peacham. The suggested amount is \$25 per week though any gift will be welcomed. You may send it to the church indicating for whom your memorial gift is given and the dates for which you would like to light the steeple in their memory. We will in the future acknowledge your love gift in our weekly order of worship. Our thanks in advance for your sharing and support.

John H. Marshall, Council Chair  
Reverend Potter

## **Memorial and Committal Services**

Del Petrie April 26 memorial at 1 pm  
Jean Davis Achilles May 9 committal at 12 pm  
Lawrence Welch May 28 committal at 12 pm  
Rochelle Miller May 30 committal at 10 am with an evening meal, memorial service & concert, time TBA

## **Missions**

## Church World Service

Our current mission is Church World Service, an ecumenical relief, development and refugee-assistance ministry that operates in over 80 countries, including the United States. When 67 tornadoes struck communities in six states in early February, the worst catastrophe in the U.S. since Hurricane Katrina, CWS responded with blankets, clean-up kits and hygiene kits, the same emergency aid that it provided in the South following Katrina and Hurricane Rita. CWS is responding to the displacement of over 100,000 people after flooding in the south of Mozambique, in partnership with other churches under the Action by Churches Program. Three years after the Tsunami, the same partnership is working to help families in Indonesia, southern India and other countries.

Five dollars is still all that it costs to purchase a blanket that, in addition to providing warmth, serves as a knapsack, part of a tent, a robe or a tablecloth. Charity Navigator, which rates nonprofit organizations, gives Church World Service its highest rating for very low fundraising and administrative costs. If you are interested in helping the church support Church World Service, cash donations or checks may be left in the plates at the rear of the congregation. Checks should have "CWS" written on the memo line.

John Marshall

## Music Program

. At this writing, our students who make-up the Peacham Church Youth Orchestra have not had their April 6th concert but we know they will do very well and hope that you all get to hear them! If not, they will be playing for Mother's Day Church service also. We have had some new instruments donated to the Orchestra. We now have wind chimes, claves, tympani mallets and a cabasa. All of these instruments will be used in their concert. We want to thank you for the donations as these students learn with them and have the experience of playing with each other in a group and making great music! This group of students has surprised us with their dedication to the orchestra rehearsals. They will be playing for special Sundays - Christmas and Easter especially.

The senior choir has changed their practice time from Thursday evening to 8:00 Sunday morning until further notice. This helps those who want to

sing with us but can only make a one day commitment for the week. Please come and join us - we are an active group and love music!

Some of our choir members are affiliated with the North Country Chorus and are singing in there upcoming concerts the first weekend in May. The group will be performing their Spring Concert at our church on May 4, Sunday afternoon at 3:00.

We are waiting for Lorna Quimby to come back to us after her surgery. You are missed, Lorna!

On April 20th, Anita Vann and Brenda Bandy and Brenda's daughter, Auburn, will be driving to NY to hear Tonya Currier Griggs, (Brenda's other Daughter) in her Carnegie Hall debut. Anne Gallagher and Jean Dedam are also going. Very exciting times!

Again, new members are always welcome and rehearsals are now at 8:00 Sunday morning in the social hall leaving us all warmed up for the service at 9:30 AM.

Viva La Musica!  
Brenda Bandy

## Meeting House Minutes

By Lorna Quimby

**\$5**

plus postage and mailer, \$2.40

Benefit: Peacham Congregational Church

Send order to: 104 Thaddeus Stevens Road, Peacham,  
VT 05862-2007

Checks payable to: Peacham Congregational Church  
Available at the Peacham Historical House and Peacham  
Library as well as the Congregational Church

## Community Programs at the Church

April 8 – Peacham Elementary School Spring  
Performance

April 12 – Library serves light breakfast

April 24 – Peacham Elementary School

Performance with Ben & Twa – artists in residence

## **SECOND ANNUAL INDOOR FLEA MARKET**

Saturday, April 12th, 9AM to 2PM, there will be an Indoor Flea Market as a fund raiser for the church, also the Library will be serving a light breakfast from 9 to 11:30AM to benefit the Library. If you wish to have a table to sell your wares, please call Mary Williams at 592-3135 by March 30th. The church will have two tables to sell items in good condition, if you wish to donate items you can bring them to the church on April 10th and 11th. Please come and support the church and library.

## **MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH**

Cher and Dean Monteith are again hosting a Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 11, 2008. There will be one serving beginning at 11 AM immediately following the children's service that begins at 9:30. The Church will be filled with the aroma of ham, turkey, egg & sausage breakfast bake, penne pasta and other treats. Take-out will be available by calling Dean or Cher at 592-3185 or by e-mail at [prairiehills@fairpoint.net](mailto:prairiehills@fairpoint.net). Tickets are 12.50/person with children under 6 admitted free. Thanks to Cher and Dean for honoring the mothers with fine food on their special day and for their support of the church with this fundraiser.

**The church steeple was lit during the month of March in memory of Ray Anderson**

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The Peacham Congregational Church  
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April 2008