

Volume 14
Number 4
Oct/Nov/Dec
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

Upcoming Events

- Oct. 15 Fellowship meeting - Maple Hill Farm 1 PM
- Oct. 24 Rummage Sale 9-3
- Oct. 25 Rummage Sale 9-12
- Nov 1 Chandler & Benjamin Wedding 12 noon
- Nov. 19 Fellowship meeting at the library 1:30 PM
- Nov. 22 Christmas Bazaar
- Nov. 29 Last day to order bulbs or trees
- Dec. 6 Cut Christmas trees at Potters
- Dec. 6 Pot luck & light memory tree 6:00 PM
- Dec 10 Fellowship meeting at Fuehrers 10:30 AM
- Dec. 14 Choirs Christmas music service 9:30 AM
- Dec. 21 Children's Service & Orchestra 9:30 AM
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM

MISSING SIGN ALERT

Our Church sandwich board sign has gone missing. If you have any information, or can return it with no questions asked, please do so.

The sign was a gift from the Elementary School kids several years ago, and had been put to many good uses. It was last seen at the time of the Fellowship Bazaar in August. It has our name scratched into the lower crossbar

FROM DR. POTTER'S PEN

Dear Friends,

Usually, McDonalds only has three kinds of milkshakes- vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry. I prefer a coffee shake, and they're frequently available. Recently, I asked for a coffee milkshake. "No, Sir, this month we have mango-raspberry as our flavor." I tried it and it was delicious! In fact I came to prefer mango-raspberry instead of a good old coffee shake.

I congratulated myself on my ability to change and adapt to new things. A lovely summer sermon emerged on how the Bible supports the necessity of change.

The other day I ordered a mango-raspberry shake and I was told; "Coffee is our new flavor." But she was too new to know what was old.

I accepted my old favorite coffee shake only to realize that the shake machine was turning out leftover mango-raspberry (and now it was blended with the coffee flavor).

"What's going on here?" said I to myself. Just when I thought the new was better than the old, the old comes back anew.

"Just like the old church." said I. The old is great; the new is even better; the blending of both is different (i.e. traditional and contemporary).

"What flavor are you serving next Sunday, Bob?" I am not sure what the pulpit shake-up machine will turn out next Sunday. But try it anyway. Your old preference might surprise you!

Yours Faithfully,



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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education "kicked off" on September 21, 2008 with a kick ball game for all ages, it was lots of fun to get back together again after being apart for the summer. The Sunday School program is set up for preschool thru fourth grade. The Sundays Cool program is for 5-7th graders and Sundays Rule for grades 8th - 12th. We are very fortunate to have so many parent volunteers to help us make this program such a success. Sunday School and Sundays Cool meets the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of each month and Sundays Rule meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

We have a great semester planned. On Fall Foliage Day, the older kids will be helping out with the church dinner. The Devils Hill Hike is planned for October 5th for all families and neighbors.

The older groups will be painting the church picnic tables if the weather cooperates this fall. We will also be sending out cards for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas this semester. If you know anyone that would enjoy a card from the children please let me know.

Mark your calendars now, we will be cutting Christmas Trees on Saturday, December 6th at Rev Potters for the Evergreen for Evergood church fundraiser. All families in Peacham are welcome to join us for this activity. Please call Dina Danielson at 592-3646 by Nov. 29 with your order. The trees are \$25 each

The Children's Holiday Program will be on December 21st this year; this will be a special program that will not want to be missed. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me at 592-3025.

Lisa Moore
Superintendent

RUMMAGE SALE

October 24 9:00-3:00

October 25 9:00-12:00

Set up – all day Thursday, October 23rd
Need: good, clean fall & winter clothing and useable white elephants

NO TV's or child booster seats

Can use help for set up and for selling on Fri. and Sat. –and especially clean up on Saturday. Call Sharon 592-3326 for more information

YOU'RE INVITED

The pleasure of your company is requested

To celebrate the marriage of

Susan S. Benjamin to Paul L. Chandler

On Saturday, the first of November, 2008

At Twelve o'clock, Noon at the

Peacham Congregational Church,

The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Potter officiating.

Reception will follow immediately downstairs in

the

Peacham Church Social Hall.

In lieu of gifts we would like to suggest that

Should you wish to bring something, we'd love

either

Your favorite luncheon side dish or special bread,

Salad or beverage to grace our reception buffet

table.

(No alcohol, please)

Please RSVP by phone (802-684-9966)

or email: pchandler@vtlink.net

MISSIONS

Our current mission is The Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger. This nonprofit organization works with towns to establish school lunch and breakfast programs as well as supervised summer activities that include a meal. The goal is to ensure that every child has access to nutritious meals during the school year and over the summer regardless of resources.

Nineteen thousand children in Vermont lack access to safe and nutritious food. While The Vermont Campaign has worked with many towns in Caledonia County to start school lunch and then breakfast programs, not all public schools have programs, and some 5,600 Vermont children attend schools that do not provide breakfast or lunch. If you are interested in joining us in supporting The Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, cash donations may be made in the plates at the rear of the congregation or by check payable to Peacham

Congregational Church with the words "Vermont Campaign" written on the memo line.

Beginning in November, the church's mission will be Lifeline. Administered in this area by the Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital, the Lifeline Emergency Response System offers 24-hours service designed to meet the needs of elderly, handicapped or functionally impaired people by giving them a portable help button plus base communicator that, when activated by a patient, automatically signals for help over existing telephone lines. Many area residents rely on Lifeline, and the church is raising money through this mission to help keep the program affordable.

John H. Marshall, Mission Committee Chair

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

Our talented Choir has started this fall with their usual wonderful attitudes and voices! We have received new books and new music from members in the choir. I want to thank everyone who has contributed to the music, music funds and for those who tell us Sunday after Sunday how much they appreciate the Choir.

The choir rehearses every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the social hall downstairs.

The Youth Orchestra has been given used instruments from people who no longer use them. We appreciate Steve Engle rounding up several different instruments and giving them to the youth of this church. They can now have an opportunity to take lessons on an instrument. Sue O'Brian has given us three recorders for the younger students. The Youth Orchestra is now practicing every Sunday after Church in preparation for the upcoming Christmas Season. They are sounding Terrific!! If your child would like to play an instrument, please see me after church.

We will have special music on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 23rd and on December 14th the choir will present their Special Christmas Music. The following Sunday, December 21st, the Youth of the Church will do their Christmas music including the Peacham Church Youth Orchestra. We hope all of you come and listen to our students and adults that makeup the wonderful music in this Church.

Vive la musica!

PEACHAM CHURCH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

The Women's Fellowship met at the church for a pot luck luncheon on September 17. A French dessert, caramelized pear tart, made by Samantha Marshall, was very much enjoyed by all.

It was announced that Miko Kempton and Kiera Sauter would be the recipients of this year's scholarships.

Sharon Fuehrer informed us of the items that will be needed for this year's mission kits. A correction was made on the date for the Christmas Bazaar. It will be held on November 22.

Our next meeting will be at Maple Hill Farm in Peacham, home of Charlotte and Craig Snow. We will car pool from the church at 1:00 on October 15. As always, all who would like to attend are welcome.

On November 19 the meeting will be at the library at 1:30, about Umbrella's outreach. The traditional Christmas meeting is at Sharon Fuehrer's home on December 10 at 10:30.

Questions call Peg Clemons, President, at 592-3534

PIG ROAST

The 4th of July Pig Roast was a great success, so much so that the tickets were sold out before 5 PM!

The planning and work to bring this event about is nearly beyond description. Donations of food and time make this a worthwhile fund raiser. The weather even cooperated.

Thanks to all who helped serve, wash dishes and clean up. Special thanks to Don Moore who arranged for and helped cook the pigs, as well as lining up the cookers. George Kempton and Mark Fitzhugh got the cookers in St. Johnsbury. Willy Williams provided wood and helped cook the pigs. Mike Bruton assisted Willy and cut the meat.

In addition, we are grateful to the White Market, Price Chopper, and Cabot Creamery for their donations.

If you would like to be involved in this event next year, we would be delighted to hear from you. And we welcome all our "regulars" back! We have a good time!

4th of July Committee

Ann Goss, Mary Williams, Marilyn Magnus

FALL FOLIAGE FUND RAISING SUCCESS

Another Fall Foliage Spaghetti supper is history. We served about 185 this year compared with 220 or so last year. With good support for “raw materials”, we should net about \$1700, making this event once again our second largest fund-raiser of the year. The other, less tangible aspect of the event is the fellowship and warm community feeling that is very evident as folks visit during the meals. Once again, a special thanks to the over 50 people that played a part in putting on the event. Many people don't realize how many it takes, and how important that help becomes. As the young folks say.....”you are awesome!”

Bob F., Event Chairperson

STEWARDSHIP SEASON AGAIN?

“Stewardship” is not my favorite word but we all know (sort of) what it means. (It is not somebody who takes care of us on a cruise.)

Happily, through the years at our old Peacham Church, stewardship has not been a season, a campaign, a letter, or an emphasis- it is just good old-fashioned giving to the church because of what it really means to us. Perhaps that's the only reason we're breaking all records of giving because our heads, our hearts, our hands, and our hopes are together; and willingly engaged in something that matters beyond anything described in a budget, a report, or a line item.

In almost fifty years of ministry, I've been in a lot of exciting situations in churches that I've loved; but, honestly, none as promising and encouraging as these days in the Old Village Church.

We will have yet another opportunity to sign in our hopes of what we can do together for the greater good in 2009. Please mark your calendars for November 16th, or the 23rd as a time to rededicate ourselves to the good future before us. Thanks, RAP



LIGHT THE CHURCH STEEPLE

The church's steeple is literally at the center of the Peacham community, and as I wrote last issue it is for many of us the sign that we are home, whether viewed from the Mack Mountain, Bailey-Hazen Road or locations in town. Earlier this year, the church started a program by which community members can remember or honor a family member or friend by making a donation, with a suggested donation of \$25 per week.

The funds help the church to undertake needed repairs to the steeple and to keep it lit in a time of rising electricity rates. The church prints the names of those who are remembered or honored in each week's bulletin. In the next issue of *Timely Tidings*, we will print the names of those remembered or honored since the program began.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Committee would like to commend and thank members and friends for the wonderful support we have gotten for our project putting inside storm panels on windows upstairs and down. Facing the large increase in heating oil cost, we had voted to dip into reserves to make some urgent improvements to tighten up our building. We were told that the “most bang for our buck” would be the window project. Folks came forth as we proposed an “adopt-a-window” concept, and we have raised enough money (around \$4000) to complete this project in the month of October.

Our much-loved and well-used building will always require ongoing maintenance and insulation improvements, and support is much appreciated. Either direct gifts or contributions to the Preservation Fund are appropriate ways to help us. Thanks to all for past, present and future help.

The Business Committee
Ron, Bob, Steve, Allen, Dean and Peg



14th Annual Memory Tree

Please join us Saturday, December 6, 2008 at 6PM for a pot-luck supper followed by a reading of the names and lighting of the Memory Tree. To order bulb(s) for the tree, complete the form below and **return to Mary Williams, P O Box 192, Peacham, VT 05862 before November 29, 2008.**

Name person ordering bulbs _____

Address _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

Check here if you want a Memory Tree booklet mailed to you.

Check here if you are making a donation to help the church with winter costs. Your check should be payable to the Peacham Congregational Church.

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Oct. 2008