The Scroll

Newsletter of Union Church of Proctor

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Check out the full color version of the Scroll on line at the web address above...lots more about the church there, too!

June 2018

Pentecost is past and the Spirit resides with us, always.

People sometimes think that I have an inroad with God or that I understand life better.

Well, maybe I have more experience with parts of life for having been a chaplain for Hospice in two different hospitals. Doing those parts of my life - (I do not like to call them jobs because they were so rewarding...it is like a mother or a father calling their parenthood a job...like you get cash for doing it or that you can just walk away from it...you know?) - I met many great people and have been a part of the good times in life and the really, really hard parts of life. I have been blessed with all of it.

I remember my summer spent at the UVM Medical Center as a chaplain intern - my very first time working in a hospital...three months -June to August, 2009.

All of the interns (6) had to take on-call nights when you were the only chaplain in the hospital. All my friends did their overnights and told of hours of sleep and some call-outs to visit a patient. So I took my turn expecting some sleep during the night....not to be, but it was partially my fault.

The hospital was quiet as I walked to the room where I would sleep. Not much action at night unless you were in the emergency room which I was not. I received a call around 11:00 PM to go to a room somewhere within the labyrinth. I met a grandmother who was sitting at the bedside of her granddaughter who had fallen down some stairs, was brain dead and they were waiting for organ transplant teams to show up. I even heard a nurse at the nurses' station calling different hospitals to see who needed what organ. The next morning, after they had come to take the little girl to surgery and the organ transplant teams had shown up from the different hospitals, I walked the grandmother to the door, gave her a hug and blessed her and we parted.

My night was turmoil, underscored because I thought I could make things better, thought I could change things when, in fact, the best I could do was to just show up. I remember

opening the book of stupid things to say in that situation ("it will be ok" [really???]. "She is going to a better place". {true but not called for right now!] and kicking my self for not just shutting up. I finally asked an intelligent question..."Tell me about your granddaughter." And the soft memories and tears came from deep within the grandmother.

What did I learn? That presence is more powerful than words most of the time. That families, in a time of pain, can make a decision that will help so many others. That people in the hospital, in what seemed a brutal task, were actually working very hard to find a silver lining behind some very dark clouds.

The presence of God was there throughout the whole time, sending us grace to comfort us, strength and courage to endure and mercy in a life carried on. I went back to the place I was staying on Lake Champlain, stood on the shore with tears in my eyes and heart, listening to Jack Jones sing "The Impossible Dream."

Life is short, family and friends are a blessing, and when we are called into the breech, we need to go...whether it is visiting someone, sitting with them in tragedy or just being a beautiful child of God before someone.

Blessings to you all...have a safe summer and take care of each other!

Rev John





Our June Ladies' Lunch will take place at the Rutland Country Club at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June12th. Come and join us!



TIME FOR WHITE ELEPHANTS

White Elephants! Did you forget? Well, elephants never forget! Spring is here so bring us your stuff! The cupboard (Parish

House basement) is bare so now is the time to bring your treasures to be sold at the Holiday Bazaar in November. Small items or a few boxes, labeled "White Elephants", can be placed in the entrance area in the Parish House. Got a car or truckload? Give Paul Sutherland a call (459-2064) to arrange a time to meet at the bulkhead to the basement or we will see you after church on Sunday!

Furniture has been a big part of the sale and we would love to have donations of small tables, benches, chairs, dining room sets (we have sold six dining sets in the last three years!) or any other furniture items we can refinish/revive. You never know, you might want to purchase it back after we perform our "magic". Call Paul Sutherland if you will be donating a furniture piece to see if it's appropriate for our sale and where it should be delivered.

Musical instruments are always welcome and we will do our best to put them back in "play". You know they aren't doing any good in your attic!

So, let's get busy! Let's fill the basement now and avoid the rush in the fall!



MEN'S COFFEE



Members & friends of Union Church- Join us for Men's Coffee every Saturday from 7-8 a.m. in the Parish House.

MEN'S BREAKFAST



We hold a Men's Breakfast on the second Saturday of each month. Our June Breakfast will be on Saturday, June 9th from 7-8 am in the Parish House dining room.

PRISON VISIT



The June Prison visit will be on Wednesday, June 13th. Anyone wishing to join us is welcome or if someone would like to make something, it would be appreciated. See Sue Osgood or Carol Trudelle for more information

NOTES FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE



I have enjoyed sitting in my secret place now that the weather has changed for the better. Even on the days it rains I am safe an

the days it rains I am safe and warm.

I see that there is going to be a Quilting Class taught by Kay Bergquist on June 1st in the Parish Hall. I need a little home decorating in my mouse hole so I'm hoping that someone will drop a scrap that I can use. But I intend to watch and get some ideas.

The Men will be holding their usual coffee hour every Saturday morning at 7:00 AM and then will hold the Men's Breakfast on June 9th in the Parish House. The Ladies Lunch will be held on June 12th at the Rutland Country Club.

On May 19th the annual Clothing and Bake Sale was held. There were piles and piles of clothes that were donated and stacked on the tables for the perusal of the attendees. I didn't see quite as many people as in the past but there still was a good turnout. As usual there was the bake sale section, which is my favorite part. I did manage to sneak a few crumbs.

I've noticed people busy here and there making everything look spiffy around the church grounds. That and the unusual weather we had in March and April must be why there's no need for an all-church Spring clean-up this year. Darn! That means no snacks for me from the post cleanup luncheon. Maybe this Fall!

Lastly there are the usual monthly missions which can always welcome additional assistance (see the sign-up board at church). Dismas House Dinner prep is on June 6^{th} , the Prison Visit is June 13^{th} , and the Open Door Mission Pizza Dinner is on June 23^{rd} .

I also saw that the Church Council is meeting on June 24th.

Someone gave me a book that gives anecdotes and one-liners to pass along. So far, I haven't found anything to use in a church article but I may find something funny or interesting. I need to pep this up a little

bit.

See you next month. My prayers are with you all.





June Greeters

- 3 Phyllis Sawtell
- 10 Elsie Valach
- 17 Janet Young
- 24 JoAnn Hennecke

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE



Our Lenten offerings totaled \$

2,282.00. The recipients, Habitat for Humanity of Rutland Co., Inc. and Church World Service, were each sent a check in May for half that amount. We are delighted to be able to support such fine organizations on your behalf.

A reminder, we are once again **designating the last Sunday of each month for the Pittsford Food Shelf donations**! Food may be brought in anytime, but we would like to highlight the continuing need one Sunday a month. Canned vegetables, pasta and sauce, cereal, children's healthy snacks, paper goods, coffee etc. are all needed and go a long way in helping our surrounding community. Thank you for your support.

The Outreach Committee meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30!

WE'VE GOT MAIL!



To the Union Church family-

Thank you all for the lovely flowers and especially the card with all your wonderful thoughts and comments. It meant so much to me. It's a pleasure working for all you nice people! ~Kris



June Birthdays

- 1 Alison Layman Treyton Kimball
- 2 Jean BacceiAdam GatesAsa Metcalfe
- 3 Cindy McKearin
- 4 Kim Baccei ☺ Mary Rachel Keyser Ian Pilcher
- 5 Paul Sutherland
- 7 Eileen Guyette
- 8 Jeff Allenby
- 9 Ann Ruelke
- 11 Karen Williamson
- 12 Christie Coughenour Trenton Bourn
- 16 Kay Bergquist

- 18 Aaron Curtis
- 19 Lyndon Chapin
- 20 Chet Brown Brian Finnigan Camdon Kimball
- 21 Debbie McCullough Desiree Moody
- 22 Alex Volz
- 23 Liana Hall
- 25 Paul Corliss Shari Tomlinson
- 26 Deb Sanborn
- 28 Glenn Giles
- 29 Ada Loyzelle Jack Morgan Betty Schneider Elliot St. Peter
- 30 Margaret Daly





- 1 Quilt Class, 9:30 a.m., Parish House
- 3 Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 6 Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Rutland Dismas House, 4:30 p.m.
- 9 Men's Breakfast, 7:00 a.m., Parish House
- Choir Rehearsal, 8:30 a.m., Sanctuary Choir's last Sunday until September Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 12 Ladies' Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Rutland Country Club
- 13 Prison Visit
- 17 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m.
- 20 Articles & info due for JULY & AUGUST Scroll (no August Scroll)
- 23 Pizza Dinner Prep. and Meal Sharing at the Open Door Mission, 5 p.m.
- 24 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary Coffee & Fellowship, 11:00 a.m. Church Council meeting, 11:15 a.m., Parish House

JUNE READERS



- 3 Glenn Giles
- 10 Ray Ault
- 17 Lynn Pilcher
- 24 Muriel Sedergren

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