



Greensboro Gleanings

August 2017

From the pastor's desk ...

Dear Friends,

This past year, the Greensboro United Church of Christ began an outreach initiative to the Lakeview Union School, seeking to help the students and staff through volunteering and providing for some basic material needs. School Principal, Eric Erwin, came to a Sunday service, in October, and shared his perspective on some of the challenges faced by the school and its students and outlined some ways in which we might become involved. Seven of us signed up to serve, on a regular basis, as either mentors or "reading buddies." Three more church members continued to volunteer through the Four Winds Program which provides science education.

At the end of the year, we had the opportunity to meet with the school staff to evaluate the effect of our presence in the school. We heard from the staff that the kids love to have the volunteers come. They thrive with the special attention and look forward to meeting with an adult who has time just for them. With the encouragement of the reading buddies, teachers saw a "huge impact" on the children's confidence as readers along with an accompanying growth in skills. Significant growth was also seen in the students who were mentored. The volunteers reported that this is a two-way street, with each of us finding that our experience at the school enriched us in many ways.

Toward the end of our meeting, the school staff shared their wishes for the coming year. They hope to see the volunteer presence continue and grow. There is a particular need for more mentors (those who meet with a child on a one-to-one basis to help develop relational skills) and for positive male role models. Reading buddies are always welcome and needed, and it would also be wonderful to have some volunteers to play math games with the children. Serving as a writing buddy, who would relate to a child through letters, is another helpful way to be involved, especially for those who aren't able to commit to a regular weekly visit. This might be a good option for any summer people or snowbirds who would like to be a part of this effort.

After our volunteers shared their experience in Sunday worship, at the end of June, several people expressed an interest in "joining up." It is my hope that we will have our volunteers lined up and ready to go soon after school begins again this fall. If you would like to be involved, the school would love to have you. Please let me know!

Yours in Christ,
Rona

PROPOSED GUCC MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to love as Jesus loved, caring for others and joyfully serving God, our community, and the world.

THANK YOU



August Ushers and Greeters

- Aug. 6 — Chris & Jeff Pierpont
- Aug. 13 — Linda & Bill Niceley
- Aug. 20 — Helen Twiss & Emilie Stuart
- Aug. 27 — Alden & Patty Launer



August Coffee Hour Hosts

- Aug. 6 — Penny Bretschneider & Beth Belote
- Aug. 13 — Mike & Susan Coffey
- Aug. 20 — Jan Travers
- Aug. 27 — Patti Foster & Bronwyn Massé

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August 2017

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| Sundays 8:30am Choir Rehearsal Fellowship Hall 10:00am Worship Service Sanctuary | 10-11am Mondays & Wednesdays Growing Stronger Fellowship Hall | 1 9:00am Becoming Wise 7:30pm SMFG Sanctuary | 2 4:30pm Pleasants Fund Parsonage 4:30pm Meditation Pastor's Study | 3 10:00am Book Study Fellowship Hall | 4 8:30am Fridays Yoga w/Sophie | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 9:00am Becoming Wise 7:30pm SMFG Sanctuary | 9 4:30pm Meditation Pastor's Study 7:30pm Lecture Fellowship Hall | 10 10:00am Book Study Fellowship Hall 2:00pm CCP Mini Concerts, FH | 11 | 12 |
| 13 11:00am-GUCC Assoc.Members Annual Meeting 7:30pm Village Harmony | 14 | 15 9:00am Becoming Wise 7:30pm SMFG Sanctuary | 16 1:30pm Deacons Meet Parsonage 4:30pm Meditation Pastor's Study | 17 10:00am Book Study Fellowship Hall 2:00pm CCP Mini Concerts, FH | 18 1:00pm GAAR Rehearsal | 19 7:30pm GAAR Play Reading Sanctuary |
| 20 11:00am-GUCC Members Ann. Meeting | 21 | 22 9:00am Becoming Wise 7:30pm SMFG Sanctuary | 23 4:30pm Meditation Pastor's Study 6:30pm Church Board Parsonage | 24 10:00am Book Study Fellowship Hall | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 4:30pm Meditation Pastor's Study | 31 | 8:30-10am Thursdays Tai Chi Fellowship Hall 4-5:30pm Tues. & Thurs. Pilates Fellowship Hall | |

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Romans 5:1-5 NRSV

“5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access^[b] to this grace in which we stand; and we^[c] boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we^[d] also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.”

Although our Search Committee process has not made me suffer, there is anxiety. All the other facets of this scripture and its progression are present. Thank God for HOPE.

This month we made progress with two pastoral candidates who looked promising after telephone interviews. One decided to drop out because of personal considerations after discussions with his spouse. We and the second candidate continue to pursue interest. A personal interview and an opportunity for the Search Committee to experience his preaching are scheduled for August.

While we know that we cannot call this finished, we do know that it is a step forward. We and the candidate will both come away (or perhaps together) with a better knowledge of ourselves and each other.

A certainty: “⁵ and hope does not disappoint us”. Guaranteed.

Your prayers and patience continue to be essential to our congregation.

Please feel free to contact any of the Search Committee members with questions or suggestions.

The committee members are Susan Coffey, Nancy Hill, Shelly Jungwirth, Jeff Pierpont, Janet Travers, Roger Waible, and John Hewett.

Roger Waible
Chair, Search Committee

THE MUSIC CORNER

With July in the rear-view mirror, we turn our attention to August and high-summer with sacred music selections that continue our mission of *Serving God Through Music*.

Aug. 6— For this Communion Sunday we offer *O Sacrum Convivium* (*O Sacred Feast*) by Thomas Weelkes (1576-1623). This ancient Motet has the sacred text: “O high sacramental feast in which Christ is now received! As we recount the memory of his bitter passion, minds with holy grace are filled, and the future glories promised us.” Composed between the renaissance and baroque periods it may sound like a Gregorian chant at times and a madrigal at other moments. We offer it sung in the original Latin.

Aug. 13— *Let Music Fill This Place* is a wonderful contemporary anthem extolling our God who is worthy of all worship and praise. From the opening call, “Alleluia! Come and Worship!” to the final proclamation, “Let glorious music fill this place!” it is an exciting anthem for both the choir and the listener to experience. Be sure to notice Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy* chorale melody in the center of the piece. Composed by Joseph Martin who has over 600 published compositions and resides in Austin, Texas, we have sung many of his works.

Aug. 20— Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702-67) was a prolific sacred composer who’s works bridged the baroque and classical periods of music. This Sunday we bring you *God is Holy* (*Sciunt Gentes*) a Motet for mixed voices. At a brisk Allegro tempo, it features a fugue between all voices and includes the text: “God is Holy! Come unto Him with a joyful song.”

Aug. 27— The Mary Esther United Methodist Church, Mary Esther, Florida, commissioned *Sing to the Lord a New Song* for their 25th anniversary, written by Albin Whitworth. In an exciting 6/8 tempo, with text taken from the Psalms, we will incorporate the organ to simulate trumpet sounds as the choir sings: “Sing to the Lord a new song for He has done great things.”

Hal Parker
Music Director



NEWS FROM
THE GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
PO BOX 176
Greensboro, VT 05841
802-533-2223
gucc@guccvt.org

Upcoming Lectionary Readings

Aug. 6 ~Genesis 32:22-31 • Psalm 17:1-7, 15 OR ~Isaiah 55:1-5 •
~Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 ~Romans 9:1-5 ~Matthew 14:13-21

Aug. 13 ~Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28, • Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b OR
1 Kings 19:9-18 • Psalm 85:8-13 ~Romans 10:5-15 ~Matthew
14:22-33

Aug. 20 ~Genesis 45:1-15 • Psalm 133 OR Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 •
Psalm 67 ~Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 ~Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-
28

Aug. 27 ~Exodus 1:8-2:10 • Psalm 124 OR Isaiah 51:1-6 •
Psalm 138 ~Romans 12:1-8 ~Matthew 16:13-20

FROM THE MISSION BOARD

Thank you to all who donated to the CWS Blanket Offering. We raised \$630 for families in need. By donating you helped provide CWS Blankets to people all over the world. Families who arrive at emergency shelters across the country receive blankets. Your donation helps them stay warm. Blankets are a reminder that they are not alone and that people care about them.

Last summer we donated to the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program. We collected materials to help furnish two apartments for resettled refugees. This summer we have contacted the VRRP again to see what needs they have at this time. One of their biggest needs is dictionaries to help with translating various languages into English. Dictionaries range in price from \$6 to \$30. The list of needed dictionaries is posted in fellowship hall and a link is also available on the church website. Thank you to all who are able to help with this project.

Another opportunity for helping others is the Church World Service School Kits. At this time of year – many people are getting ready for school to resume. Some families do not have the resources necessary to provide school supplies for their children. You can help with this need by purchasing school supplies to fill one or more kits. The list of needed materials is posted in Fellowship Hall and also available on the Church World Service website at <http://cwskits.org/>. A collection box is located in Fellowship Hall.

For those who would like to contribute but are not able to purchase and drop donations off at the church – donations of money are also welcome. Please make sure to write either VRRP dictionaries or CWS school kits in the memo line to make sure the money goes into the right fund.

Cathy Pollard, Chair

REMINDER NOTICE

The GUCC Associate Members will hold their Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 13, following church, in the sanctuary.

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GUCC Members will hold their Annual Meeting on Sunday, August 20, following church, in the sanctuary. Committee Annual Reports are due in the office on Monday, August 8. Reports can be handed in or e-mailed to me at:

[greensborochurch@gmail.com](mailto:greensborochurch@gmail.com)

***MILESTONES***

***Happy AUGUST Birthday to***

Joel Behrsing, Bethany Brush, Ted Dornseifer, Willa Farrell, Peter Gilmartin, Martin Gilmartin, Clive Gray, Phil Gray, Cassandra Hemenway, Janney Johnston, Shelly Jungwirth, Beth Lovett, Rhonda Myers, Paula Ratchford, Bruce Richardson, Rev. Leslie Simonson, Nathalie Trinle Hakala Thompson, and Mary Beth Whitten. ***And a Happy Anniversary*** to Dan & Joanna Beresford, Tom & Merrill Hurst, Rev. Rona & Brent Kinsley, Christine & Jeff Pierpont, Joan & Bruce Richardson, and Emily & Nathaniel Thompson!

*Is your birthday listed this month when it shouldn't be? Have we missed you in our celebrations? Contact the church office and let us know if your birthday is listed incorrectly or has been missed.*