



# Greensboro Gleanings

January 2018

From the pastor's desk ...

Dear Friends!

We have had a wonderful Advent and Christmas together. I am grateful for each of you who made special contributions of time, talent and resources to our celebration. As I ponder the many ways we observed the season, I can really only think about one thing. That one thing is snow.

I suspect that for most of you this is just another Vermont winter. For me, it is something almost entirely new. There is a very real possibility that I have seen more snow in the last month than I have seen in all my previous winters combined. You have wonderfully recognized the newness of this experience for Patti and I. You have offered tips and advice for living in Vermont in the winter. Your thoughtfulness has touched on everything from snow tires, to clothing, to emergency supplies in the car, to checking the level on the fuel oil tank and more. We have appreciated every bit of advice. We are grateful to be in the company of such kind and gracious teachers.

As we look forward to a new year, I cannot help but be excited about the prospects of sharing life with you. In the midst of winter and beyond, we are looking for those moments when the Kingdom of Heaven touches our lives. Where do we see grace? Where can we offer mercy? Who needs compassion? How can we help? How have you experienced God this week? Just like the abundance of helpful advice you have offered to us for living in a Vermont winter, so too, we offer to one another our learnings of a God who is at work in our community. In this mutual sharing, we become more and more the presence of Christ in our world and to each other.

Our moments of joy and our challenging situations can be occasions for us to notice the holy. Some of those occasions will be intimate and personal. Rightfully, we may hold them in our hearts for some time without sharing. Other experiences will be such that we gladly offer them to our community of faith in the hopes that hearing about them will be an encouragement. In sharing life together in this way, we bring the Kingdom of Heaven a little closer for all of us.

*Joy and peace,  
Ed*

## THANK YOU



### January Ushers and Greeters

- Jan. 7 — Eleanor Guare & Andy Dales
- Jan. 14 — Marsha Gadoury & Susan Coffey
- Jan. 21 — Judy Waible & Patti Sunday-Winters
- Jan. 28 — Ken Johnston & Lucy Keefe



### January Coffee Hour Hosts

- Jan. 7 — Sherral Lumsden
- Jan. 14 — Cathy Pollard
- Jan. 21 — Patti Foster & Bronwyn Massé
- Jan. 28 — Sonia Dunbar & Krissie Ohlrogge

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# January 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Sundays</b> 8:30am <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> 10:00am <b>Worship Service</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 3:15 <b>WonderArts Teen Chorus</b> Fellowship Hall	9 4:00pm <b>Deacons</b> Church Library	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 3:15 <b>WonderArts Teen Chorus</b> Fellowship Hall	23	24 6:30pm <b>Church Board</b> Church Library	25	26	27
28	29 3:15 <b>WonderArts Teen Chorus</b> Fellowship Hall	30	31	10-11am Mondays & Wednesdays <b>Growing Stronger</b> Fellowship Hall	Tuesdays 12pm <b>Global Campus</b> Fellowship Hall	Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00pm <b>Pilates</b> Fellowship Hall

**FROM THE TRUSTEES**

Our priority for 2018 is to focus on church properties. The Trustees have appointed a dedicated properties committee comprised of Andy Dales (trustee representative), Mike Coffey, and Ken Johnston. This team works collaboratively to repair, maintain, and improve our building and grounds.

Many projects require additional volunteers who are brought on board as needed. Judy Dunnan and Dan Predpall have agreed to be an on-going part of the larger team and their expertise is greatly appreciated. The committee is currently working on the emergency lighting system, the emergency exit routes and signs, and on optimizing the operation of the wheelchair lift. The committee also plans to review the purpose and functionality of the exit ramp on the north side of the building. This exit is currently not functional due to the level of the ramp being too high and also due to snow pile up during winter months. The committee will make a recommendation following their review. If you have any inputs regarding church properties, please contact me or one of the members of the committee.

We continue to receive 2018 pledges. We need these pledges in order to know what income to expect throughout the year. This enables the Trustees to better manage the church's resources. Please pledge if you have not yet done so. And if you have already sent in your pledge, Thank You!

*Susan Coffey,  
Chair*

**MILESTONES**

**Happy JANUARY Birthday to:** Janet Long, Helen Twiss, John and Jane Teevan, Drex Wright, and Christine Pierpont. And a **Happy Anniversary** to Sherral and Larry Lumsden!

*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.*

**GUCC MISSION STATEMENT**

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



**THE MUSIC CORNER**

Happy New Year from the choir loft, piano, organ, harpsichord and all things music.

As I look at the liturgical calendar, Epiphany is here with some very special opportunities for our sacred music offerings during this cold month of January:

**7th**—Multi-faceted Irish (Belfast) composer, arranger and performer Richard Blake, the son of highly accomplished musical parents, currently resides and works in London. For this communion Sunday we offer one of his early compositions, *Bread of Life*, a peaceful, light anthem that features a soloist and the text “ O break the bread of life, Dear Lord to me, As you did break the loaves beside the sea.....”

**14th**— *Once More, My Soul* is based on an American Folk Hymn adapted and arranged by Robert Roesch. Beginning with strong unison voices, this anthem then moves into a quieter chorale using block harmony (hymn style) and introducing the text: “ Once more, my soul, the rising day Salutes thy waking eyes; Once more, my voice, thy tribute pay to God that rules the skies”, and concludes with a long, suspenseful “amen.”

**21st**— Many have told me they love the music of Mozart, so today we offer *Now Sing Before the Lord*, with music by Mozart and adapted and arranged by Douglas Wagner. Written in the neo-classical style, the Soprano and alto voices proclaim: “Mountains, hills, all living creatures now sing praise, and sing your best before the Lord”. Centering this anthem is a lively four-part fugue sung in true Mozartian fashion with the main theme taking us to a strong conclusion driving to the cadence.

**28th**— “Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see; Open my eyes, illumine me, Holy Spirit!” is part of the text for this quiet, low, contemplative anthem entitled *Open My Eyes, Let Me See*, by modern sacred composer Hugh Livingston and arranged by Larry Pugh. With several key changes and lush triplet rhythms, the piano accompaniment uses harp-like phrasing and enhances the prayer-like style of this lovely anthem. Our Early Music Group consisting of Gina, Tom, Sonia and Hal will provide a Prelude and Postlude from the Baroque era, *Sonate 1*, by Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713), with harpsichord and recorders on this Harpsichord Sunday.

Please offer any comments, questions or suggestions you may have as we begin this new year and continue our mission to *Serve God Through Music* in 2018.

**Hal Parker**

NEWS FROM  
THE GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION  
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*Upcoming Lectionary Readings*

**Jan. 7** ~Genesis 1:1-5 ~Psalm 29 ~Acts 19:1-7 ~Mark 1:4-11

**Jan. 14** ~1 Sam 3:1-10, (11-20) ~Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 ~ 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 ~John 1:43-51

**Jan. 21** ~Jonah 3:1-5, 10 ~Psalm 62:5-12 ~1 Corinthians 7:29-31 ~Mark 1:14-20

**Jan. 28** ~Deuteronomy 18:15-20 ~Psalm 111 ~ 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 ~Mark 1:21-28

***LOOKING AHEAD***

The Greensboro United Church of Christ invites you to celebrate **PANCAKE DAY** with us on February 13th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be pancakes and sausage for everyone.

On February 14th, Ash Wednesday, we will enter Lent with a service of worship beginning at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A Lenten-Winter Book Group begins on February 18th and continues six Sunday afternoons, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Discussion will focus on *The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement Is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear*, by William Barber and John Wilson-Hartgrove. Snacks provided. Open to all. More on this to come.

And..... The Follies, are coming, The Follies are coming!