

Volume XI, No. 6

August 2011



CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATION CHURCH

The Good News

The Reverend's Revelations

... And so, the long awaited newsletter is back thanks to our new secretary, Beverly Shelton. Please read her bio and letter within.

These past few months have been joyfully amazing. So much has happened. Many things have been accomplished. The blessings of our Heavenly Father have been ever present and abundant!

Firstly, allow me to share with you the fantastic working environment that exists between those wonderful people who run the Dinner Bell and the congregants of our little brown church. Not a week goes by that the Dinner Bell crew does not have help, music, or clients from the little brown church. In the past weeks, there have been anywhere from 150 to 250 served per week. That is a lot of love, sweat, and food that is invested to bring a community closer. I cannot tell you how fulfilling it is to see such inspiring people live the gospel message. I feel honored to be allowed to work with the likes of such giving and caring folk. I would like to invite many of you who have not been to a Dinner Bell meal to join us Mondays at 5:00PM.

Secondly, it is great to see the administration and committees in this church take such an active role in caring for our facilities. I will not go into detail, as I would like you to learn of it from the committee members' letters. Please read all of the news.

Thirdly, we are preparing for the 125th Anniversary of the founding of this church. It promises to be a cheering and cheerful day of history, fellowship, parties, music and good will. Please attend all of the festivities on August 28, 2011.

Fourthly, we are starting up a Vacation Bible School. The curriculum is fun and educational. The committee has been working hard. I wish that I were a child again.

Also, the ministers of several of the local churches meet regularly and are happily supportive of each other. The group continues to grow in wisdom and grace.

And there is so much more.

As I sit at my desk and type this, I cannot help to think about how blessed we all are. Yes, money may be tight, our health may not be perfect, and situations may not be ideal. Yes, we may live far from our loved ones and our families may be in different states or countries or even continents. Yes, we may have lost those who are most dear due to sickness or death. Yet, the fact remains that I can gaze out of my window and see lush green trees with leaves that are flirting with a breeze while fuzzy young birds are chirping and attempting first flights and know that we exist in a paradise uniquely our own. I can hear a group of children laughing and playing just beyond my sight, and know that we have a creative and redemptive God who loves us all. The truth is that I can feel the Spirit's presence every Sunday when a community of faith comes together to worship our living and true God as we break open his Word and become believers then disciples and finally apostles.

It is good that we are here sharing in one faith, one church, and one Body of Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Martell

Safari Vacation Bible School

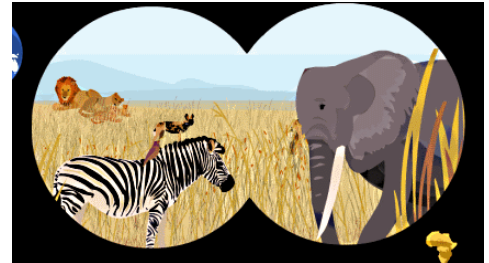
Conway Village Congregational Church

August 8-12

9:00-12:00 am

Call for more information: 447-3851

Cool crafts, great snacks, fun games and exciting lessons



**Conway Village Congregational
Church**

United Church of Christ

PO Box 333 - 132 Main Street

Conway, NH 03818

Phone: 603-447-3851/ Fax: 603-447-3852

Email: cvcc03818@hotmail.com

Website: www.thebrownchurch.org

Pastor: Rev. Martell Spagnolo

Minister of Music: Roger Miklos

Secretary: Bev Shelton

Church Sexton: Sandra Bridges

Deacon for Month of August

Alice Vierus

August Trustees of the Week

7th Peter Klomp

14th Curtis Reynolds

21th Ed More

28th Doug Heller

Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 9-11 and 5:30-7:30 by appointment only. To schedule an appointment call Bev in the church office Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00 and 1:00.

Nominating

We, as a committee this year, have a big task ahead of us we have about 17 openings to fill, before Annual Meeting in February of 2012. If the spirit moves you to serve on any on of the boards , please see either Suzanne Rancourt, Barbara Barker or Sylvia Weld, to ask what you can do.

Thank you,

Sylvia Weld

Moderator's Moment

It is nice to see the Cabinet begin to take an active role in the Church. We have been meeting monthly since February, with the majority of the Boards and Committees in attendance. The Cabinet is taking responsibility for approving the church calendar of activities, as well as, scheduling the outside use of the church's facilities. We are working to have the major events of the Church scheduled one month in advance, so there is plenty of planning time.

The Cabinet is busy organizing the 125th celebration on August 28, 2011, along with Martell's installation. Brain Wiggin is heading this committee and it will be a good time for all. More information is forthcoming, so stay tuned.

Lots of things have been happening around the church property this summer. There is a crew that is pecking away at cleaning up the front of building, pruning trees, and cutting out over -grown shrubs. There is a plan in the works to move the sign, so it will be more visible from both directions of travel. Bev is busy working on the church's web site .This will be a great tool for the church. We will be doing more electronically as time goes, but

we will not forget those who do not have this mode of communication. Also, we need to thank Martell for his hard work in repainting the conference room downstairs, as well as, all the work he has done on the parsonage.

Many people have been volunteering their time completing different tasks that need to be done for the church and the community outside the church. The Outreach Committee has been very busy supplying food through the Food Pantry to clients each month. This is a vital service helping those in need. A big thank you for all your help. Volunteers are still needed in areas such as, ushering on Sundays and taking care of the coffee fellowship

We are moving forward in a positive manor in order for "The Brown Church" to grow. When we all pitch in, miracles will happen.

One last thing we, are truly bless to have Martell and Bev join us here at CVCC.

GOD BLESS ALL!

Paul Weld Moderator

From the Deacon's Bench

The Deacon's are in the process of reviewing, adding, and experimenting with the order of worship. One example is the Gloria Patri has been added to the order of worship. Throughout the coming year we will be looking at other aspects of the order of worship.

Do you ever wonder what to do with that extra envelope that is in your offering box? Well, it is designated for the Diaconate. The Diaconate uses the money that they receive to purchase the Upper Room, and the cards that are sent out each month to those that are having birthdays or anniversaries. We also send out get well, sympathy, or thinking of you cards to family and friends of CVCC. With your assistance we will be able to continue to support this ministry that CVCC offers to so many people. So, the next time that Diaconate envelope comes up in your box please reply to it. Thank you.

August 28, 2011 is a day of celebration for CVCC. At the 10:00 am church

service we will be celebrating our 125 years of CVCC. The service will be conducted in the same manner as it was 125 years ago. Following the service a light luncheon will be served along with cake and ice cream.

Then at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary the North Country Association will be installing Martell Spagnolo as our minister. Please come to this important event of CVCC. The installation confirms and celebrates the covenant between the local church and the newly called pastor and teacher, as well as reaffirms the covenantal relationship of all the churches in the association. Following the Installation Service a Garden Party Reception will be held out on the church lawn under a big tent. Women are invited to wear hats to the Garden Party. We will have a golf cart to transport those of you who are unable to make the walk down the hill or those of you who are unable to navigate the steps by the play ground.

The celebration continues at 5:30 pm back in the Sanctuary with An Evening of Song II by Martell and accompanied by Bobbi Muse. Please come and join us in this wonderful day of celebration for CVCC. If you have any questions please call Bev at the church office 447-3851 or Dawn at 367-4318, or email info@thebrownchurch.org or dakta42095@gmail.com.



Outreach News

Our main program this year is our Food Pantry. We are in the process of re-doing the pantry with the increase of clients we are expanding the pantry, to make it easier for the volunteers to work in it. We have received a grant that will enable us to do this work at no expense to the church. We still continue to do the One Great Hour of Sharing. This year we sponsored the Calendar Dinner. We also are hoping to participate in a

dinner for Habitat for Humanity. Outreach has provided devotional books to the Kairos program that Curt Reynolds's participates in. We have had several Food Drive's at Shaw's. The Outreach Board thanks everyone for their help in this program for our Church. We would like to give a "BIG" thanks to our Volunteers to help every Tuesday. Without all of you, this wonderful program would

not be possible. God Bless all of you, and thank you once again.

The Outreach Board

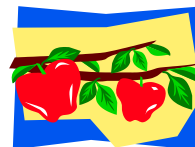


Apple Crisp Booth at Fryeburg Fair

The apples are ripening on the trees and plans are being made for our annual Apple Crisp fundraiser at the Fryeburg Fair. There is a job for everyone to do as we need apple peelers, bakers, booth volunteers to sell the crisps, booth set-up crew, clean-up crew, dish-washers, and these are just to name a few! This is our major fundraiser of the year, so please plan on helping in any way you can.

recruiting help in a way that was done a few years ago. Anyone ever hear Paul and Curt sing a duet? If so, you know what you are in for! You will hear more about this in the coming weeks. In the meantime, keep the latter weeks in September free for our Apple Crisp Fundraiser!

Curt Reynolds



This year you may see two members of our Church

The newsletter will be available to pick up in the back of the church or through email. If you would like your newsletter to be emailed to you, please send your email to bshelton@thebrownchurch.org and I will add you to our email list. We are trying to cut costs and will only mail the newsletter to those who request it through the mail.



SAVE: SEPT. 10, 2011

TO BENEFIT: CVCC FOOD PANTRY

EVENT: STYLE SHOW

**FASHIONS BY:
J.C. PENNY
LANE BRYANT**

TIME: 1:30 PM

**PLACE:
CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
"THE BROWN CHURCH"**

TREATS: SILVER TEA

DONATION: \$10.00



Trustee Talk

The trustees have been working on the budget for next year and we will present the budget to the congregation in September. The coming year will be a very important year in the transition of the church in many ways, but especially as we approach a major gift campaign.

Our attention to several issues must be addressed over the next few years, e.g. roof repairs, siding repairs, replacement and painting. In the next

few weeks the front of the church will be in our sights as we approach fall. This will include removing some trees, moving the sign, and painting the trim around the windows.

It is our intention to address as many of these issues as we can prior to Martell's installation on August 28. If any of you are willing to help out for a day or two of 'clean-up' please give me a call.

Thanks for all of your prayers.

God Bless,

Pete

Note from the Secretary

Pastor Martell asked me if I would include a short bio in the newsletter this month. I am so pleased to be a part of this wonderful congregation of people!

I was born and raised in NJ. After high school I moved to KY to attend college at Campbellsville University, where I received my degree to teach. I, then, continued my education at Western KY University receiving my Master's degree in reading and a Rank I in administration. During my 27 years in the education field, I taught many different age levels from Kin-

dergarten through sixth grade and also worked as a Reading Specialist, Technology Coordinator and Principal.

I retired two years ago from public education and started a private Christian School for the church I was attending. There I wore many hats because I was the only certified teacher/administrator.

Last year, I decided to come "home" to assist with the care of my elderly mother. I know God has been leading me in this direction because once I made the decision to relocated, all the

pieces started falling into place. I was able to sell my home in KY and purchase a home in Silver Lake. I also feel that it was God's plan to place me here as the church secretary. I am so thankful to have the opportunity to serve in this position.

I also have been blessed with two sons, Brandon who is 26 years old and Aaron who is 20 years old. Both boys are living in KY.

I have made many new friends here at the church and expect to make many more in the coming months!

Little Brown Church Celebrates 125 years

"WE ARE A PEOPLE OF FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST, OPEN TO ALL, AND BY FOLLOWING HIS TEACHINGS WE WILLINGLY SERVE GOD, OUR NEIGHBORS, AND EACH OTHER THROUGH WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP AND MINISTRY." (Mission statement).

And so we have attempted every day for 125 years to live up through words and action to the mission statement. We have sponsored Sunday Schools both in Albany and on the West Side Road in our earliest years of 1886 & 1887. We have sponsored veterans groups during both world wars. Ladies organizations such as the Ladies Social Circle, the King's Daughters and the Litahni were responsible for endless good deeds. We have had a Men's Club as well as for married couples - the Congo Club. The sanctuary has been the home to the American Red Cross, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Grange, the Eleta Kindergarten and later the Day School. Scouts of all ages have met there. In the 1980's a food pantry was established that has provided hundred of thousands of meals. The Dinner Bell perhaps is the most visible sign of our willingness to serve God through helping others. Recently we have rejuvenated Bible Study and Vacation Bible School - the latter an ecumenical endeavor of several

parishes. Always known for its fine spiritual music, our services have been greatly enhanced with the Chancel Choir, The Sunbeam Choir and sacred dance. Frequently our Youth Groups have been involved with service to the church and to the community. The 125th celebration on August 28th, provides our 200+ members a way to express thanks to all who have been a part of our organization and to hopefully bring in individuals to help us in the future. We are expecting many former pastors and their families on this special day as well as many former parishioners from far away. We hope to see you too!

We invite you all to the following events:

- 10:00 AM: Historical church service with memorabilia and brunch to follow.
- 3:00 PM: Installation of the Rev. Michael George Martell Spagnolo, followed by a gala garden party under a tent between the Brown Church and Salyards.
- @5:30 PM: A musical songfest of Broadway tunes and standards with the Reverend Martell in the sanctuary.

Brian Wiggins

Food Pantry Stats

Matthew 25:35-40 says:

35 I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, 36 naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me.' 37 The righteous will then answer him, "When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? 38 When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? 39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?" 40 The King will reply, "I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the

least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me!"

July has been a busy month here in the Food Pantry! We served 53 people, which provide 2,226 meals for those in need. We are so pleased to be able to show God's love through the distribution of food in the community.

Conway Village Congregational Church
 132 Main Street
 P.O. Box 333
 Conway, NH 03818

Monthly Calendar of Events

CVCC August Events

August 1 Diaconate Meeting @ 6:30 pm
 August 8-12 Vacation Bible School 9-12 am
 August 8 Trustee Meeting @ 6:30 pm
 Outreach Meeting @ 6:30 pm
 August 16 Cabinet Meeting @ 7:00 pm
 August 28 125th Celebration/ Pastor Installation

Regular Happenings.....

Sundays - 10:00 am - Worship Service
 7:00 pm - AA Meeting
 Mondays - 5:00 pm - Dinner Bell
 Tuesdays- 9:00-11:00 am/ 5:30-7:30 pm
 Food Pantry open
 Wednesdays - 4:30 pm - Weight Watchers
 Thursdays - 12:00 pm - Al-Anon
 6:00 pm - 12 Step OA

August Birthdays

2nd Celia Heller
 4th Nancy Bryant
 4th Marc Olson
 5th Loren Davis
 6th Garrett Moore
 7th Bob Howe
 14th Mariah Wilcox
 17th Gail Peterson
 18th Cynthia Saxby
 19th Deb Knapp
 20th Edwin More
 25th Elwood McLlarky, Sr.
 27th Cheryl Cole
 28th Ralph Wiggin

