

November 2012



CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATION CHURCH

# The Good News

## The Pastor's Ponderings

I had a teacher who detested the “blame game.” She would say that when you point your finger at someone, three others were pointed back at you. She would dock points for blaming and would only accept “I” statements like: “I was uninvolved in that situation,” or “this was the part I played in the incident concerned.” It was her intention to teach us that that in the many circumstances of life in which we find ourselves, we often had a part to play.

Yes, we all find ourselves in situations not of our choosing: ill health, in the company of a disgruntled boss/employee, caught in traffic, and the like. Yes, we find that these situations are annoying at best and life threatening at worse. But even in the worst of it, Sr. Judith would point out that one should stop and ponder which personal decisions were made to get us there and what decisions are to be made when we find ourselves in these situations.

I was thinking of this most recently when speaking with a friend of mine who had been diagnosed with some serious health issues. At forty, she was ranting about how unfair it was and why would “God do this to me!” Being blunt, I reminded her of her poor diet, lack of exercise, excessive smoking and drinking, and a few more unflattering issues. I asked, “Why blame God? Did he shove that donut down your gullet? Did he light your two-pack habit? Did he drive you to the bar every night?” Granted, I was less than tactful, but we are old friends and the point was made. If it is any consolation, she is just as tough on me.

Also, I was talking with a friend who had recently gone through a rather uncomfortable divorce. His wife had supposedly found a new love and he was blaming her for the ruination of his “perfect” marriage. Happily, she was innocent, and sadly, he was delusional. In the discussion that ensued, we discussed that he did not invest in the relationship. Yes, he earned a good living and shared in the housework, but he also was gone nightly with his fantasy football league, his softball team, his bowling night, his gym membership, his overtime, and a million other activities. He had taken his wife for granted and was too short sighted to see his mistake. Then, he had to find a reason for his lack and her leaving and blamed her. At the conclusion, he realized that the marriage was “perfect” for him and less so for her as it suited his needs, desires and whims.

Looking at scripture, it seems that this “Blame Game” has been going on since Adam blamed Eve for giving him the apple. He bit into it, didn't he? Maybe it would be better for all if less blaming and more introspection took place. Then maybe we could all get along a little better.

Blessings,

Martell

## Moderator's Note

As I am sitting here writing this ,I look back at the last couple of days as we experienced "Hurricane Sandy" traveling up the coast, spewing destruction in her path. We were so fortunate that we did not feel the intendancy of her wrath. God must have been looking over us, if not we could have seen damage much worst then last year with "Irene". We need to keep all who were in her path in our prayers.

We are advancing into the busy fund raising time with the Holiday Fair and January Suppers quickly coming upon us. The Fryeburg Fair proceeds were less than what we were hoping for due to the weather.

At this time, I want thank everyone that gives of their time to help and organize these events. These events are an important part of funding for our annual budget. This brings me to point of the special meeting which is scheduled for December 2 after church. We will review the budget before it is presented at the annual meeting in January. It is important that you attend this meeting so you will have a better understanding of the operations and costs of the church.

It is approaching the time of year where we need to clean up the outside property in order to prepare for the winter season. If anyone is interested in helping to do this on a

Monday or Friday, please let Peter Klomp or myself know.

I want to thank Carl Vitters for all the work he is doing to get Fellowship Hall ready to be painted. I can't wait to see the improvement it will make.

One last note to all Committee Chairs, please have your annual reports into Bev by December 21. Thanks in advance for doing this.

GOD BLESS

Paul Weld Moderator

### 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: [bshelton@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:bshelton@thebrownchurch.org)*

*Website: [www.thebrownchurch.org](http://www.thebrownchurch.org)*

**Pastor: Rev. Martell Spagnolo**

Minister of Music: Roger Miklos

Secretary: Bev Shelton

Church Sexton: Sandra Bridges

### Deacon for Month November

**Suzanne Rancourt**

#### November Trustees of the Week

Nov. 4—John Edgerton

Nov. 11— Carl Vitters

Nov. 18—Carl Vitters

Nov. 25—John Edgerton

**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.



## Diaconate

The CVCC Diaconate continues to offer new Bibles for your purchase after church on Sunday mornings. The cost is just \$10.00, and you are encouraged to use these Bibles for your own home reading and study, as well as during worship.

We have received much feedback regarding our contemporary services. Thanks to all who have worked so diligently to promote this worship opportunity! Please speak to Martell or to any Deacon if you are interested in participating in these services, and/or if you are aware of anyone interested in sharing their music (voice or instrument) with our church as we worship.

Your Diaconate continues to request your participation and involvement with ushering, providing flowers and with Coffee Fellowship Hour after church. Without your support these valu-

able components will not happen. Please contact Suzanne Rancourt (for ushering) @ 452-5050, Marcia Hill (for flowers) @356-3190, and Nancy Wiggin (for coffee fellowship)@367-9129.

The holiday season is fast approaching! This year's calendar of services includes:

Thanksgiving Service on 11/18/2012 @ 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church in North Conway 6:30PM Advent Season begins on Sunday, December 12.

Christmas Eve Services: December 24.

Family Service @ 6:00 PM

Candlelight Service @ 10:00 PM

Christmas Day Service @ 10:00 AM

Your Diaconate continues to work on updating our CVCC Membership list. We have sent letter inviting individuals to become involved in the life of the church, and encouraging contact with the church office to update their contact information. The Diaconate will present our recommendations for update of our current active membership list at our annual meeting.

Please contact the church office via phone @ 447-3851, or email [bshelton@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:bshelton@thebrownchurch.org) to update your information.

Faithfully yours,  
The CVCC Diaconate



Next month's Newsletter deadline will be Nov. 28. If you have anything to submit please see Bev or email your info to [bshelton@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:bshelton@thebrownchurch.org)

# November 2012

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4 Sunday Service 10:00	5	6 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 Zumba Class 6:00	7	8	9	10 Food Drive @ Shaw's 9:00am – 4:00pm
11 Sunday Service 10:00	12	13 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 Zumba Class 6:00	14	15	16	17
18 Sunday Service 10:00 1:00 Mineral Springs Service 6:30—Service at 1st Cong. North Conway	19 Thanksgiving Bas- ket prep. 7:00pm	20 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 Zumba Class 6:00	21	22 Thanksgiving Office Closed	23	24
25 Sunday Service 10:00	26	27 Ladies Bible Study 9:30 Zumba Class 6:00	28	29	30	

## NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Date	Total in Attendance	Weather	Special Day
10/7/2012	55	sunny	Columbus Day Weekend
10/14/2012	50	rainy	
10/21/2012	67	cool/sunny	
10/28/2012	57	cloudy/cool	



### Coffee Fellowship



**Nov. 4—The Welds**



**Nov. 11—Lois Yeaton and Sheila**



**Nov. 18—**



**Nov. 25— The Vitters**



There are openings to be filled for Coffee Hour. See Nancy Wiggin or sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.



Donna Danielson  
 John Eglit  
 Helen Garant  
 Thomas Garrity  
 Gary and Laura Keim  
 Jane Olsen  
 Jeanette Savalonis  
 Melanie and daughter  
 Kale Webster & his battalion  
 Ward Young  
 Dorothy Warren  
 Helen Hutchins

Bonnie Kimball  
 Barbara Freeman  
 Family of Joan Whetton



## Zumba Party

As we swing into the holidays, with great parties, food, drinks, and celebrations, please remember that CVCC continues to host Zumba Gold classes every Tuesday evening from 6:00-7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Come stretch a bit, dance a bit, and have a great time balancing the festivities of the holidays with a stronger and healthier you!!!

There is no charge for these "drop-in" classes. A free-will offering is accepted with all donations going to the CVCC. For further information, call Nancy Wiggin @367-9129, or email @ [dancing-whisk@yahoo.com](mailto:dancing-whisk@yahoo.com).

Hope you can join us for our ongoing Zumba Party!!!

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

TO: All Members and Friends of The Conway Village Congregational Church

A Special Meeting of the Membership of The Conway Village Congregational Church will be held on Sunday, December 2, 2012 at approximately 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of The Conway Village Congregational Church after worship.

The purpose of this Special Meeting will be:

Trustees to present and discuss the proposed 2013 budget.

To conduct any other business that may come to the floor of the meeting.

**Dated in Conway, New Hampshire, October 28, 2012.**

Anne Getchell

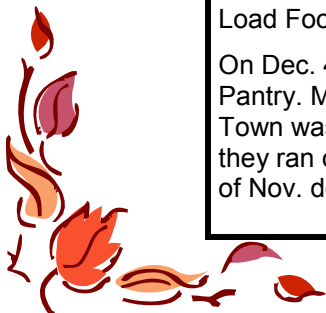
Clerk



## Outreach Committee

With the increase of people accessing the Food Pantry, we are looking at different avenues to obtain food to help out families.. On November 10 we will be hosting a Truck Load Food Drive at Shaw's to fill a U-haul. This will be from 9am to 4pm.

On Dec. 4th from 4:00 to closing, Applebee's will be donating 15% of the proceeds to our Pantry. More information to follow on this event. Also, it was mentioned that Halloween Town was very successful again this year. We supplied 24 pans of the Apple Crisp which they ran out of! We will be putting together the Thanksgiving baskets this year on the 19th of Nov. downstairs in the Henderson room.





## Historian's Corner

### REFLECTIONS OF A QUARTER CENTURY OF FUN

2012 marks my fiftieth year of membership of the Conway "Congo" Church and (I believe) my silver anniversary serving as the church historian. The latter could be questioned as the first few years Dr. Wilcox asked me to help the late Pauline "Polly" Burnell with the position. Polly had long been confined to her residence. She had compiled many scrap books and newspaper articles and needed help sorting and organizing these. Her immediate predecessors were Lillian Demeritt and Margaret Headley. Lillian's folks, the Fifields, had been original charter members of our Church as Polly's grandparents, the Jacksons, were. Polly was anxious for me to continue the tradition. It turned out to be a great personal experience affording me the opportunity to being with and learning from Polly. I was able to be with her frequently dur-

ing her final days.

The church's Centennial celebration in 1986 was a joy and Dr. Wilcox served as a grand master of ceremonies. Long an historian, he officiated over softball games, musical concerts and plays and the grand banquet.

My aunt, the late Ruth (Wiggin) Hackett and I spent months researching and computerizing for the first time church records. It was a labor of love documenting the thousands of weddings, baptisms, and members that had occurred in the Brown Church since its beginning in the 1880's. As with Polly, this chapter of history gave me a wonderful opportunity to get to know my aunt more intimately; she had a love for the church that I believe was unparalleled.

The articles in the church newsletter included "In the Historical Corner" were well-received. Well over 100 were written. Topics were local, state, national and global;

they were varied so as to hold parishioner interest. These were fun for me personally and I learned a lot as well!

Now is the time for a new historian. A quarter of a century is long enough. Someone new - with fresh ideas and approaches is needed. The Congregational tradition is one that is so dear to me. Perhaps the new historian should believe in the various pronouncements of the United Church of Christ with which I so frequently am at odds. Please know that I will be available to help the next historian and to maintain the tradition. I thank all of the many communicants, since my childhood, past and present, who have guided me and molded me as an individual.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Wiggin



The newsletter will be available for 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](mailto: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.

## Women's Bible Study Group

We have finished our study of the book of **Acts** and we learned much about the early church and Paul's three mission journeys to plant the seeds of Christianity around the world (as he knew it) as Christ had commissioned him to do at his conversion. While fraught with unbelievable challenges we learned of Paul's great fortitude, faith and perseverance in bringing the joy of following Christ to a world that was in total mayhem. We felt challenged, encouraged and confident that God is working in this church just as he did in the early church. And what a pleasure it is to explore

God's word and its messages with good fellowship and caring friends.

In August we took a road trip to Portland for a day of shopping for materials to make stuff for the Holiday Fair and have a fabulous lunch on the rocks of the Cape Elizabeth coastline. We took the month of October off to concentrate on preparing articles for sale at the Holiday Fair as many of us were traveling this month. We had several days of sewing and soup together and had a wonderful time meeting in each others' homes.

We all wanted to work together on

the next book of study, **Ro-**  
**mans:Encountering the Gospel's**  
**Power** when we convene in November.

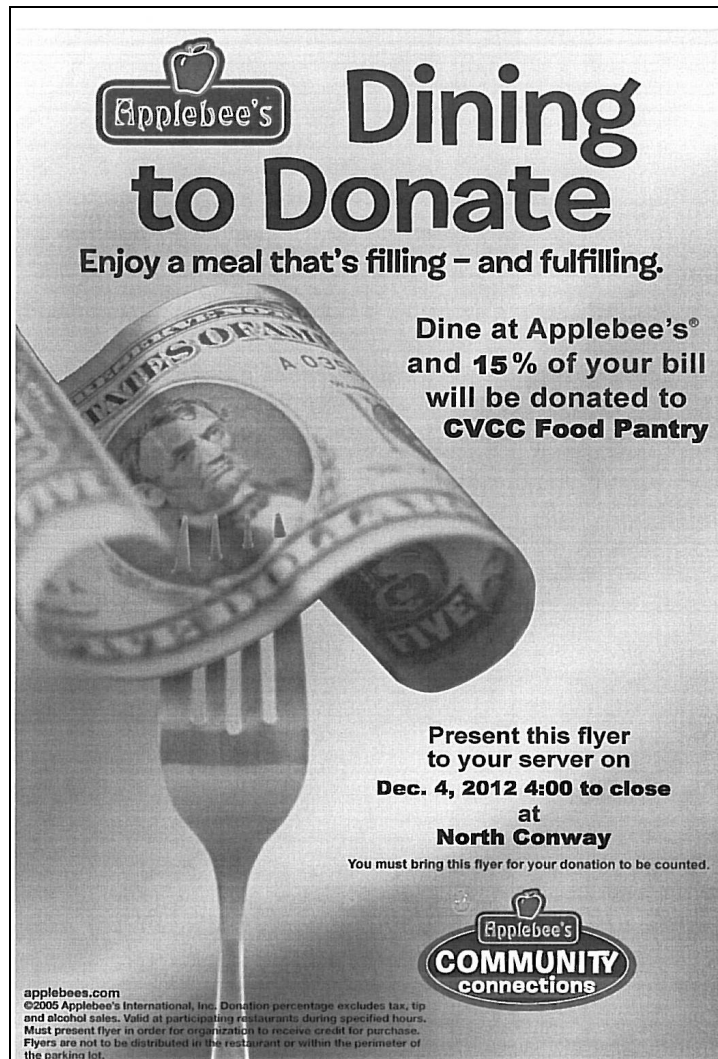
This study will begin on **Tuesday, Nov. 6 at 9:30AM in Fellowship Hall** and continue for several weeks through the holiday season and into winter. We welcome anyone to join us in this stimulating study and to enjoy the fellowship of a few good gals who like to drink coffee, enjoy lovely snacks, talk and laugh together and do good for our church...as well as study our Bibles together!!

JOIN US!

### CVCC Food Panty Dining To

#### Donate:

Enjoy a delicious meal that is filling...and fulfilling. Come to Applebee's in North Conway to help raise money for the Food Pantry. From 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday Dec. 4, 15% percent of all purchases accompanied by this coupon "Dining to Donate" will be donated to the Food Pantry. Cut out the coupon and present it with your order for the CVCC Food Pantry to receive credit for your meal. You may also print copies for your friends and family.



The flyer features the Applebee's logo at the top left. The main title "Dining to Donate" is in large, bold, black font. Below it, the tagline "Enjoy a meal that's filling – and fulfilling." is written in a smaller font. A large, stylized image of a \$100 bill is shown, with a fork piercing through it, symbolizing the donation of the bill. To the right of the bill, the text reads: "Dine at Applebee's® and 15% of your bill will be donated to CVCC Food Pantry". Below this, it says: "Present this flyer to your server on Dec. 4, 2012 4:00 to close at North Conway". At the bottom right, there is a logo for "Applebee's COMMUNITY connections". At the bottom left, there is small print: "applebees.com ©2005 Applebee's International, Inc. Donation percentage excludes tax, tip and alcohol sales. Valid at participating restaurants during specified hours. Must present flyer in order for organization to receive credit for purchase. Flyers are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking lot."



# Trustee Report

Trustee Report  
November 2012

There is a very important congregational meeting on Sunday

December 2. The purpose of this meeting will be to present the budget for year 2013 and what is going to be required in order to balance the budget. In the recent past balancing the budget has meant that we draw down from the church's endowment.

That can no longer continue. The question we must all ask is what is to be done and how can I help. We can not dwell on the 'woe is me' philosophy. We have in place one of the most dynamic leaders anywhere and we must take whatever personal responsibilities we can to bring this church to its full glory.

. One of the things being consid-

ered is to have a major fundraising event on May 5. We have the Fryeburg Fair in the fall and we will begin planning for Cinque de Mayo Day as our spring event. We must all do what we can to encourage visitors to join us . . . to give us a try. Selfishly, a full capacity in the pews every Sunday will do wonders for the health of our church. Many people have generously given of their time and talent to allow us to make some cosmetic improvements. For example, the sliding doors in Fellowship Hall and the soon to be painted walls will be a wonderful improvement. We also have \$2,000 in a repairs account that has been generously donated by our members and when we can address doing some outside painting and other things and we will complete that commitment

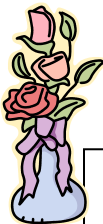
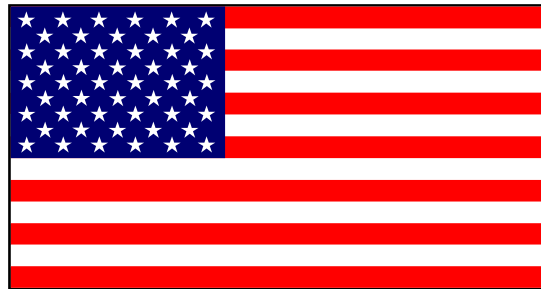
We all know the story of the Little Engine That Could; the story of a

long train in need of a powerful engine that could pull the train over a big mountain. Larger engines are asked to pull the train, but for various reasons they refuse. The request is finally sent to a small engine, who agrees to try. The signature phrase "**I Think I Can**" is its repeated motto. We know what the result was; **SUCCESS!** Let's be the Little Brown Church that thinks it can and **DOES**. Much better than the Little Brown Church that thinks it can, but didn't.

With God's help and our belief in the motto "**We Know We Can**", **and we will.**

Peter Klomp

The flag did not survive the storm. Please see Paul Weld if you can help with replacing it.



Flowers are needed for the month of November. Please contact Marcia Hill @ 356-3190, if you can supply flowers for the service.

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

## Monthly Calendar of Events

### CVCC November Events

Nov. 5th —Outreach Meeting @ 6:30pm

Nov. 12th— Diaconate Meeting @ 6:30

Nov. 18th—Thanksgiving Service @ 1st Congregational Church in North Conway @ 6:30pm

Nov. 19th—Trustee Meeting @ 7:00pm

Nov. 22nd- Thanksgiving Day

**Every Tuesday** – Food Pantry open 9:00am-11:00 & 5:30-7:30pm

Ladies Bible Study @9:30am

Zumba @6:00pm

## November Birthdays

10<sup>th</sup> Phyllis Pettingell  
12<sup>th</sup> Dorothy Hunter  
11<sup>th</sup> Sut Marshall  
15<sup>th</sup> Laura Wile  
16<sup>th</sup> Dawn Vitters  
26<sup>th</sup> Alice Clapp  
28<sup>th</sup> Patricia Sell

