



## The Pastor's Ponderings

Autumn has come and is nearly gone in this lovely valley of ours. It was much more subtle than I expected. The bursts of color, albeit beautiful, were not as intense as they had been in years past. There is something comforting about this time of year. The warm glow of the hearths which have been on hiatus since the frosts of early spring; the pungent aroma of burning wood from many chimney tops; the crackle of fallen leaves crunching underfoot; the feel of a crisp breeze on one's face ... all speak of a time of year that hungers for wool sweaters, apple cider and chrysanthemums.

While some whisk away for sunshine and points south, those who remain have yet to clean up their ski equipment. It is not that time yet. Winter, and all of its wonders, are still a distant thought. And although the Christmas advertising has started (even though the Halloween candy is yet uneaten) our calendar has graciously provided a generous opportunity to give thanks where thanks is due. We Americans can offer a day to God in the best of circumstance: family, friends, food and football. Where else in the world can such perfection merge?

One can reach into corporate memory and think of those stories about the American Natives and how they brought food to share. One can reach into a familial memory and reflect on those we have shared this feast of turkey and gravy. One can even daydream about the days when they are to be the matriarchs or patriarchs of great families as they sit at the head of a table of love and excitement. But there will be those who see this holiday as an opportunity to live in the present. This one day, a day to thank our Lord for the many benefits that he has given this country of ours, should entice us to engage in his work with those who cannot afford a banquet. It should remind us to be the generous natives and provide for the need of the pilgrim foreigner or the sojourners at Dinner Bell. It should prompt us to live as loving and giving as our families have been in years past. Then, when the giving is finished, for everything has a time, those people will look upon all that is good, pour a glass of hot mulled cider, turn on the television to watch Green Bay beat the Detroit Lions, root against the Cowboys (who play the winless Dolphins), enjoy the battle between the Ravens and the 49ers and give thanks to God again.



## Note from the Secretary

Sitting here at my desk and gazing out the office window, I am reminded how quickly the weather can change here in New Hampshire. Just a few weeks ago during the end of Fryeburg Fair Week the weather was just like summer and today there is snow on the ground.

We are getting ready to plunge into the Holiday season. There are so many exciting activities scheduled on the church calendar. Please note that the Holiday Fair

will begin on Thursday, Nov. 17 through Saturday, Nov. 19.

I am happy to see our Coffee Hour sign up sheet filled through the end of the year. I still need to have people commit to supplying flowers for the Sunday services. If you can volunteer to put flowers in the sanctuary on any of the open Sundays, please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. I will gladly call in your order to the Flower Drum.

Once again, I want to express how honored I am to work with such a great group of people. I love you all and want to wish you the happiest of holiday seasons!

Bev



### Conway Village Congregational Church

#### United Church of Christ

PO Box 333 - 132 Main Street  
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**Pastor: Rev. Martell Spagnolo**

Minister of Music: Roger Miklos

Secretary: Bev Shelton

Church Sexton: Sandra Bridges

### Deacon for Month of November

Sylvia Weld

#### November Trustees of the Week

6th Curtis Reynolds

13th Ed More

20th Doug Heller

27th Carl Vitters

**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.

## Moderator's Moment

I would like to thank all that worked so hard to make the Fryeburg Fair a successful event. It took all working together to accomplish this. This being the busy time of year for us, the next FUND RAISING EVENT will be the Holiday Fair. The committee will need many people's help to make it a great success.

Also during this busy time, Hannaford has notified us that they have set aside November 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> for the Food Pantry Committee to help sell FOOD BOXES with all sales going to the Food Pantry. Last year the Food Pantry received 180 boxes (a value of \$1800). Again they will need help to work at this event.

As you can see, there is plenty of work that needs to be done and many hands will make it much easier. What better way is there to have fun and fellowship knowing that what you are doing will be helping someone in need in our community; because events like these allow us to reach out and help one another.

I commend the Trustees for having the budget prepared ahead of time, as we all consider how we will support the CHURCH. The Trustees have had a very busy Fall, not only working on establishing the budget, but they had to deal with the aftermath of damage by Tropical Storm Irene and fallen trees on the roof of Fellowship Hall. As you consider your financial support, I would ask that you take a few minutes from your busy

day and before the snows start to fly, to walk around your church's property to observe what needs to be done inside and out. As you will see, there is a tremendous amount that needs to be done.

This Church is blessed to have two ANGELS from the community who stepped forward to help us out with the Irene aftermath. One has repaired the damage done to the foundation and the other angel has been hauling the debris removed from the crawl spaces to the dump. We are so blessed to be in such a caring community.

My wish is that everyone will have a Happy Thanksgiving and also take time to give THANKS for all the blessing we have here at "The Little Brown Church".

GOD BLESS YOU ALL

Paul Weld

Moderator



**Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 6**  
**Remember to set your clock back!**

## Outreach News

### MISSION-1

Along with the UCC, we are hoping for all Food Banks to collect 1 million items of Healthy Food and other household items. Our Outreach Committee will have 11 boxes ready to be filled each day. They will be located downstairs by the food pantry. Also there will be a box placed in the back of the church.

### Food Pantry

We have witnessed increases in our Pantry just over the last month. We provided meals for 61 individuals which brought our total meals for the month to

2,562. Of those 61 individuals, 19 were over the age of 60. We expect, with the cold months upon us, an increase in the number of people that the Pantry helps.

On the 5th and 19th of this month, we will be at Hartford's from 10:00 - 4:00 collecting boxes. They are filled with food that would give a family a couple of meals. Also, this month, we will be making up our Thanksgiving Baskets. Unfortunately this year the Food Bank has had to cut back on how many Turkey's

we can purchase! Our goal is to help anyone in our church family, as well as our Food Pantry families.

Thanks to all who help with our wonderful Outreach program. God Bless all and have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Sylvia Weld



## Trustee Talk

### The Widow's Mite

Story in St. Mark and St. Luke's Gospel.



The widow who made an offering of only two coins contributed more than all the rich for she gave out of her poverty, not her abundance.

Greek word meaning 'a tenth of a penny or denarius'.

The story of the Widow's Mite has less to do with amounts than with intentions, with the knowing and willing expenditure on others than with the calculated expenditure on self. It may be that the story of The Widow's Mite is about intentions rather than sums and so the sums (whether prodigious or miniscule) are . . . irrelevant.

And so the widow's mite becomes enshrined in our language as the gift that is small to some, but great to the giver, the gift that comes from self-denying sacrifice, the gift that is generous beyond the comprehension of much of the world.

The point here my friends is this; now is the time to stand and be counted. We must meet our budget obligations, so whether your gift can be prodigious or miniscule I am asking you to stretch a bit before you write down your gift amount for 2012.

See you on Celebration Sunday when we collect your pledge card and announce our success.

Peter Klomp

## From the Deacon's Bench

### Advent Season

Advent Season is a joyful anticipation of Christmas. CVCC is celebrating this joyful season beginning on November 27.

On November 27 we are asking everyone to wear purple which is the color of advent. The color purple is also the color of royalty, which represents the coming of the King.

The Advent wreath is a circular garland of evergreen branches representing eternity. On that wreath, five candles are typically arranged. During

the season of Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday as a part of the Advent services. Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

The first is called the "Candle of Hope." It symbolizes faith in God keeping his promises to humanity.

The second is called the "Candle of Preparation," reminding Christians to "get ready" to receive God.

The third candle is the "Candle of Joy." It recalls the angels

joyfully singing about the birth of Christ.

The fourth candle, the "Candle of Love," reminds Christians that God loves them enough to send his only Son to Earth.

The "Christ Candle," the white candle in the center, stands for Jesus Christ himself.

The sanctuary will be decorated throughout the Advent Season. Come and help us celebrate this joyful season.

Dawn Vitters



# NOVEMBER 2011

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Food Pantry 9-11 & 5:30-7:30 Zumba @ 6:30	2	3	4	5 Food Boxes @ Hannaford 10-4
6 Sunday Service 10:00 UCC Meeting	7	8 Food Pantry 9-11 & 5:30-7:30 Zumba @ 6:30	9	10	11	12
13 Sunday Service 10:00	14	15 Food Pantry 9-11 & 5:30-7:30 Zumba @ 6:30	16 Food Drive at the Vaughn Center	17 Holiday Fair	18 Holiday Fair Concert and Dinner	19 Holiday Fair Food Boxes @ Hannaford 10-4
20 Sunday Service 10:00	21 Assemble Thanksgiving baskets	22 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution	23	24 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	25	26
27 Sunday Service 10:00 Wii Night 6-8pm	28	29 Food Pantry 9-11 & 5:30-7:30 Zumba @ 6:30	30			

## Holiday Fair

The Conway Village Church is celebrating its 105th Christmas Fair. Originally started as a project of the Woman's Sewing Circle at the turn of the century, it has been expanded by other Church groups over the years, including The Ladies Social Circle, the Men's Club, The King's Daughters and the Litahni. Every effort has been made to cater to the interests of the community, so the fair has evolved with the times. Crafts, knitted goods and good food though have been staples over the years.

Besides the Fryeburg Fair, the Holiday Fair is the second largest fundraiser for the church. This year we are doing some things a little different. The fair will run from Thursday, November 17 through Saturday, November 19. On Thursday night the fair will run from 4-8 pm, dinner will run from 5-7 pm, the meal will be "Build your own potato" with toppings, vegetable soup, and make your own Sundae. Cost is \$8.00.

On Friday, the fair will be open from 4-8, at 5:00 pm Martell, Mary Edes, Hansel Stafford, and Ellen Franum will performing a Christmas Concert, dinner will be served from 6-7:30 pm, the meal will be salad, lasagna, a special dessert. The cost for Friday night will be \$15 for the concert and the dinner, or \$10 for the concert alone or dinner alone. Reservations for the dinner is recommended.

On Saturday, the fair will run from 9-3 pm. The traditional Turkey Luncheon will be served from 11-1; the cost for the luncheon is \$8. A special feature this year, we will be offering "take out" for all of the meals.

Any and all contributions to any table, or any food items for the meals are most welcome, or if you would like to help out at a table contact Dawn Vitters or Nancy Wiggin. We will also gladly accept monetary donations for the food items.

The tables will be hosted by the following people:

Jewelry: Barbara Freeman

Hats: Cynthia Saxby/ Duct Tape Items: Megan Vitters

Homemade items: Charlyne Gray

Fudge: Alice Vierus

Apple table: Susan Klomp, Women's Fellowship

Wood items: Bob Burnhardt

Baked goods: Jill Reynolds

Raffle table: Anne Getchell

If you have any questions please email Dawn at [dakota42095@gmail.com](mailto:dakota42095@gmail.com) or Nancy at [nhnanaoffice@hotmail.com](mailto:nhnanaoffice@hotmail.com) or call Bev at the church office at 447-3851.

Thank you all for helping to make the Holiday Fair a great success.

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.

Conway Village Congregational Church  
132 Main Street  
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Conway, NH 03818

## Monthly Calendar of Events

### CVCC November Events

November 7 Diaconate Meeting @ 6:30 pm

November 14 Trustee Meeting @ 6:30 pm

Outreach Meeting @ 6:30 pm

November 15 Cabinet Meeting @ 7:00 pm

#### 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

## 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

