



The Courier

Charlotte Congregational Church, United Church of Christ • October 2014

Dear Friends,

Driving from our house in Shelburne to church I pass at least three bright signs for apple pies. They are welcoming and cheerful and amount to a kind of old-fashioned media blitz about our church. Seeing them I imagine people think, "Yummy pies. Friendly church." For those who have never come to worship, the apple pie ministry reminds them, I hope, that we are here and welcoming.



But what else does the community know about us? Is this where Aunt Bessie's funeral was held? Where this daughter or that son was married? Where some of us were married? The place we go on Christmas Eve and Easter? I suspect that many people feel secure knowing just we are here should they need us, knowing that we are in some vague way carrying on the work of the church.

What is the work of the church? What is it that we feel ourselves commissioned to do as disciples of Jesus? Feed the hungry? Visit those in prison? Clothe the naked? Minister to the poor? All of the directives that Jesus gave are about going out into the places of need in the world.

It occurs to me that fifty years ago when Route 7 ran right by the church — on what is now Church Hill Road — it was probably easier being an integral part of the town. Now that we sit up on the hill, there is a literal and figurative remove. As a congregation we have intentionally endeavored to overcome this by partnering with many service organizations, not the least of which is the Charlotte Food Shelf that lives in our building.

As we gather as a congregation to worship and pray, sustain and uphold one another, let's remember that this is in order that we may go forth to serve and love in Christ's name.

I include this poem by Joyce Rupp, it's one of my favorites.

Grace and Peace to you all, Rev. Susan Cooke Kittredge



*Heal and Proclaim ... Were the twelve afraid?
did they wonder if they could do those things?
Compared to the quality of your ministry,
did they feel inadequate and unworthy?
What persuaded them to go? Your words?
Your friendship? Their enthusiasm?
Your deep belief that they could do it?
And you said: "Take nothing for the journey".
What did you mean?
Trust or more than trust?
Did you perhaps imply that we can't wait
until we have all the possible things we need?
That we can't postpone "doing"
until we are positive of our talents?
That we can't hold off our commitment*

*until we are absolutely sure
we won't make a mistake?
I think of all the excuses and reasons
we can give for not serving and giving:
no time, no talent, no knowledge,
no energy, no assured results.
You say, "Take nothing.
Don't worry about your inadequacies.
I will provide for you.
Go! Just Go! Go with my power.
Risk the road, risk the work.
Go! I will be with you.
What else do you need?"*

~~ Joyce Rupp

CCC YOUTH GROUPS

MIDDLES YOUTH GROUP FOR YOUTH GRADES 5-8

OCTOBER 5: Help make grape juice for World Communion Sunday and stay after church for the Harvest Festival and a fund raiser table for the Heifer Farm trip

OCTOBER 18-19 (SAT-SUN): Heifer Farm trip in MA to help us learn about the work of Heifer International and its important work to help communities end hunger and poverty and to help care for the earth

OCTOBER 25 (SAT): Help serve our church dinner at Salvation Army

Our bottle drive continues on October 5th and 12th. Drop off your empties in the box on the sanctuary porch.

Any questions about the Middles Youth Group? See Susan Moegenburg, Terri Severance, or Elizabeth Berger.



FOOD SHELF WISH LIST

- Boxes of Crackers
- Pretzels
- Kids cereal
- Band aids
- Kids Snacks
- Boxed Kleenex
- Toilet Paper
- Regular caffeinated ground coffee
- Caffeinated & Decaffeinated Tea

As always, THANK YOU for your continued support of the food shelf.

October 2014 Calendar

2	14	25
• BOOK GROUP, 10 AM	• BREAKFAST BUNCH, 9 AM	• MIDDLES YOUTH, 5 PM HELP WITH SALVATION ARMY DINNER
• CHOIR PRACTICE, 7-8 PM	• CENTERING PRAYER, 7:15 PM	
5	16	26
• CHOIR, 9 AM	• BOOK GROUP, 10 AM	• WORSHIP, 10 AM
• WORSHIP, 10 AM	• CHOIR PRACTICE, 7-8 PM	
• MIDDLES YOUTH, 10:15 AM	18-19	28
• HARVEST FESTIVAL!	• MIDDLES YOUTH TRIP TO HEIFER	• CENTERING PRAYER, 7:15 PM
7	19	30
• CENTERING PRAYER, 7:15 PM	• WORSHIP, 10 AM	• BOOK GROUP, 10 AM
9	21	• CHOIR PRACTICE, 7-8 PM
• BOOK GROUP, 10 AM	• CENTERING PRAYER, 7:15 PM	
• CHOIR PRACTICE, 7-8 PM	22	
12	• SPACE FOR GRACE, 5 PM	
• WORSHIP, 10 AM	23	
• CROPWALK, 1 PM	• BOOK GROUP, 10 AM	
• BRUNCH BUNCH, 11:45 AM	• CHOIR PRACTICE, 7-8 PM	



UPCOMING EVENTS & OTHER NEWS

WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP

The Brunch Bunch will meet on **SUNDAY, OCT. 12TH** at 11:45 AM at the Dutch Mill in Shelburne. Please let Ann know if you would like to be included in the reservation (985-9884).

The Breakfast Bunch gathers **TUESDAY, OCT. 14TH** at 9 AM at Trader Duke’s. Call Dianne Dolliver (425-2239) if you are planning to go.



CENTERING PRAYER

It’s not too late to join our on-going centering prayer group practice on Tuesday evenings from 7:15 - 8:15 PM. We are currently listening to presentations by Father Thomas Keating, a Cistercian monk who is the founder of the Centering Prayer Movement, sharing about our individual daily practices, and praying together. Please see Rev. Will if you are interested and he (or someone else from the group) can share with you the particularities of this practice.

SOUP SUPPER AND SPACE FOR GRACE

We held our first Space for Grace and soup supper in September and planned it so that clients to the food shelf could have soup with us or take some to go. Many folks took us up on the offer and though we just had a few of us gathering for worship it was still a lovely little service. Please come and join us this month on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND** for soup and conversation at 5 PM and Space for Grace, evening worship, at 5:30. If you would be interested in providing soup and/or bread please let Rev. Will or Rev. Susan know.

CCC COMMUNITY NEWS



HARVEST FESTIVAL

This coming **SUNDAY OCTOBER 5TH** is Harvest Festival! Come join in the fun-raising and fundraising. Many people have contributed to this event and it promises to be a hoot.

Since it looks as though the weather might be a bit chilly, we will gather in the vestry for the festival and a potluck lunch immediately after worship.

We will be setting up on Saturday morning. Please bring any items that do not need to be refrigerated then. Perishables are best brought before worship on Sunday morning.

Listed below are the various events and the people in charge. It's not too late to offer your talents to this endeavor!

Bake Table: Barb Blackman bblackman@lynnlawvt.com, 324-1688 and Janet Morrison jmorrison@gmavt.net, 425-2495. Bring your cakes, pies, cookies and squares!

Produce Table: Margaret Woodruff: margaret.woodruff@gmail.com, 425-5952. Harvest your garden, bring your jams, pickles and pesto to sell.

Craft Table: Jeanie MacDonough: BRUCEANDJEANIELM@aol.com, 355-9331, Tange Barbour: Tange Barbour: tangebarbour@gmail.com, 482-4781; Karen Waters: karenwaters@gmavt.net, 482-3254.

Open Mic: Susan Cooke Kittredge: scookekitt@mac.com, 985-5617

Do you play an instrument or sing? Can you tell a story or recite a poem? Are you a budding standup comic? We have a mic for you!

Time and Talent Silent Auction: Meg Smith: megsmithvt@gmavt.net, 425-4141. Here's a sneak peak at the auction:

Day and overnight dog-sitting service – will take dog to her house: good any time! - \$30 (Carol Geske)

Learn the art of needlecraft or rug hooking – two 1-hour lessons: good any time! - \$35(Phyllis Kroll)

One artfully crafted holiday table arrangement: good in December 2014 - \$30 (Frances Foster)

One cubic yard of compost, top-soil plus raised bed mix, or top-soil plus lawn mix from Champlain Valley Compost: see more details on delivery and timing: good from now – November 2015. \$55

Invite foreign affairs expert, Barrie Dunsmore, to your book group or gathering for a Q&A on world events. Offer includes an autographed copy of his latest book, There and Back. (If you press him, he might even sing for you, too!) \$50

Need a break from 24/7 caregiving? Emily Kittredge is offering her services to give a caregiver a break for **A** few hours. \$25

Forget New Year's resolutions! Get going now on physical health with two hours of personal training with professional Scott LaMothe (\$160 value): good any time! \$50

One year of fresh baked bread, select one loaf a month from a variety of options: fresh baked and delivered to you

at church once a month. Donated by Margaret Woodruff - \$50

Take a two-hour sailing trip or lesson from the Charlotte Sailing Center w/a NSA level one certified sailor. Instructor not a necessity. Donated by Suzy Hodgson. Good through summer of 2015. \$45

No cooking tonight! Enjoy a gourmet dinner for 4 people with exquisite wine pairings. Available on a Monday or Tuesday night before October 27. Donated by Dick & Cheryl Corley. \$65

Have a chanteuse sing for her supper, or in this case, sing for your supper! Songbird Linda Patterson will perform songs from a favorite musical (think Gershwin, Sondheim, Rogers & Hammerstein) for your party one evening. Good through March of 2015. \$60

Learn or improve on your guitar playing with a lesson from Will Burhans! This offer is good for one 90-minute lesson with our favorite Pastor! Good through February of 2015. \$30

Feeling frustrated with your home? Is there no rhyme or reason to its design structure or flow? Residential space planner and manager, Ginny Rowland, will consult with you to see how simple changes might alter and improve how you and your home will function best. Good through 2015. \$40

The art of card-making is a thing of beauty. Sandy Riggs will show you and a group photo make greeting cards unlike any others! Good through 2015. \$35

CCC COMMUNITY NEWS



Learn to play bridge! A series of bridge lessons from expert, Pat Nestork. Good through 2015. \$35

Enjoy homemade delectable for the holidays! Helen Toor will make 4 dozen cookies (4 different varieties) plus 2 dozen homemade chocolate truffles. Good through 2014. \$35

Could your child benefit from a little extra help? Licensed teacher, Emily Kittredge, offers tutoring math, writing or reading. Time to be determined. \$30

Go birdwatching with a trained eye. Sue Moegenberg offers a two-hour early morning bird-watching session, best in the early spring. Good through 2015. \$40

Professional photographer, Dylan Griffin, offer a lesson in photography. See his website, dylangriffin.com. \$45

Enjoy having a quick portrait done of yourself, your pet, your house or whatever you'd like to see captured on canvas! Artist Linda Reynolds offers an hour portraiture of your choosing. Good through 2015. \$35

Have a sailing party on lake Champlain! Charlie Kittredge will take a sailing trip for 1 to 5 people aboard his beautiful sailboat. Good through 2015. \$50

Two hours of weeding – who wouldn't want that? Suzy Hodgson offers her weed-pulling talents for your garden for a two-hour session. Good through 2015. \$25

NEW MEMBER COVENANT MEETINGS

This fall we will be holding meetings for those interested in learning more about The Charlotte Congregational Church. Attendance at these meetings in no way obligates you to join the church; they are a good way to learn more about our church and our denomination, the United Church of Christ. We will be welcoming new members in late November. Please contact Rev. Will or Rev. Susan if you are interested in coming to these gatherings.

CIRCLE OF CARE

If you would like to receive emails concerning members and friends of our congregation, please contact Sandy Riggs. sandyriggsvt@icloud.com. 802-425-4535

You can participate in C of C activities as little or much as you choose. (Notes, meals, visits, driving to or from church or medical appointments)

Information about C of C can be found on the church website under "Outreach". You will also find Google sign-ups if you would like to be a driver for Rick Oliver or Barbara Boyd. Just type your name in for the date/dates you select. Instructions are at the top of the sheets.

**MANY HANDS
MAKE LIGHT WORK!**

MISSION PARTNERS

BACKPACKS

We collected 32 bags of school items to fill the backpacks supplied by the local Citizen's Bank. LUND staff picked up the bags, sorted the contents and distributed approximately 35 which were really appreciated. Many thanks to those who contributed.



PINS SUNDAY

Looking ahead to November, we are planning our PINS (Partners in Service) celebration for **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD**. Staff from LUND will present the morning message.

CHARLOTTE CROP HUNGER WALK IN THE TRACTOR PARADE THIS YEAR!

On **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12** the annual Charlotte CROP Hunger Walk will gather at Nichols Farm at 1:00 PM to walk behind all the tractors. The walk is a mile long. You will be supporting the local Charlotte Food Shelf with a portion of the proceeds going towards world hunger relief. A minimum donation of \$10 gets you in the parade! You may want to sponsor CVU students who are at our booths at Nichols Farm and at the end of the parade. We will be selling balloons for \$1.

PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR EFFORTS TO END HUNGER!



Charlotte Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 12

Charlotte, VT 05445

To:



COME READY TO BID
at the

HARVEST FESTIVAL TIME & TALENT AUCTION!

- DOG-SITTING • GUITAR LESSONS • COMPOST • TUTORING
- BIRDWATCHING • PHOTOGRAPHY • COOKIES • ORGANIZING
- AND SO MUCH MORE!!!!!!