

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

Volume 64

March 2011

Issue 3



On Friday, March 11th, our church will present a **ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER**, starting promptly at 6:30 pm in our Fellowship Hall. Expect homemade corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots and onions. Homemade Irish Soda bread and carrot cakes for dessert!

Please contact Eloise Post if you can bake a carrot cake and/or help with the set up and/or clean up. (eloise@metrocast.net or 986-6723.)

Deadline to make your reservations: March 7th!
\$10.00 per person. \$5.00 for children under the age of 12.

OUTREACH will be collecting for St. Vincent DePaul on Sunday, March 6th. Please donate non-perishable food items to the closet in the lobby outside the sanctuary. Especially needed: cereal, canned fruit, canned beans, cans of diced tomatoes, canned corn, Progresso Soups and Spaghetti-o's. Thanks!!

GUYS' NIGHT OUT: Thursday, March 17th. 6 pm. Fellowship hour and then dinner catered by Ellie Murphy. Speaker: Tom Clairmont, President and CEO of LRGHealthcare, speaking on the big plans for the expansion and improvement of Laconia hospital to address future health care needs of the Lakes Region. Cost: \$10.00. Reserve your space by Monday, March 14th.

LADIES' NIGHT OUT: Friday, March 18th. 6 pm. Fellowship hour and then dinner by Ellie. Speaker: Kathleen Merriam, MS, from the Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health, Emergency Response Team. "Family Emergency Preparedness—Stay, Leave, Connect" Cost: \$10.00. Paid reservations due: Monday, March 14th. Make checks payable to Carolyn Ames, please.



REMEMBER to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 13th!



Take a walk with me...



Growing up in the mid-west, one gets a different perspective on the church. The first church I ever attended, *Our Lady of Victory*, was a “very old church.” It was established way back in the 1950’s. As a teenager, I attended *Ward United Presbyterian Church*. That church boasted that it was begun in 1965. I never figured out if that meant they were bragging about being new or if 1965 was meant to indicate that they’d been around forever.

One of the things I love the most about New England is its sense of history. I love driving through our towns, cities and villages and noting the founding dates: 1727, 1759, 1812. I love looking through some of the historical documents of the church and seeing some of the names of the “old timers.” People like Barnard Morrill, Benjamin Rowe, and my favorite: Ezekiel True. I love looking through the yellowing annual reports and coming across an entry like this: Coal Offering - \$1.58.

Sometimes, on a quiet day, I wander over to the sanctuary and sit in one of the pews. I think about all the people who have been in that very pew through the years. I wonder about the burdens those pews have borne over 213 years. (This isn’t a reference to the hefty worshippers who have graced the church, either.) I think about all the sorrows and sadnesses people have brought with them through our wide, welcoming doors. I think about all those people who smile on the outside – but ache with pain inside. Sitting in the silence, surrounded by the brilliant refracted rays of sunshine, I give my mind permission to go wherever it wishes. With eyes and ears open, I see imagined faces, hear the whispers of worshippers, the misplayed notes from the organ, the cry of an infant. I wonder how many funerals, how many baptisms, how many weddings, how many, how many, how many . . . *Hundreds* have graced this church and far more have been graced by it. To be but a part of a work that began when a handful of courageous dream-filled people sensed that maybe God was calling them to begin a church in Gilford. May we continue to be that courageous.

Sincerely,





March Birthdays

- 01 Sandy Stafford
- 02 Barbara Daniell, Brittnei McKenna
- 03 Nicole Maiorano, Sara Eltzroth,
Karlyn Brown, Grace Lopardo
- 04 Carey Fay Blandford, Clark
Blackwelder, Ken Parker, Ian
Tovell, Valerie Chase
- 05 Austin Littlefield, Roger Bailey
- 06 Eston Ross
- 07 Jessie Dawson, Abigail Watson
- 08 Barbara Maxner, Traci Minton
- 09 Bob Castellon, David Greenlaw
- 11 Melanie Nix, Rachel Bauer
- 12 Ruth Furbush
- 14 Cindie Graham, Shawn Smith
- 16 Patricia Nix-Ford, Shirley Faller
- 19 Shirley Snow, Priscilla Selfridge
- 20 Bryan Bailey, Lorie Gallien
- 21 Sue Allen, Bill Parkinson
- 23 Susanne Weldon-Franke,
Ann Dawson, Angie Sawyer
- 25 Emile Munier, Alan Kennell
- 27 Rick Nelson, Jim Rupert
- 28 Katie Austin, Connor Leggett,
Zdzislaw Wieckowski
- 30 Peter Sawyer
- 31 Susan Summerson, Pat Labonte

March Anniversaries

- 03 Grace & Tom Lopardo
- 15 Cindie & Michael Graham
- 27 Kevin & Chris Resca
- 31 Zelma & Bob Price



Music Notes

From Carolyn Ames

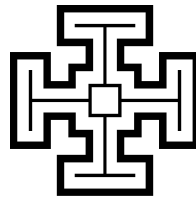
We are sorry to be saying good by to Carlos Martinez as our Music Director. He has been a wonderful addition to the music program of our church. His talent, leadership, good humor and true affection for us all will be sorely missed.

Carlos has become a good friend in the short time he was with us.

We wish him and his family the very best as they all take on the new challenges of their very busy lives.



Don't forget to pick up *Helping Hand* and *Hook* scholarship applications on the counter in the church office.



ATTENTION: Both the Gilford Community Church and the Gilford Youth Center have **Lifeline AED Defibrillators** on hand if and when they are needed. The church's kit is mounted on the wall next to the elevator in the foyer outside the sanctuary.

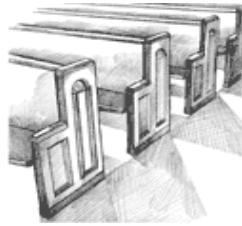
HELP WANTED AND NEEDED

The Membership Committee is looking for a couple of people to Chair the Christmas Fair. Steve and Monica Melbourne have done a fabulous job of organizing the fair, but would now love to make that opportunity available to someone else. If you have any questions, please speak to Michael, or Steve/Dianne Anthony.



Attendance

February 6 156
 February 13 233
 February 20 208
 February 27 89



New to our church? Would you like to learn more about it? Come join Rev. Michael Graham and others to learn about our church and what we can offer you. Watch for the next meeting date in the Sunday bulletin. (Held in Conference Room A, after you grab a cup of coffee at Coffee Hour!)



The Village Newsletter is a monthly publication of Gilford Community Church
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e-mail: gcc@metrocast.net
Carlos Martinez, Music Director
Carolyn Ames, Organist
Scott Hodsdon, Director of Youth & Family Programs

e-mail: gccscott@metrocast.net
Dru Chatterton—Office Secretary
 email: gccoffice@metrocast.net

Youth Center: www.gilfordyouthcenter.com
(603)524-6978
 Church Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00-3:00 pm

OUR CHURCH COMMITTEES 2011

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IN THE PEW.....

“If you really want to learn about a town, go get your hair cut, and talk to the barber!”

Roy and Nancy Carsen are natives of New York City. Nancy was born in Queens, not far from Mets Stadium and the Whitestone Bridge. Roy was born in Manhattan and moved to Whitestone, Queens just prior to starting high school.

Although they lived near each other, they went to different high schools. One beautiful summer day, Roy and his best friend invited their respective girlfriends on a double date to Jones Beach. One problem—Roy’s date was unable to go. Since the car was Roy’s, it became a threesome. Second problem—Nancy, the friend’s date, enjoyed Roy so much that when it was time to leave, she got in the front seat with Roy! They never dated anyone else after that trip to the beach.

By the time they graduated from high school, they were already thinking of a future together; Roy entered NYU and Nancy went to the Latin American Institute in order to become bilingual in French. Nancy’s first job was as an executive assistant with an export/import firm based in New York City with offices in Belgium. While they were engaged, Nancy saved much of her salary for Roy’s tuition and to furnish their future apartment in Manhattan.

Roy graduated in 1965 with majors in biology and chemistry. He missed his graduation; instead, he and Nancy got married! He continued at NYU’s dental school. “I had wanted to be an orthodontist since I had braces. You were not hurting anyone—the ‘hurt’ came after the appointment—I loved working with kids, and it seemed to me, at the time, that orthodontists made a good income,” he says.

In 1969, Nancy began working at Mobil Oil Corp, and Roy graduated with his DDS degree and began his internship at Goldwater Memorial Hospital on Roosevelt Island. Post-internship, Roy taught briefly at NYU, and had a few articles published concerning dental care for wheelchair-bound patients. Not long after, Roy was drafted during the Viet Nam War. He served for two years as a Captain in the U.S. Army Dental Corps, after which he earned his MSD in Orthodontics at Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1974—thanks, in part, to the G.I Bill.

Upon his graduation, they began making plans for their future by making independent lists of what each one wanted. With thoughts of family, they both wanted a small community (not a suburban “bedroom community”) that was large enough to support an orthodontist but within a ring of 100 miles from a metropolitan area in the Northeast.

Nancy’s “wish list” included an Episcopal Church; Roy’s, an 18-hole golf course. Both wanted a large body of water (lake or ocean) and a community with the “right feel.” During a vacation in Wolfeboro, they visited 12 towns, including Laconia. They perused the phone book for orthodontists, took note that the Belknap Mill was being redone, visited the Sundial Shop—and Roy went to get a haircut. “If you really want to learn about a town, go to get your hair cut, and talk to the barber,” he says. Roy still sees Greg Harriman every few weeks for his haircuts, some thirty-five years later.

Roy visited three dentists who had offices in One Mill Plaza, and they told him they needed an orthodontist in town. “I think they really needed to rent out the extra space they had at One Mill Plaza,” Roy laughs. When Roy and Nancy drove through Gilford and saw the high school going up, the die was cast.

In 1983, Nancy became the Church Administrator at St. James Episcopal Church. She has now worked there for 27 years and has “broken in” 8 different rectors. Roy thinks St. James should send her to seminary!

In July of 1984, the farmhouse on North Main Street was gutted and renovated for Roy’s practice (decades later, Melissa Kennell would trample the flowerbeds there trying to sneak a peek inside). He became *the* orthodontist for many of the kids around. When Roy and Nancy met Alan and Missy, both couples knew what they wanted, and they worked to make it happen. Roy and Alan worked together for a year, and “it was a natural fit,” Roy says.

Parents of two children, Jennifer and Daniel, the Carsens built a strong family life. In high school, Dan loved anything to do with planes, so he had his first flight lesson at age 12. Nancy was his chauffeur, and

after his third lesson, the instructor asked her if she had ever flown in a small plane. As soon as he took her up for a ride, she was hooked. According to Nancy, the question became, “Who will solo first, mother or son? I wasn’t going to wait until Dan was 16, so one day when both Dan and Roy were gone, I soloed.” She has the distinction of receiving her private pilot’s license before age 50. Nancy and Dan often flew together, and Dan since has earned his instrument, commercial, and multi-engine licenses.

Roy and Nancy were very active in their kids’ lives at Gilford High School. During those years, they lived in Gilford Forest—within walking distance of the school—and “our house became the ‘after theatre rehearsal house’ where kids would gather for showers and meals and lots of fun,” Roy says. Often, those who lived in Gilmanton would spend the night when the roads were icy. “Many a night, kids would call their parents exaggerating the poor condition of the roads, proclaiming, ‘Sheets of ice! The safe thing would be for me to stay at the Carsens,’” Roy laughs.

Their daughter, Jen, remembers fondly, “Most nights, the four of us ate dinner together around the kitchen table, sharing stories and laughing a lot. The one exception was Sunday nights, which were reserved for pizza in front of *60 Minutes*. My dad has never been a football fan, and it was funny how irate he would get when the game-of-the-week ran late and delayed the start of the show—or, horror of horrors, pre-empted it completely!”

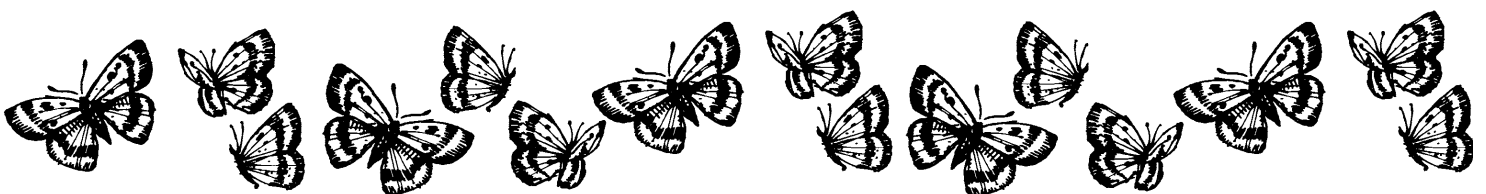
Son Dan remembers fondly their trips as a family to places here and abroad. However, most importantly, he says, “I remember the support and encouragement my parents always provided; from high school activities, to hobbies, to career choices and changes. While I could see others steered into a certain direction, Jen and I were urged to follow our dreams and aspirations. I still see that today and feel like a stronger person for it.”

In 2008, they joined GCC and immediately became active; Nancy serves on the Membership Committee and Roy, in addition to being a resident cheerleader in his bright plaids and yellows, serves on the Pastor-Staff Relations Committee.

They have not slowed down since Roy retired. They each have a “bucket list” and have already been able to cross off hot-air ballooning, zip-lining, swimming with dolphins, and white-water rafting. They have a shared love of boating and have boats both on Winnepesaukee and in Punta Gorda, Florida. Recently, Roy completed the requirements for his U.S. Coast Guard 50 Gross Ton, Offshore Masters License, which entitles him to “Captain” a small passenger vessel within 200 miles of the U.S. coastline.

2010 was a banner year for the Carsens—they became grandparents! Matthew Richard Carsen was born to Dan and Alicia [Briggs] Carsen on May 3rd; Lorelei Bailey Foster, daughter of Jen and her husband, Eric Foster, arrived six weeks later, on June 15th. Alicia’s parents, Rich and Jan Briggs, members of GCC, also became proud grandparents. Rich and Jan are responsible for Nancy and Roy joining GCC, and the Carsens are very grateful to the Briggses for how much GCC and Michael have enriched their lives.

- Faith Rupert



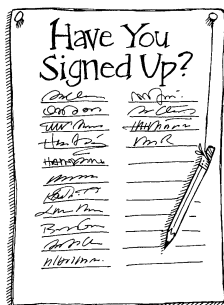
CARE AND CONCERN COMMITTEE IS HERE FOR YOU

The Care and Concern Committee would like to be made aware of anyone in our church family who has a concern and needs our help. We can provide meals, transportation to medical appointments, light handyman services and other situations as required. Please contact the church office if we can assist you in any way.

If you are in the hospital and would like Michael Graham to visit, please call the church office. The hospital does not always notify him when someone is admitted.

If you would like to volunteer your services in any of these areas, a sign-up sheet will be enclosed in the weekly bulletin during the month of March. Members of the committee will be available after church to answer any questions. Every Sunday in March you have the opportunity to sign up for meals or transportation at Coffee Hour.

Nancy Peterson	366-4020
JoAnn Cowan	527-1777
Barbara Allard	279-1070
Beth DeMeo	524-9348
Barbara Partridge	528-8003
Jane Fortier	293-2179
Linda Wright	528-4278
Ginny Littlefield	528-4394
Barbara Ponsart	292-4509
Anne Colburn	524-3483



Have you noticed all the sign-up charts on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall? There is a chart to sign up to bring food for the **Friendly Kitchen** (fourth Friday of every month).

There is a chart to sign up to **host coffee hour** on any given Sunday (several people usually share the hosting task).

There is a Flower Chart upon which you may sign up to **sponsor the altar flowers** on a particular Sunday. You may make the flowers “in honor of” or “in memory of” someone, or just sign-up to give them. This helps to defray the considerable cost to the Flower Committee of providing sanctuary flowers every Sunday. Costs range from \$30-35 if you would like the Committee to do the flowers for you, or you can always spend more to make the bouquet as special as you desire. Make checks payable to the church, and give your payment to the church office. Thanks!

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE
SUBMITTED FOR THE APRIL
NEWSLETTER IS:
Friday, March 25
THANK YOU!



WERNIG WORLD

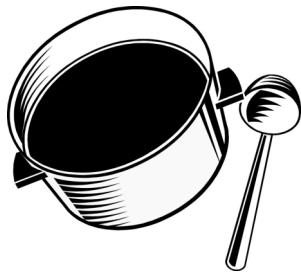
FRIDAY, MARCH 4TH, 5:30-8PM

All youth group members are invited to Gilford's Best snow tubing adventure!

Wernig World is located right around the corner at the Wernig's residence. Experience the thrills and chills of their man-made course.

Warm up by their fire pit and enjoy some mouth watering s'mores.

All who attend need to bring their own tube. The Wernigs have a few, but not enough for Everyone.



A special thanks to all the Youth Group members who worked at the Nashua Soup Kitchen.

Mark Your Calendars.....

Friday, May 6th

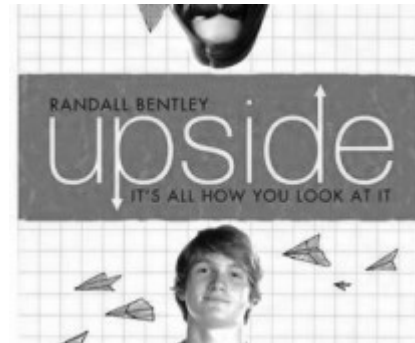
GCC Family Night Out:

The NH Fisher Cats Game.

Once again we will be holding the giant American Flag during the national anthem.



Youth Group Movie Night



Friday, March 11th, Showtime 7:00pm

The movie is called "Upside", and is an "inspiring film about faith and love that challenges us to follow the unique path God has for us."

Both high school and middle school members are invited to attend.

Movie Info

High school senior Solomon White seemingly has everything: great athlete, good-looking girlfriend, nice car, bright future. But things aren't always as they appear. When a devastating head injury flips his vision-and his world-upside down, Soli is left not knowing what normal looks like anymore.

UPSIDE provides a unique perspective as Soli tries to come to grips with difficulties at home and at school. And the challenges grow deeper when he starts falling for Wren, a believer who's been blind since birth. This story of faith is an inspiring reminder that when life gets you down, there's always an UPSIDE.

Please invite your friends. Refreshments will be available.

MARCH 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:30 Mommy/Me	2 Newsletter Folding 12 noon Adult Study	3 12:30-3:30 Opechee Garden Club 6:00 Chancel Choir 6:30 Girl Scouts	4 9:30 Mommy/Me 10:00 Worship at Genesis Healthcare 4:45 Brownies 5:30-8 TUBING	5
6 10:00 Worship/ Communion 6:30 Webelos II	7 11:30 Senior M. 7:00 Chordsmen	8 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Chess Club	9 12 noon Adult Study 7:00 Troop 243	10 6:00 Chancel Choir	11 9:30 Mommy/Me 6:30 St. Patrick's Day Dinner 7:00 Youth Group Movie Night	12 7:30-4:30 Quilter's Guild
13 9:40 Hymn Sing 10:00 Worship GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY 6:30 Webelos II	14 11:30 Senior M. 7:00 Chordsmen	15 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Chess Club	16 8-4 LR Mutual Fire Aid Training 12 noon Adult Study 7:00 Troop 243	17 6:00 Chancel Choir 6:00 GUYS' NIGHT OUT 6:30 Girl Scouts	18 9:30 Mommy/Me 6:00 LADIES' NIGHT OUT	19 Class of '65 Potluck
20 10:00 Worship 6:30 Webelos II	21 11:30 Senior M. 7:00 Troop Comm. 7:00 Chordsmen	22 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Chess Club	23 12 noon Adult Study 6:30 VNS Board 7:00 Troop 243	24 2:00 Fundraiser Set-up 6:00 Chancel Choir	25 9:30 Mommy/Me FRIENDLY KITCHEN 5-8 SPAGHETTI DINNER to benefit Sawyers.	26 4:00 Lakes Region Wavemakers Swim Team Dinner
27 10:00 Worship 6:30 Webelos II	28 8:30 Senior M. 6:30 PACK MTG 7:00 Chordsmen	29 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Chess Club	30 Newsletter Folding 12 noon Adult Study 7:00 Troop 243	31 6:00 Chancel Choir		



GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH
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