

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

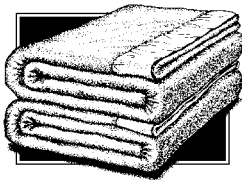
Volume 64

May 2011

Issue 5



On Friday, May 13th, at 6:00 **Ladies Night Out** will meet in Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Executive Director of Winnipisauke Playhouse, Bryan Halperin. Dinner catered by Ellie Murphy. Sign-up sheets at Coffee Hour May 1st and 8th. Deadline to register: Monday, May 9th. Please make checks (\$10.00 per person) payable to Carolyn Ames.

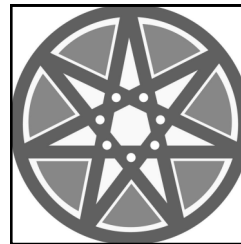


The Outreach Committee will be selling Mother's Day cards at Coffee Hours (\$5. a card) They will also be sold in the church office. You may purchase your card "in honor of" or "in memory of" your mother. The proceeds from each card are used by Church World Service to purchase a blanket for people overcome by natural and human-caused Disasters. Your dedication will appear in the Mother's Day bulletin.



Thursday, May 19th, is the **Gilford Community Church Annual Antique Car Festival** at 5:00 pm in the church parking lot. Antique cars will be on display.

Tickets are required for this event, which is for the whole family. \$10.00 per person provides you with access to the car show and the BBQ put on by Ellie Murphy (pulled pork!). Tickets available in the church office or at coffee hours.



Church-wide adult retreat to **STAR ISLAND** (one of the Isles of Shoals islands, ten miles out to sea from Portsmouth, NH)

The retreat is the weekend of September 16-18. A time for reflection and inspiration. Star Island is a peaceful, rustic island with a magical atmosphere. Call Dick and Doreen Waitt for more details (293-2909). Registration forms are available in the church office. There will be a Star Island Orientation Night on Tuesday, May 17th in Fellowship Hall at 7 pm for those who are attending the retreat, and for those who just want to learn more about the Island. There will be a Power Point Presentation and an Ambassador from Star Island to answer all your questions.



Take a walk with me...



“In the end, only kindness matters.”

- Jewel

For the last twenty years, I have written a monthly article for a church newsletter. Believe it or not, I find this to be one of the most challenging tasks of my job. A few friends of mine serve churches that do weekly newsletters; when I count my blessings I begin right there. When you are ready for me to leave, simply suggest we start doing weekly newsletters!

Funny thing is that I love writing. What I so struggle with is coming up with an idea. This month, for the first time in about two hundred and forty attempts, there was no struggle. In fact, two words would suffice: Thank you. The kindness, support and love you have offered to me and my family after my mom’s death have been truly remarkable. The cards, emails, memorial gifts, abundant fruit salads and words of sympathy have been wonderful. We’ve received well over one hundred cards and have especially appreciated every personal word of consolation. It is nice to know that so many people have a place in their heart with your name inscribed upon it.

Faith communities do a number of different and important things. I have come to realize, in ways I hadn’t before, that the love and care we incarnate and show to each other is right at the top of the list. I’ve long known about the important work that our Care and Concern Committee does. Spending a week in Michigan, I got to experience what other churches are doing for those who are grieving. At first, like many of you, we were reluctant to accept their kindness. “Oh no, we don’t need you to make dinner for us this evening. We’ll be just fine.” But when the meal arrived it was gratefully received and it did make things easier. “That was really nice,” we said to each other. With each meal, I pictured our own Barbara, Nancy, Ginny or others, doing the same for someone in need back in Gilford. When someone from my sister’s church picked me up from the airport, I couldn’t help but think of Walt or Dick doing the same for someone right here. I think the singer Jewel got it right in her song, “Hands.” She reminded us, “in the end, only kindness matters.” A bit later in the song she suggests that we are the hands of God. You were God’s hands to us. Thank you so much. We feel blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Michael and Cindie





MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Tom Guerin
- 3 Alex Stewart, Harold Dexter
- 4 Emily Howard, Dana Brown
- 5 Sara Stewart, Dick Miller, Joscelyn Boucher
- 6 Jessica McMinn, Debby Mercer,
Steve Anthony
- 8 Joe Scattergood
- 9 Shirley Burns, Helen Bonin, Wendy Smith
- 12 Flora Alley, Barbara Allen Lewis, Jacob
Burhans
- 13 Deborah Robichaud
- 14 Riley Marsh
- 15 Heather Labonte
- 16 Frances Allen, Hayley Jackson
Sharon Whitney, Marcia Tocci
- 17 Barbara Carey, Cynthia
Tomlinson, Patrick Gandini
- 19 Grace Miller, Mark Wright
- 20 Christy Wirth
- 21 Darlene Mary MacDonald
- 22 Stacy Briggs, Jesse Ross, Michael Marsh,
Bob Percival
- 23 May Stewart
- 24 Lani Voivod, Kathy Arenstam
- 25 Mary England, Keira & Ella Squires
- 26 Kathryn Pilling, Dale Eddy
Steven Richardson
- 27 Donna Snow, Betty Percival, Mary Curtis
- 28 Dennis McAllister, Randy Pike
- 29 Porter Hill, Dianne Anthony
- 30 Nathan Lemay
- 31 Gretchen Wieckowski, Keith
Gandini

May Anniversaries

- 2 Mary & Walter Flinn 1953
- 4 Marti & R.J. Ilg
- 8 Wanda & Carl Carder 1976
- 13 Mary & Warren Hutchins 1978
- 14 Martha & John Sepe 1960
- 16 Steve & Dianne Anthony 1976
- Bob and Betty Percival 1977

- 19 Brenda & Rick Nelson 1984
- 22 Adele & Frank Lungarelli
- 26 Sarah & Robert Sedgley 2007
- 29 Derek & Kris Blackwelder 2004

Music Notes



From Carolyn Ames
(Interim Music Director)

Another Easter season has come and gone. The Chancel Choir did an outstanding job on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and, of course, Easter. They are a very committed group of wonderful people.

A great big thanks to May Stewart, Alex Stewart, and Andrew Quist, whose brass playing was a wonderful addition to our services. Their sound is so joyous and uplifting.

I can never thank Shawn Chase enough for his constant support of the choir and me. His good humor and “going with the flow” makes it fun and much easier for me.

Members of the Chancel Choir sang at the Belknap Nursing Home. The residents really appreciated their music.

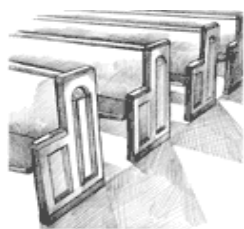


The Village Nursery School, located at Gilford Community Church, has OPENINGS in the preschool program for the 2011-2012 school year. Call 524-7444



Attendance

April 03 203
 April 10 203
 April 17 256
 April 24 343



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. The next meeting date is **Sunday, May 1st, after worship, in Conference Room A.**

The Village Newsletter is a

monthly publication of
 Gilford Community Church
 19 Potter Hill Road

Gilford, New Hampshire 03249

(603) 524-6057 © Fax **(603) 528-7606**

e-mail: gccoffice@metrocast.net

website: www.gilfordcommunitychurch.org

Rev. Michael C. Graham, Pastor

e-mail: gcc@metrocast.net

Carolyn Ames, Music Director/Organist

Scott Hodsdon, Director of Youth & Family Programs

e-mail: gccscott@metrocast.net

Dru Chatterton—Office Secretary

email: gccoffice@metrocast.net

Youth Center: www.gilforyouthcenter.com

(603) 524-6978

Church Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00-3:00 pm



OUR CHURCH COMMITTEES 2011

CHURCH COUNCIL	Dale Dormody	ddormody@dknetdesign.com	528-3622
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE	Mary Flinn	waltf@metrocast.net	528-1324
ADMINISTRATIVE LIFE	Bob Daniell Dale Dormody	barbbobd19@aol.com ddormody@dknetdesign.com	366-2143 528-3622
PASTOR/STAFF	Michael Warmington	warmington@metrocast.net	293-8662
FACILITIES	Bill Littlefield	glittlefield@metrocast.net	528-4394
FINANCE	Derek Tomlinson	derek.tomlinson@tm2c.com	524-3468
OUTREACH	Ron Dudley	rnldsly@yahoo.com	366-7704
DIACONATE	Stacey Pate	staceyl@metrocast.net	293-2169
FLOWER COMMITTEE	Sandy Stafford Jan Briggs	cstafford@metrocast.net briggfam@metrocast.net	387-8011 293-3019
MEMBERSHIP	Steve/Dianne Anthony	santhony@metrocast.net	524-2363
EDUC. MINISTRIES	Judy Cook	randytr6@yahoo.com	293-0279
CARE & CONCERN	Nancy Peterson Barbara Allard	peterson@metrocast.net tyrodden@metrocast.net	366-4020 279-1070
FAIR COMMITTEE	Steve/MonicaMelbourne	designsteve@metrocast.net	293-7862
MEMORIAL GIFTS	Doris MacHaffie	dcmachaffie@metrocast.net	524-1169
VILLAGE NURSERY SCH.	Kristine Blackwelder	krisprovo@hotmail.com	556-7164
FELLOWSHIP & KITCHEN	Eloise Post	eloise@metrocast.net	524-7776
PRAYER LINE COORDINATOR	Barbara Hauck	bfhauck20@metrocast.net	524-3381

IN THE PEW.....

“Concrete smells funny when bullets hit it”, she says.

Many of us remember WWII, but none experienced it as **Patricia Moore** did. Felixstowe, UK, a small tourist town located on a peninsula about 90 miles NE of London on the North Sea, was the place of her birth. Patsy grew up with loving parents and a younger sister, Peggy, in a house built by her grandfather.

Everyone in England knew war with Hitler was inevitable; on September 3rd, 1939, when Patsy was 11, war broke out. It was on a Sunday; she was at church where a radio was placed on the pulpit so people could hear Neville Chamberlain make the announcement. There were prayers for the country and the congregation sang “O God our Help in Ages Past”. To this day, Patsy is unable to sing that hymn.

Immediately, barbed wire was erected along a lovely promenade by the sea which was bordered with beautiful flower gardens; a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile-long pier was blown up and all signs that indicated a location were obliterated, “to fool the stupid Germans”, Patsy said. An amusing aside: after the war, she and her first husband were in a boat on the sea; lying askew on the wreckage of the pier was a sign with huge letters, “Felixstowe”! “So much for fooling the Germans!” she added. Patsy remembers being “strafed” on that promenade early in the war; she and her father were walking when a low-flying German plane suddenly appeared with machine guns firing; her father threw her to the ground and threw himself on top of her; after it passed, he yanked her up and they ran for some bushes. “Concrete smells funny when bullets hit it”, she says.

Felixstowe became a very dangerous place; Harwich Harbor, one of England’s largest deep harbors, bordered the town on the south; explosions began to rock the town. On the northern side was the first radar station in England; her father had worked secretly on that project in the months before the war broke out.

One memorable night, there was a cacophony of sounds—planes, terrible explosions, mines blowing up—it was deafening. What they were hearing was the enemy reaction to the huge flotilla of boats, large

and small, crossing the English Channel to evacuate soldiers stranded on the beaches of Dunkirk. That next day, at age 13, Patsy, her mother and Peggy, boarded a train for London. The great evacuation of women and children from coastal areas had begun. London was in chaos with trains from the south filled with wounded soldiers arriving as thousands were being evacuated. Patsy was put on a train to Guildford. She remembers that as she traveled, every platform was crowded with people who were throwing soap, food, clothing—anything—through the open windows of the trains carrying soldiers. Her father, who remained behind, headed a mobile rescue team of 500 who lived in their lorries for 6 years—“wherever the Gerries were bombing.”

Members of the WVS [Women’s Voluntary Service, the “Ladies in Green”] met Patsy and drove her to the home of Ruth, her first foster mother. By this time, the massive bombing had begun; Guildford was not a target, but London was 30 miles away. They slept on the floor of the ground floor in the safest room in the house for protection. They could stand on the steps of the house and watch the fires of London burning. Ruth was a wonderful woman with two children and Patsy felt safe with her. They were a musical family; they played the piano and violin and Patsy indulged in her passion, dancing. The school was crowded with so many evacuated children that they sat three to a desk with 50 in a class. She lived with Ruth for 2 years. She could occasionally contact her mother and Peggy who were in a town not far away.

The national tension was high and nerves were on edge; they knew an invasion of France was coming soon, but they had no idea when or where. “You could feel it”, she says. Military vehicles were everywhere, there was constant movement, banks of ammunition were piled high and everything was camouflaged. England held its breath. There was a mixture of pain and relief when finally it began. Eisenhower was amazing in the British eye.

Patsy was reunited with her mother and sister when she was 16; they moved to Essex to care for the

(continued on next page)

(continued from page 5)

children of a badly wounded friend whose wife had died. The house was buzz-bombed and they jumped under a table for safety. Six months later, with her mother's permission, Patsy moved into the beautiful home of one of the best friends of her life, Brenda. She got a job and took classes in shorthand. By this time she had passed all of her exams to enter Oxford, but was unable to go. One evening Brenda and Patsy went to the movies; they walked back to discover the house had been bombed. For a second time everything Patsy owned was gone, this time even her identity. She and Brenda joined the "Land Army"; when asked what she did, she laughed and said, "Learned to milk cows and drive a tractor". A nation needed to eat, with all the men in the army or working for the military, women had to carry on the work on the farms. V-1 and V-2 bombs were deadly; you couldn't tell where they came from and the devastation they caused was unthinkable. The common expression was that "if you heard them, you were alive." She remained in the Land Army until age 18; then she moved to London to find a job.

On V-E Day, she wandered the streets where rubble was piled high. She made her way to Trafalgar Square where she saw the King and Queen on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. Loudspeakers had been erected and she heard Winston Churchill announce the end of the war. The celebration was incredible; a huge parade of marching military and vehicles went on for hours. There was dancing in the streets and no one slept for three days.

The shorthand course Patsy had taken, coupled with her ability to connect with people, landed her a job in a publishing house. London was coming alive again and she was assigned to cover theatre, dance and art shows. She met and interviewed Eleanor Roosevelt and was able to review the opening of the first exhibit of Picasso's art at the Tate Museum. And, she danced!

Her London years continued until she came to America in 1952, where she continued dancing, publishing, and finally, editing at Harvard, where she met Russ Moore. They moved to Gilford when they retired. This is just one segment in the mosaic of the varied life of our resident English Lady. - Faith Rupert



Outreach Committee will be collecting for St. Vincent DePaul on June 5th. Please bring your donations to the foyer in front of the sanctuary.



BALLROOM DANCE LESSONS

Lessons are every Tuesday night at 7 pm at the Youth Center. A nominal fee is charged. Call Eloise Post for more information. 986-6723. Another session will be held—and possibly an evening of dance and light fare in June!

**DEADLINE for items for the JUNE
newsletter will be Friday, May 27, 2011.
THANKS!**





Saturday, May 14th, 9-1pm

Our annual “Youth for Hire” is right around the corner. This is an opportunity for youth members of our church to provide services to church members at no cost.

We will meet at the church at 8:45am. We are in need of parent chaperones to help with supervision/transportation.

Please contact Scott if you plan to attend. Request forms for our services can be found in the main office of the church.

GCC Family Night Out at the Fisher Cats

Friday, May 6th, 7pm

If you haven’t reserved your ticket(s), and still would like to attend, please contact Scott.



Youth Group Fun Night

Friday, May 27th, 7pm.

All youth group members are invited for a “Fun Night” at the Gilford Youth Center.

The night will be full of fun and creative games.

Please contact Scott if you plan to attend.

Christ Quest Meeting

Sunday, May 22nd

Following Service.

This meeting is for adults who wish to plan and organize this year’s CHRIST QUEST



2011 MISSION TRIP:

PENNSYLVANIA

MEETING

Sunday, May 29th, following service

This meeting is for all participants and their families. Final payment and t-shirt sponsor forms are due at this meeting.

Please contact Scott if you are not able to be there.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Our Gratitude Goes To.....

- The Prayer Line (Coordinator Barbara Hauck) which celebrated their 25th year of existence in April 2011. This group has been offering comfort and reassurance for many people in our church family by networking your strictly confidential prayer requests to the prayer partners participating in the Prayer Line. (If you would like prayer support for yourself or a loved one, with their knowledge of your request and their permission, call Barbara Hauck at 524-3381.)
- Kathi Hopper, for coming up with the idea of a FLEA MARKET and organizing this endeavor which was a considerable project and earned \$252. for the church.
- Eloise Post, who provided a Bake Sale during the Flea Market and carried it over to Coffee Hour, earning \$264. for the church.
- Grace Lopardo, for mixing the dough and helping Eloise Post to bake dozens of star-shaped cookies for the table at coffee hour to help promote the fall retreat to Star Island.
- Michael Marsh, for donating hours of labor during the installation of an emergency light in the church hall. A valuable gift toward the constant and continuing maintenance of our church!
- Ron Dudley, for instigating Easter Basket distribution by individually calling the families in need who were provided with Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. 30 baskets were distributed by the Outreach Committee, including 4 baskets to Carey House and 3 to New Beginnings.
- Suzanne Whitney, sometimes with help from Allan, who has faithfully folded the Sunday bulletin every Friday in the absence of Faith Rupert, who is recovering from shoulder surgery, and Barbara Daniell, who is down south for the winter.
- Sara Allen, who has been leading worship services at Genesis Eldercare in Laconia (Blueberry Lane) the first Friday of every month at 10:15 am accompanied by a small choir who lead the residents in familiar and well-loved hymns. These singers are: Joan Stephenson, Shirley Faller, Muriel Middleton, Morris Harrison, and Steve and Monica Melbourne. Peg Keller plays the piano.
- Our faithful and hard-working Newsletter Crew, who fold, wafer-stick and label the monthly newsletter. Led by Mary Dexter (taking over temporarily for Barbara Daniell), this group of ladies sits at tables set up in the sanctuary and plugs away until the job is done and they can have muffins and coffee: (Yvette Johnson, Suzanne Whitney, Kathy LaCroix, Faith Rupert, Barbara Hauck, Barbara Macaulay) . Harold Dexter lugs boxes, carries stacks of newsletters and makes the trip to the post office and returns the boxes to the church office every month. He also provides much of the positive energy & humor for the group.



We are still in need of a chairperson (or co-chairpersons) to be in charge of the Christmas Fair. Please let us know if you are willing to take on this project. Talk to Steve and Monica Melbourne about it! They can fill you in on the list of responsibilities and all the details! 293-7862 or designsteve@metrocast.net.

MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 Worship Communion 11:15 MEET & GREET	2 11-3 Opechee Garden Club 7:00 Chordsmen	3 9:30-12 Mommy/Me 7:00 Ballroom Dancing lessons at Youth Center	4 12 noon Adult Study 2:00 Chordsmen 7:00 Troop 243	5 3:00-7 Daisies 6:00 Chancel Choir 6:30 Girl Scouts	6 9:30 Mommy/Me 10:00 Worship at Genesis Healthcare 4:30 Scouts 4:45 Brownies 7:00 GCC FAMILY NIGHT OUT – Fisher Cats!	7 11:00 Memorial James McKenna
8 9:40 Hymn Sing 10:00 Worship MOTHER'S DAY	9 7:30-11 AP Testing 11:30 Senior Women. 7:00 Chordsmen	10 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Ballroom Dancing Lessons at Youth Center	11 12 noon Adult Study 5:30-9 Belknap Quilter's Guild Dinner 6:30 VNS Board Mtg.	12 6:00 Chancel Choir	13 9:30 Mommy/Me 6:00 LADIES' NIGHT OUT	14 8-6 Quilter's Guild 9-1 YOUTH FOR HIRE Meet at church at 8:45 am 3:00 Memorial Wayne Snow
15 10:00 Worship Memorial —Elizabeth Thompson	16 11:30 Senior Women. 6:30 Council Mtg. 7:00 Troop Comm. Mtg 7:00 Chordsmen	17 9:30 Mommy/Me 6:30 Village Knolls Mtg. 7:00 Ballroom Dancing 7:00 Star Island Orientation Night – all welcome!	18 12 noon Adult Study 7:00 Troop 243	19 6:00 Chancel Choir 5:00 Antique Car Festival (Parking Lot) 6:30 Girl Scouts	20 9:30 Mommy/Me 4:45-6 Brownies 6:00 Labonte/Williams Wedding Rehearsal and Dinner	21 2:00 Labonte/Williams Wedding and Reception
22 10:00 Worship 11:15 Christ Quest Mtg.	23 11:30 Senior Women. 7:00 Chordsmen	24 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Ballroom Dancing lessons at Youth Center	25 12 noon Adult Study 7:00 Troop 243	26 6:00 Chancel Choir	27 9:30 Mommy/Me FRIENDLY KITCHEN 6:00 Wedding Rehearsal 7:00 Youth Group Fun Night	28 3:30 Wedding Ceremony
29 10:00 Worship 11:15 2011 Mission Trip Mtg	30 7:00 Chordsmen	31 9:30 Mommy/Me 7:00 Ballroom Dancing lessons at Youth Center				



GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH
& WIXSON COMMUNITY CENTER
19 Potter Hill Road
Gilford, NH 03249-6803

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Visit our website at www.gilfordcommunitychurch.org

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LACONIA, NH
Permit No. 052**