

## “The Good News” Church Events

*Spring Summer 2015*

**First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
at 10 Station Rd in Hartland, Vermont 05048**

website: [www.hartlandcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.hartlandcongregationalchurch.org)

Church Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/HartlandCongregationalChurch](http://www.facebook.com/HartlandCongregationalChurch)

Church Telephone: (802)436-2224

*Dear Church Family – Summertime tends to be a simpler time at church, fewer meetings, fewer programs. And that is a good thing, with intensely scheduled lives, summer can be a Sabbath time in many different ways. However, the idea of Sabbath is also a time of renewal, of doing what is important to you, of connecting with others . . . whatever it is that feeds your soul and makes your heart sing – fellowship, service, singing, worship, volunteering, quiet. Come to the church picnic on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Frazers for relaxed fellowship and outdoor worship or join us at the Trachiers in July for an afternoon by the lake. Swing a hammer with Habitat for Humanity here in Hartland. Teach a child to sew by making a CWS school kit. Experience generosity filling a back to school backpack. Celebrate in worship with a Gospel music singalong led by Bruce and Caleb Freeberg and on other Sundays, enjoy the gifts of guest musicians and preachers. Feel the vitality of combined worship with our brothers and sisters at the Four Corners church. Spend a morning with children reading a favorite childrens’ book. Read this newsletter for details on all of the above!*

*What feeds your soul and makes your heart sing?*

*I love to go for summer walks – and would love to walk with you! Call or email me so we can walk and talk. Enjoy the summer Sabbath and I do hope to see YOU in church - Lucia*

## Worship Schedule

\*Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> Worship, *Last Choir Sunday*

\*Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> Worship

\*Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> **11:00 Worship & Church Picnic at Frazer’s Home** please bring chairs, eating utensils, potluck picnic food & swim suits! Worship will be led by the Board of Deacons.  
**NOTE TIME: 11:00** on Rte 12, 5<sup>th</sup> house on right after Damon Hall.

\*Sun, June 21<sup>st</sup> Worship, Rev. Constance Moser Preaching

\*Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> Worship

\*Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 10:00 OLD HOME DAY COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE AT the First Universalist Society of Hartland 4 Corners. (Service at the UU). Special Music: Combined Choir

### ***Summer Worship Time: 9:30 beginning July 12<sup>th</sup>***

\*Sun, July 12<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Worship with Communion,  
Rev. Constance Moser preaching Special music: Janet Hewes

\*Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> **9:30 Worship, Special Music Service with Bruce & Caleb Freeberg** – Come sing and listen to spirituals and gospel music from the Celtic, Appalachian, Country and Bluegrass traditions!! Followed by the *Picnic at Roger & Clydene Trachier’s camp – we will gather after worship to car pool to Trachiers. See details elsewhere in newsletter.*

\*Sun, July 26<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Worship, Special music: tbd

\*Sun, Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9:30 Combined Worship Service to Celebrate Youth Mission Trip HERE with the First Universalist Society of Hartland 4 Corners. *Welcome Back Ginny!*

\*Sun, Aug 9<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Worship & Communion

\*Sun, Aug 16<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Worship

\*Sun, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:30 Worship

\*Sun, Aug 30, 9:30 Worship

\*Sun, Sept 6<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Worship

## Board of Christian Education News & Notes

We are still looking for volunteers for Summer Sunday School and nursery. (Thank you to Mary Jo Ramsey & Sue Reilly & Donna Lemieux & Carol Withington for already signing up to cover some Sundays!) *Offering a children's program in the summer is a form of hospitality.* The lesson plans based on favorite children's books and supplies are provided, you just need to be prepared if there are children in worship.  
*Be welcoming by volunteering with our youngest families!*

We look forward to a full calendar in September!  
The Christian Education Board would like to thank the many volunteers who taught and did workshops in Sunday school this year!

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**From the Altar Committee** Anyone with flowers to share on Sunday Morning, please let us know. It's fun to have a variety of gardens represented throughout the summer. We would even pick up and deliver! Martha McGlinn, Emily Silver, Linda Genovese

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*Save the date. . . .*

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A PICNIC  
at Roger & Clydene Trachier's camp  
on Halls Lake in West Newbury, VT!**

On July 19<sup>th</sup> (after worship service)  
We will caravan/carpool from the church after worship.  
*From Clydene:*

*"Canoes, kayaks and bathing suits welcome!  
We have volleyball, horse shoe pits, lots of parking,  
undercover space for rain or shine. When we have large  
group picnics we usually furnish condiments, drinks, dessert,  
hotdogs (and grill space to grill your own favorite meat), and  
ask each family to bring a potluck dish to share."*

## Board of Missions & Outreach

*Board of Mission & Outreach has a full summer of volunteer opportunities! Please support our church's outreach to the community and beyond.*

Non-perishable food donations are always welcome for the Hartland Food Shelf and can be dropped off here anytime.  
Garden produce may be donated to the food shelf at the UU in 4 Corners on Fridays 8:00 – 10:00am.

**June & July** - Mission Trip food donations

- Back to School Backpacks for PINS & HES -  
school supplies & backpacks (due by Aug 9<sup>th</sup> for blessing in worship)

- Church World Service School Kits (our goal is 20 kits)  
(You are invited to donate any portion of the School kit)

To assemble a School Kit you will need:

- One pair of blunt metal scissors (rounded tip)
- Three 70-count spiral notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages  
(no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler (12")
- One hand-held pencil sharpener
- One large eraser
- Six new pencils with erasers
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24)

One 12" x 14" to 14" x 17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with cloth handles. (Please, no reusable shopping bags – there is a pattern for these bags on the CWS website  
<http://www.cwsglobal.org/resources/pdfs/school-bag-pattern.pdf>)

**June 30<sup>th</sup>** - Hixon House Dinner (team leaders: Sue & Joe Reilly)

**July 11<sup>th</sup>** - THE PROUTY! (individuals encouraged to participate)

**July 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>** **Local Adult Mission Trip with Habitat for Humanity working here in Hartland.** You can work one day or all week or offer to serve lunch! Please sign up by speaking with Lucia or with Vicki Lawrence ([jvrj@vermontel.net](mailto:jvrj@vermontel.net)). We had a fantastic experience last year, I encourage you to participate – no specific skills are needed.

**July 26<sup>th</sup> – Aug 1<sup>st</sup>** Youth Mission Trip to New Haven, CT.

## **From the Trustees:**

*Many church members volunteer their time and talent to keep our church doors open, our building systems operating and the church grounds attractive as well as running suppers, singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School, and serving meals at Hixon house. Here are just a few folks to thank for their efforts in the last few months:*

Thank you to Ginny Dow, Clydene Tracheir, Becky Wood and the choir for wonderful music throughout the year. These folks gather for rehearsals on Friday evenings and early on Sunday mornings, they make a weekly commitment to sing and share their gifts of music. Thank you for your gift of music in worship!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the church clean up day – what a delightful day working together to rake and clean up the church yard. All ages working together! Wonderful.

Thank you to all of those who volunteered to be Church School teachers this year! And thank you to the Board of Christian Education for your faithful work. Your commitment to our children and families matters.

Thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ministry – sharing your gift for knitting and crocheting blesses others in wonderful ways.

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**We still have some tea and coffee to sell – all Equal Exchange Products. Please speak with Lucia if you would like to purchase some.**

## **Youth Mission Trip Update: July 26<sup>th</sup> – Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 2015**

We have 21 youth & 6 adults participating in Mission Trip 2015 to New Haven, CT where we will spend 5 days working with various service organizations in New Haven: Christian Community Action, New Haven Home Recovery, Habitat for Humanity & Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen.

As in previous years, we are asking for food donations. You can find a food list at either this church or the UU church.

*Thank you to the many generous individuals who supported our fundraising brunches! Your financial support, food support and generosity are greatly appreciated. Please keep us in your prayers for a safe and productive trip.*

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When does the meeting begin?  
What time is summer worship?  
Do we have choir rehearsal this week?  
When is the mission trip week?

Well your questions can be answered!

Simply go to the church website:  
website: [www.hartlandcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.hartlandcongregationalchurch.org)

And click on “calendar” – and there it is – the church calendar of events! All of your questions answered! (well at least the scheduling questions . . . )

## **Stewards of Our Relationship with God**

*Be still and know that I am God. - Psalm 46:10*

In all our living we belong to God. Stewardship begins with our relationship with God. . . Now is the time to experience a season of Sabbath rest in God to deepen that relationship.

Sabbath is simply setting aside time to delight in God, a gift to God and oneself in the midst of our rushing, checklists, productivity, and burn-out. As the Rev. Rochelle Stackhouse said in *The Gifting God*, "God gives, in the midst of relationships, to create, to strengthen and honor, and with the intimacy of one desiring deep and fruitful relationships."

There are many ways of Sabbath keeping. Some people prefer to set aside a specific time daily or weekly to engage in particular spiritual practices. Others prefer to incorporate spiritual practices into the midst of daily life. Through spiritual practices, Christians through the ages have encountered God in life-renewing ways. Prayer is the most traditional but there are many others - fasting, hospitality, forgiveness, gratitude, meditation, Bible study, journaling, worship, listening, living simply, acts of compassion and justice, honoring the body, artistic expression... We become what we practice. As centers of hope and transformation, local churches help people live into a new way of life.

A message from "Stewards in the Household of God: a Resource for Holistic Year-round Stewardship" available from United Church of Christ Resources.