



Waterford Congregational Church, UCC

2018
June/July
Worship and Church School
9:30 a.m.

From the Pastor:



Do you know about Oxford/Union Association?

The Oxford/Union Association is one of seven Associations of the Maine conference, which is also a member of the United Church of Christ. Today we have 20 churches in our Association.

The United Church of Christ is a union of four original denominations: Congregational, Christian, Evangelical, and Reformed. The Congregational Churches originated in England and transported to Massachusetts at Plymouth and Boston. The Christian denomination was a group of churches of several denominations who formed their own body. The other two were German immigrant churches.

What is the purpose of the Association?

The Association fosters fellowship and education among its members, offers joint opportunities for mission, and guides persons feeling called to authorized ministry through to ordination, oversees the ministry of Churches in a consultation fashion, and is responsible for seeing that clergy maintain their good standing as ministers.

The Association elects an Executive Council from member congregations, which oversees the Association's business between annual and semi-annual meetings. In addition, it conducts ordinations and installation of pastors in each of its Churches.

On Sunday, April 23rd, 2018 the N. Waterford/E. Stoneham Churches hosted the Oxford/Union spring annual meeting. Following the business meeting, there was an educational component to our meeting. We had a presentation about NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness). Mental illness affects nearly 60 million Americans every year.

NAMI Faith Net is an information resource and network for NAMI members, clergy and people of faith from all faith traditions. The goal is to encourage the development of welcome and spiritually nourishing environments in every place of worship. (www.nami.org/faithnet)

We are fortunate that the Waterford Congregational Church is part of a bigger network. I encourage you to come to the next Oxford-Union Association meeting in November at the Lovell Church. We will come together to worship, catch up on what our partner churches are doing and aspire as a larger faith community to continue to be Christ's hands and feet.

Blessings on your summer, Rev. Petra Smyth



A moment with Walter Brueggemann—a world renown theologian at the Festival of Homiletics in Washington DC.

Walter Brueggemann (born March 11, 1933) is an American Protestant Old Testament scholar and theologian who is widely considered one of the most influential Old Testament scholars of the last several decades. He is an important figure in modern progressive Christianity whose work often focuses on the Hebrew prophetic tradition and sociopolitical imagination of the Church. He argues that the Church must provide a counter-narrative to the dominant forces of consumerism, militarism, and nationalism. (Wikipedia)



Letter from the Moderator

Good Morning! What a glorious late spring day!



I was getting new hearing aids this morning, so watch out... I will be able to hear you across the church.

When my mind began drifting to the Bible reading a couple of weeks ago, the one in the book of Acts, Chapter 10, where the centurion is visited by strangers and told to invite Peter to his house. Meanwhile Peter is having this weird dream about unclean animals. What were they thinking? I thought it was pretty brave of the centurion to send an envoy to see Peter and follow the suggested invitation. Then Peter had to take a leap of faith and GO!

I envision the two men tentatively greeting each other and maybe sitting down in the cool of the day to have some refreshment. I can see Peter saying 'I wondered why you sent for me. Is there something I can do for you?' Whenever I read the Bible I try to put it into the context of the times: hot dusty locale, agrarian in nature, mostly travel by foot. And here comes this unbidden invitation. Then there is that dream too! "What God has purified you are not to call unclean." Then in what is called *Peter's discourse* the true message is revealed "...how true it is that God shows no partiality. Rather the man of any nation who fears God and acts uprightly is acceptable to him."

Why this recap of a reading?

Well, the appearance of distrust and refusal to speak with someone who is not "one of us" is wreaking havoc on our country. We need to meet with and listen to what others are saying and ask ourselves why they believe what they say. If we can discern from what we hear that those persons are God-fearing and acting uprightly, do we have the strength of spirit to accept why they believe what they do? This is not capitulation; it is understanding. Hopefully, those you are listening to will return the favor and listen to you also. This is the beginning of discourse. Civilized people speaking and listening to each other.

This is what our church and its committees are doing. We are reaching out to folks in our community who need help, who enjoy music, and who enjoy fellowship. You will read in other reports what exactly these committees are doing. It is good work! It is hard work! We should all do whatever we can to help and be part of this work.

I hope that God continues to shine his grace upon our church and each of us.

Peace,
Al Struck
Moderator



CALENDAR

JUNE

7th - 3:45 Mission Committee meet at Myra's

10th - 3:30 *Sharps on the Flat* concert at the Church

June 17th - *Donuts for Dads* - Sunday service

JULY

July 4th - 7:30-10 Wilkins House Breakfast

July 18th - 7:30-10 WH Breakfast

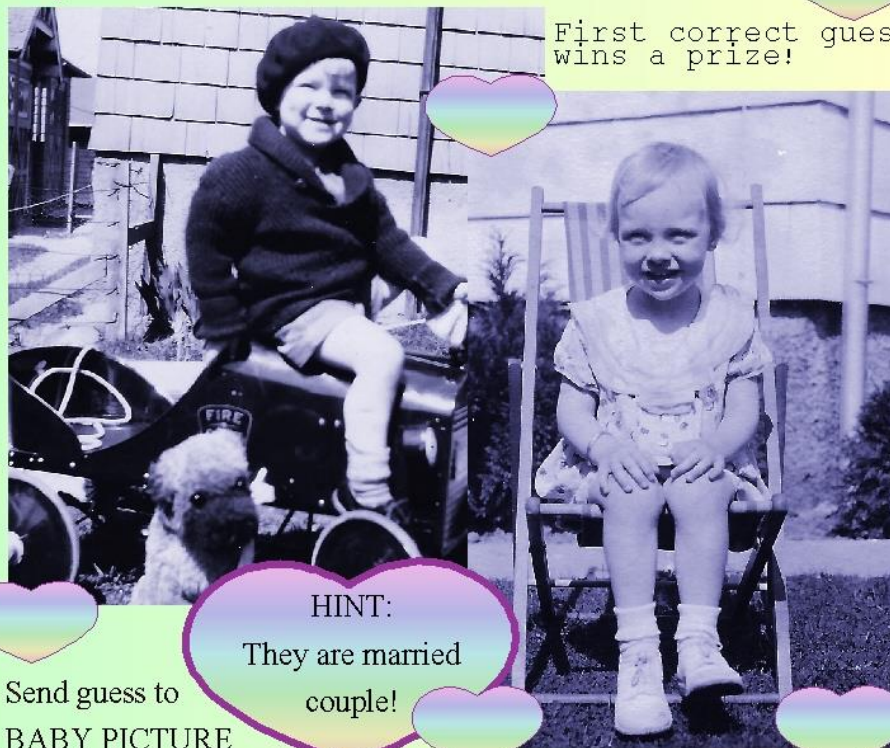
July 29th - Music Sunday - Sunday service followed by ice cream sundaes.

AUGUST

Aug 1st & 15th - 7:30-10 WH Breakfast

Who are these cutie-pies?

First correct guess wins a prize!



HINT:

They are married couple!

Send guess to

BABY PICTURE

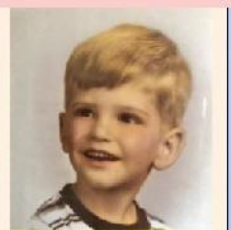
waterfordcongregationalchurch@gmail.com or a written note to Ginny

The answer will be given in the Aug/September newsletter along with the winner's name.

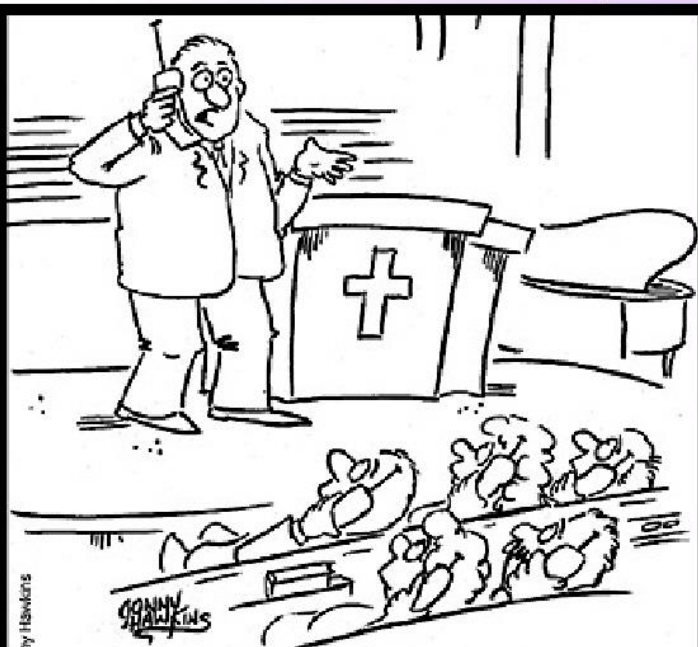
CHECK IT OUT!

[HTTP://UCCWATERFORDME.COM](http://uccwaterfordme.com)

THIS IS A PLACE-HOLDER UNTIL A MORE COMPREHENSIVE SITE CAN BE PLANNED.



The April/May Kindergartner was Kerry Johnson.
The prize-winning guesser was Arlene Whichard!



"Thanks for understanding, in lieu of our malfunctioned sound system"

© 2001 Jonny Hawkins



JUNE

3 Barbara Allen
11 Bill Roy
12 Dianne Morse-Leonard
12 Peter Morse
20 Nancy Engdahl
23 Gale Bell
25 John Wait
26 Kerry Hewson
29 Louann Bell
29 Sharon Roy

JULY

1 Steph Michaud
5 Jane Morse
14 Preston Harrison
17 Jean Struck
18 Ralph MacKinnon
27 Emily Thibodeau

Birthdays

Trustees Report

The winter is over and the trustees have traded their snow shovels in for dirt shovels. We are working on a small meditation garden at the rear of the Church. We will change the rest of the Memorial Garden into lawn. We have had help from two members of the community: Jane Traill has been a great help with the planning of these two areas, and Gardener Waldier helped us take down an unneeded tree. The Nixons are also letting us use their tractor. The trustees appreciate all the help from these people. We hope to have this area completed by mid-June so that everyone will be able to enjoy this new meditation area.

As mentioned in the last news letter, we are planning to have the front of the church and the trim on the Wilkins house painted this summer. We have had three contractors look at the needed work. As of this writing, we are waiting for their quotes. -- For the Trustees, John Wait



Ginny Raymond photos

Dodi & John Wait, Doretta Colburn and Gail Nixon scoping out the new meditative garden space

More thoughts on Meditation area -Work in progress

The Memorial Garden is being downsized to a meditation area that is more maintainable and still honors the memorials that were originally donated. The overall goal is to provide an area that is a meditative spiritual place as an alternative welcome to faith outside the church doors.

The *ad hoc committee* and the trustees had hoped to be further along but have had problems in co-ordinating man-power, materials and machinery. So check it out! -- Dodi Wait



Blanket the World with Love

The Church World Service distributes blankets all over the world. The UCC has a special mission offering once a year, called Blanket Sunday.

Here, Petra and Bruce Whichard showed off the CWR blanket so donations could be collected for this cause on May 13, which was Blanket Sunday.





Stewardship Committee Update

As we near the middle of our fiscal year the Stewardship Committee would like to give you all an update and a “shout out.” As a church community, we have been generous in our giving for 2018 and this has allowed us to do many of the things we hoped to as we entered the year. Our finances are tracking as we had hoped and the level of church activities has increased.

You may recall that this year’s Stewardship appeal was focused on enabling us to actively begin enacting the three elements of our vision—community, spirituality, and music. Of course, we were concerned about sound fiscal management and covering our operating budget, but we also wanted to do something tangible addressing each part of our vision. We’ve done it. We’re doing it. We will continue doing it.

We have again actively joined the library in a number of community efforts, and we’ve joined in our support of the Town’s community-building activities. We have also worked to expand our internal church community through outreach (thanks CAC), and through a more visible effort at welcoming people to our church (thanks Deacons). Our Lenten Booklet was well received not only by our members, but also by our friends in North Waterford. This represents both a commitment to increasing our community-building efforts and our explicit efforts to focus on spirituality. In addition, the meditation space behind the church will be ready for use in a few short weeks. Meanwhile, the music committee continues to bring a wonderful energy not only through the performance of our own choir, but also through the performances of outside musicians. This summer they will highlight the use of outside musicians through several special performances.

There are many other examples of how we are living into our vision of ourselves and of how your individual and collective contributions are making this possible. We should take enormous collective delight in what we have done and what we are doing to continue making ours “the little church with the big heart.” -- Kerry Johnson



News from the Deacons

On May 13th, we celebrated Mother's day with *Mini Muffins for Moms* and a beautiful pink rose given to each woman in the congregation.

Next came Pentecost Sunday which was celebrated with a new banner and altar cloths that were made by Gail Nixon. Red balloons decorated the front of the church. Many people wore red for the occasion.



Myra Maltby photo

Coming up on June 17th, we will have *Donuts for Dads* to celebrate Father's Day. If you are a dad, an uncle or just are really kid-friendly guy (and who's not?), you deserve a donut!

The Deacons have decided to launch a new committee to identify and serve the most vulnerable members of our church community. Named the *Care and Calling Committee*, the Deacons have volunteered, in consultation with Petra, to match members of the congregation who are ill, grieving, injured, or otherwise struggling in life with a Deacon who will check in often, visit, offer rides, food and other support as needed. If you are interested in being on the list of people in need of support, or if you are interested in being a person who offers support, please speak to one of the Deacons.

Thank you to Gail for her work on the Pentecost banner and altar cloths. -- Myra Maltby



Our new Pentecost banner

News from the CAC

The 2018 Lenten booklet was a great success! We appreciate all the thoughtful pieces of writings you all contributed. Sally and the CAC are looking for a new theme for the 2019 booklet. This time we would like to include the summer folk and also have a follow-up program during Lent. If you have any theme ideas, contact Sally Holm. This year's theme was *Surprised by God*.



In April, a group of eleven visited the Maine State Museum in Augusta. The museum has 4 floors of Maine artifacts and exhibits. They were treated to a viewing of Waterford artifacts contributed by Jane Kimball's family. Everyone gathered at a nearby restaurant before heading back to Waterford.



On June 10th, the Music Committee is planning a musical program at 3:30 in the church. The CAC has volunteered to handle refreshments for the intermission. There is a sign up sheet on the choir rail if you would like to help by making cookies or bars.

We are planning a ferry cruise to Bailey Island on Monday, June 25th. The Casco Bay Lines terminal is located on Commercial Street where parking is available in their garage. The ferry departs at 10 a.m. and arrives at the island at noon. During the cruise, we hope to see several kinds of marine life. When we arrive, we can have lunch at Cook's Restaurant which is right at the dock. For an extra fee, you can stay on the boat and go on another cruise to view marine life. The ferry will then leave the island at 2 p.m. to arrive back at Portland at 4. The group rate for the trip per individual is \$21.25. We shall meet at the church at 7:45 to car pool. Please sign up so that we can let Casco Bay Lines know how many to expect.

July 29th is "Make a Joyful Noise Sundae" with North Waterford and Harrison joining us. Following service, the CAC will again be serving make-your-own sundaes in the Wilkins House. - Nancy Engdahl



Music News

Choir has been busy rehearsing some new music purchased recently. You will hear these wonderful pieces throughout the summer!

Hold the date, June 10th, for our first of the series concert, *Sharps on the Flat*, featuring OHUG and Vocal Solution. The concert will be at 3:30.

On July 29, we will hold Music Sunday during our regular worship service. This service will be filled with hymn singing, special music, and choir!

Choir will take some intermittent Sundays off during the summer. If you would like to offer music for a worship service, please contact me! -- Jane Morse. 461-0460



Thank you to our musicians who play when the Choir is not singing. And thank you to Kay Leslie who plays with the choir.

Pictured:, Al Struck, Denny Raymond and Joann Fillebrown
Ginny Raymond photos



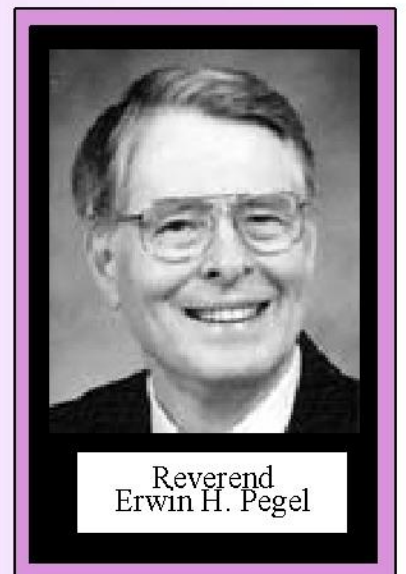
A piece of history...

In thinking back to church in Waterford in the early 1970's when Rev. Erwin Pegel was here, the town population was much younger, and there were a lot of children around. Of course the Pegels had five children which was a bonus.

We had a large Sunday school with about five classes. There were anywhere from 4 to 8 or so in each class. We also had a youth choir led by Mrs. Pegel and a Sunday evening youth fellowship.

For a while, there was an adult Bible study. Clara Hamlin and I were co-superintendents of the Sunday school. We took the kids roller skating, on picnics, to Popham Beach, to a live Nativity in Bethel and other places. In June, we had a Children's Sunday with a program put on with the kids taking part and at Christmas time a program at the Wilkins House.

It was a very active time for our church. -- Jane Kimball



Wilkins House News

Thank you for your support of the Wilkins Community House. Our potluck suppers have drawn to a close, but the good news is that we have the summer breakfasts to look forward to! They will commence on Wednesday July 4 and continue every two weeks on Wednesdays, July 18, August 1 & 15. We rely heavily on a super volunteer staff to man the kitchen and the dining room to make the magic happen. To volunteer, email Ginny at wilkinshouse1797@gmail.com or call 583-7357.

Thank you to all who do help us and also to all who come to the breakfasts and pot luck suppers to benefit your Wilkins House.

We always look forward to having you participate in each event.

The Wilkins House is a wonderful venue for birthday parties, family anniversaries and other special occasions. To schedule, please contact Nancy Eaton at 756-9522. Thank you. -- Denny Raymond



Ralph MacKinnon hard at work washing dishes, August 2017!

Ginny Raymond photo

News from the Pews

Plate family news

Joy & Henry became Great-grandparents in January!



Here are Joy & Henry with their Great-grandson, Jameson Cote, who is the son of Kelsey & Mathieu Cote, and grandson to Bob & Kathy Plate



News from the Pews Pictures from Jane Morse

Kelsey (Morse) Brockett graduated on May 12 from USM with her Masters degree in counseling.

(Jane's grandson, Owyn 😊)



News from the pews

Honor Flight Maine - Bobbi Whichard

On Saturday, May 26th Ralph Sylvester and Bobbi Whichard joined Arlene, Bruce and Jared at a Memorial Day weekend Veterans Appreciation event, held at Rowe Ford in Auburn.



The event, sponsored by Rowe Ford and partnered with Honor Flight Maine, was focused on thanking Veterans for their service and giving them an opportunity to gather together. The event also supported Honor Flight Maine in its mission to provide more Veterans with the opportunity to experience their Memorials in Washington, DC.

There were a number of Veterans and Guardians who had been on previous HFM flights, and other Veterans that look forward to going on a future HFM flight. We all enjoyed the company, refreshments and entertainment. We all had a great time!!

A similar event was held at Rowe Ford of Westbrook.



Going out of business sale, after 15 years we're closing the Wilkins House Yard Sale. First sale July 4th, everything fifty percent off. Last sale will be Aug 15th

News from the Pews:

Dianne Morse-Leonard talks about upcoming retirement.

After 36 years of teaching in the Oxford Hills School District, I am retiring this June. I started as a special education teacher at the Guy E. Rowe School straight out of college (UMF). My first job filled my life with challenge and joy as I helped students with intellectual challenges learn that they could do more than anyone ever expected. I also developed life-long friendships with some of my students' families, and my colleagues, specifically Jane Keyes (Morse) who eventually became my sister-in-law.



Later, I trained in Reading Recovery™, learning how to work with students to teach from their strengths to foster more independence at reading. This was such a boost to my teaching that I switched to become a Title 1 Reading Interventionist so I could teach Reading Recovery™ half my day and small groups the rest of the day. Since 2003, I have taught RR in six of SAD 17's eight elementary schools (including Waterford Memorial, where I went to school).

Along the way I got a Master's Degree in Special Education and another one in Literacy and was on several district and school committees. Although most of the staff has changed, I have been fortunate to return to the Rowe school to end my career where I started it.

I am sure I will miss my students and colleagues a lot, I am looking forward to pursuing my interests (including travel, crafts and more) that have taken a back seat to work for all these years.



News from the Pews From Karen Shellnut

Henry and Joy's grandson, Austin, asked his girlfriend, Brittany to marry him and she said yes!! He proposed in Zion National Park in Utah. So ANOTHER wedding in the picture for Joy and Henry!



News from the pews

James Long reports on Caren's surprise

What a surprise for Caren: to get to work and find her desk all decorated for her thirty years of service at the hospital as *Head of Communications* since April 18, 1988.

So this year on April 18th, there was an ice storm, covering roads, so I drove Caren to work. I am glad I did! I did not know they were doing this for her, and I would have missed it! She was so surprised she started to cry a little bit.

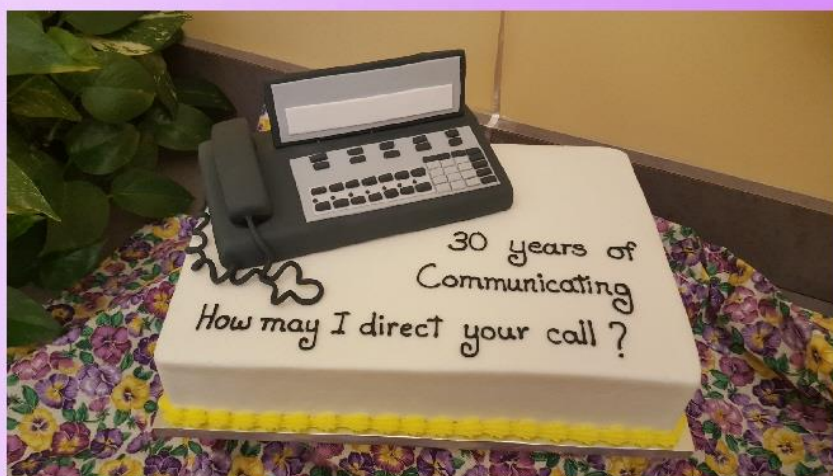


As a lot of people know, I send flowers to her every Monday. So I called the florist and asked them to do the flowers with something to coincide with the celebration. They came up with a Lily Tomlin picture to go with the flowers.



The cake was from the hospital along with the crank phone on loan from the museum. They really decorated her work station in grand style. She was so surprised, it was wonderful !!

Caren takes all calls. She knows where to send calls if a doctor or department head is at another location, at a meeting, or on vacation. She greets people, answers all their questions and sends them to the different departments. She has done this for the whole thirty years!



News from the Pews

Doretta Colburn

Launches Campaign for Maine House

Doretta Colburn of Waterford who owns and operates the Beech Hill Bison Farm with her husband Ted, has launched her campaign to represent District 71 in the Maine House of Representatives. She brings a passionate new voice to the western Maine district that includes Waterford, Sweden, Norway, and W. Paris.



Darylann Leonard photo
Doretta Colburn with Grace, the bison she
and Ted raised from birth.

That voice comes from a strong and varied background as a science teacher, a 20-year ministry in the United Church of Christ—most recently in N. Waterford, and years of organic farming and herding on the property that has been in her husband's family for four generations. She is running because she believes in promoting a platform of justice, equality, fairness and social responsibility.

Colburn has a strong background in leading and serving the community. She has served three terms as president of the local Rotary Club, sits on the Waterford Library Board, and on the board of the Waterford World's Fair where she developed and runs an annual program to teach young children about agriculture.

This past year, members of Colburn's family have moved to Waterford to help make the family farm successful and sustainable. Her sister and brother-in-law, Sharon and Preston Harrison, have become regular attendees at the Waterford Congregational Church, where Colburn has served as a substitute pastor since retiring from N. Waterford five years ago. Her daughter and son-in-law, Erin and Ed Girzone, have also moved to town and in addition to helping on the farm, have opened a wellness studio called *Good Health Is a Habit* that offers yoga, fitness and Zumba classes. They also have two young sons.

Colburn is running a clean elections campaign, which limits the amount of contributions she can take from individuals and groups to \$5.00. For more on Colburn's values, positions, ideas and background, and to make a donation, please go to her website: dorettaforhouse.com.

And don't forget to join us at the campaign kick-off at the bison farm on Sunday, June 3 from 2-4. Bring the kids, enjoy the music by Skipp Green's blues band, and thrill to the sight of newborn bison!

News from the Pews:

Kenya trip with the Rotary, Carol Madsen



This spring, on a Rotary Mission of 40+ Rotary Clubs from southern Maine and coastal NH, Carol Madsen visited Kakamega Orphans Care Center in Kakamega, Kenya. Pictured (left) are some of the children from the center and local community on Easter Sunday, and also pictured (right) is a young woman who attended entrepreneurial training in agriculture at the center. She is pictured with her husband and Care Center staff.

On the mission, Carol was so moved by the experience that she is sponsoring Eurick, an 8 year old boy, and Godoma, a 3 year old orphaned elephant.



News from the Pews:

Road Scholar, Best of Scotland tour

Mid May the Waterford Library Mystery Book Club did its first international journey. Gail & Ted Nixon, Mary & Bill Colbath, and Carol Madsen & Ted Gerber joined 24 others on a Road Scholar Best of Scotland tour taking us over the highlands, islands, small towns and big cities of this beautiful country.

It gave us an opportunity to experience the environment some of our favorite authors wrote about or placed their characters in. That and much more! Our capable guides introduced us to the history, the environment, the music & poetry and the people of Scotland. It gave many of us a chance to delve into our roots, because over the years, that part of the world was settled by Vikings, Romans, Irish, Spanish, English, early Scots and more. -- Carol Madsen



An evening of
Scottish tunes
and dancing



Loch Loman



A black highland cow is rare. Most are brown today like the cows at Thunder Hill Farm here in Waterford.



Beautiful
town
square in
Oban

WATERFORD BREAKFASTS

Wilkins House, Plummer Hill Road



With selections of scrambled eggs,
bacon, sausage and pancakes;
also serving muffins, donut holes,
coffee, juice.

All Breakfasts served
7:30-10 a.m.

Wednesdays

July 4th & 18th

August 1th & 15th