

Waterford Congregational Church UCC

Minister: Rev. Doretta Colburn

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Because of Covid-19, our actual church services are suspended until further notice. Visit our website to see and hear videos of Rev. Doretta Colburn's armchair sermons, together with Bible readings and musical offerings.



Newsletter - November 2020



THOUGHTS FROM THE PULPIT...

Beloved family and friends,

This year the autumn color seemed to linger for a longer time than I have remembered in the past. The reds, yellows and gold blending with the green of fir and pine to create a masterful patchwork of color across the hills our farm looks out on. The weather has been mild, as well, giving more opportunity to take in the beauty and wonder as we work around the farm and, not often enough, take time to relax in our Adirondack chairs after a good day's work.



Now the darkness comes early. Our workday is limited by the shortening daylight hours. Our chickens have been heading into the coop around 4:00 p.m. to settle in for the night. It is a time of turning within. The woodstove cranking out heat, the harvest of vegetables stored away and more time to delve into the stack of reading I have accumulated. It is a time I usually find comfort in, yet it is more challenging this year. It is not the welcome rest that it generally has been after a busy summer with family and friends coming and going. I'm a bit more saddened by the reality that I am longing for those cherished times. Still...the phone calls, the cards, the virtual chats and minimal contact have been something, and I treasure them for what they are. As a church family and wonderful community we have each been finding our way, adjusting to the changes the virus has caused. We have created our own personal "pods" in which we feel safe among selected family and friends. We have found ways to stay connected through technology, notes, and happenstance encounters when we might end up at the same place at the same time. How we relish those moments.

On the occasions I have stopped by the church, I have found solace in its physical presence. It is a beacon of hope standing fast as the world rides out this latest “storm” that has crept into our lives. I imagine the history our little church has witnessed, the celebrations and the sorrow, standing as a vigilant reminder of our faith and a hope for all who pass by. While the Revere Bell has remained quiet for months now, the doors closed and the sanctuary silent, it continues to convey its message of all-encompassing love.

I see this time as a pregnant pause in our history — a moment when by doing things differently, we have grown in ways we never before considered. Examined what is important to us. Strengthened our faith in God, one another and ourselves. Reshaped the meaning of what it is to be the church. Imagine with me what it will look like when we do re-gather in worship. What a grand celebration it will be! In this time of waiting and watching, growing and redefining, we are becoming a stronger community with a deeper, higher sense of purpose and mission. Some of that is revealed in the invitation to join in our upcoming program about race that you will read more about in this newsletter.

I had not completed a full year as your pastor when the pandemic hit and our church doors closed. One might look at this timing and say, “how unfortunate”, but I will tell you from the bottom of my heart, that being your pastor during these months has been immeasurably profound and fulfilling. Difficult times call for strength and faith. You have demonstrated that in remarkable ways. Times of crisis and change require flexibility and adaptability. You have mastered that, as well.

I have heard it said that being away from a church routine has negative effects on church involvement when we do get to re-gather. I believe the opposite to be true. We have not grown apart, but have grown together in even more meaningful ways. I look forward to that day of re-gathering, as much as you do. Until then, we will continue to be the church for each other and our community, building lasting relationships of love and care.

Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas will be different this year, but no less meaningful. I encourage you to take this time to deeply ponder the significance of each of these celebrations – gratitude for abundant life and joy in this time of waiting and watching for the light that promises to dispel our current darkness. May the truth of Emmanuel, God with us, fill all of your days with hope.

With immeasurable blessings, *Doretta*

LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR...November 3, 2020

Good Morning, I just got back from my walk with friends here on the flat — a great way to start the day. While waiting for one of our group, Ted Nixon and I stood on the James Tyler Island and yelled at cars and trucks going by, encouraging them to vote today. Thumbs up from everyone! This was a great feeling during a time when it feels like whatever I do has little impact. However, as I look at what our hardy group of Church Council members and Congregants are doing, I am reminded of the impact we **do** have on this community.



The Deacons are planning Advent and Christmas activities that are safe for all. The CAC is getting Turkey Baskets ready for Thanksgiving. Our fuel fund is ready to help those caught short by the cold weather. All these efforts make a positive change on folks — one person, one family at a time.

We have spiritual guidance through our weekly online service — the folks who read the scriptures; Jane with the weekly choir anthem; George surprising us with different community organs to accompany our hymns; and, of course, our spiritual leader, Doretta, bringing it all home with messages of love and hope in these trying times. There are few places, if any, that I would rather be during this time of pandemic. There are no other people with whom I would rather be — people who practice loving their neighbor safely with thoughtful gestures. We are

living our Church Vision by reaching out to our congregation, our neighbors, and community with unconditional love and hope. Unconditional is the key word. We are doing what Jesus told us to do to make this a better world. No matter what the future brings, we have each other to get strength from...then we hear the calm, small voice saying what we are doing is right and good.

Stay well. God loves you all. Peace, *Al*

MISSION MEMO...

- Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Here's a big Thank-You to Nancy for all the work she puts into organizing the Thanksgiving Baskets — supplying a basket to at least 15 families this year.
- In December we will have the opportunity to give to the "Christmas Fund" which helps to provide pension and health premiums supplementation to low-income clergy and church workers. What a wonderful way to say thank-you for their many years of service. Please send your gifts to PO Box 59.



Mission Chair, *Pam*

TRUSTEE'S REPORT...

We continue to monitor the Church building and the Wilkins House during this period of shutdown. The Friends of the Wilkins House have decided that they will not have any activities in the Wilkins House until their yearly meeting in May 2021. In the meantime, the buildings have been placed in winter mode and will be monitored on a weekly basis. The furnaces in both buildings are in good condition. The outside grounds and the meditation garden have been prepared for the long winter. If there are any issues to be addressed, please let us know.



Regards from the Trustees: *John Wait, Kerry Johnson, Richard Maurer*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT...

We hope you received your pledge letter for 2021. This has been a difficult year for many in our church community, but also a remarkable lesson in how we can support one another even when we can't get together in person. Our Pastor, Doretta Colburn, our musicians, led by Jane Morse and George Weiss, and our other church members have led us as we have supported each other in our faith community.

We have also been able to manage our expenses due to the Finance Committee's careful attention to detail. We made capital improvements while, at the same time, we had lower day-to-day expenses. Our biggest expense is salaries, which have remained about the same as last year. Our church's commitment to our staff, and their's to our congregation, has been wonderful to experience. We are truly blessed that we can meet our salary commitments, and are even more blessed that our staff and others have committed themselves to so faithfully to our community. The major impact on our financial situation has been the loss of our Sunday Service collections, making your pledges more important than ever. Without your pledges we may face a tough time meeting our obligations. If you've pledged in the past, or have given your offering in person on Sundays, "Thank You." Our request of you this year is to pledge, whether you've done so before or not. We will honor your gifts and use them wisely in support of all we do as a community of faith.

Your Stewardship Committee,

Kerry Johnson, Dodi Wait, Ralph MacKinnon, Barbara Allen, & Jean Struck

MUSIC NOTES...



I have been reviewing all of the music we have done remotely since April and it is a long list! This process started with me singing and playing each week during April, through mid-July. Our first virtual choir piece was uploaded for the July 19th service; I was very happy that we learned how to do this! (I was running out of songs to sing!) Thank you to the choir members and Kay Leslie for recording for our virtual choir. Here's how it works:

1. I send the weekly music selection to Kay, who then plays beautifully while Peter records for her. (Thank you, Peter!)
2. I then send out her piano track to all of the choir members along with the music.
3. Choir members listen to the piano part through headphones while recording their voice onto another device. (Ginny and Denny Raymond assist with recording some folks.)
4. Choir members send me their recording track, which consists of just their own voice singing. (This can be very intimidating at first!)
5. I take all of the tracks and put them into a computer program named "Amadeus". (Thank you to Kevin Murphy for helping me with this!)
6. Then I align them each to the piano track, taking out the sounds that are not music (except for the cat solo at the end of one piece).
7. I listen to each track and fix anything else that stands out...clearing of throat, etc. and adjust the volume of each person to make a nice blend.
8. Then I put them altogether and listen to our wonderful choir singing to Kay's beautiful accompaniment!
9. Saving it to a file, I email it to Ginny, who puts the song onto the website. (Ginny is amazing!)

Several nice hymns are planned for November and some new music is chosen for Advent. Stay tuned! Wishing you safety, warmth, and love through the rest of 2020 and pray that we all will meet again soon!

Yours in song, *Jane Morse*, Music Director

DEACONS' UPDATE...

The Deacon's meet monthly and are looking at ways to bring the spirit of our church to life for everyone. It is a challenge with virus numbers going up recently.

- Advent begins on Sunday **November 29th**. Each deacon will choose a Sunday during Advent to light the Advent Candle. These will be added to the webpage, along with the scripture readings and the sermons from Doretta. Jane and George will continue with their beautiful music.



- We will host a ZOOM COFFEE HOUR on **November 29th at 11:00** and again on **December 27th at 11:00**. You will receive a link from Stephenie before each ZOOM. If these are successful, we will continue them monthly.

- Doretta continues to include a Prayer list weekly. If you would like to add someone to the list, feel free to call/email Doretta, or any of the deacons, and we will be sure to add your request.

Please stay healthy and safe this Holiday Season. Shalom, *Pam*

Ever since the March decision to suspend indoor worship services, Doretta has delivered a weekly sermon, each based on the scripture of the week. They have been uplifting and rich with messages of love. And several times a week, she has followed up with Reflections on a wide variety of subjects. Although they have been available on our website, it was suggested that they might be combined into a booklet for a wider audience. With the blessing of the Church Council, Doretta and Sally Holm have organized them into a booklet, called **Spiritual Strength for Troubled Times**, that covers March through October. We will distribute them to Church members and make them available to friends in neighboring communities through churches, libraries, and town offices. We are eager to spread God's love through the generous gifts of our Pastor. Look for yours in mid-December!

NEWS FROM THE CHURCH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE...

The CAC and the Council joined forces this year to continue our Thanksgiving Basket program. We shall be delivering Thanksgiving baskets to 15 Waterford families. Delivery will be on Sunday, November 22. Volunteers, bring your bags to church between 10-10:15. Six cars will be waiting. Find out which driver will be taking your offerings. Remember to keep frozen food solidly frozen since it will be 4 days before Thanksgiving. **Thank you** to all who make this program successful.



Our church has always supported **Waterford Santa**. This year, because of the pandemic, Melissa York will be doing things differently. Once gift requests start coming in, Melissa will post them online. Follow the directions below:

1. Go to the Waterford Santa Facebook Page to see if requests have been posted.
2. If you wish to purchase that gift, put your name in "comments." Make sure no one else's name is there.
3. Melissa will check each night and remove the gift requests that have been taken.
4. Melissa will let you know that you are responsible for that gift. Make sure you copy the info from the card, including family letter, child's number, and name of gift.
5. Return your wrapped gift to Town Office by December 16. Make sure you attach a card with all the info listed above.

Melissa says that \$ donations are welcome. If you have trouble finding a gift online, call her, and she will give you a gift to purchase. *Melissa Lessard-York - waterfordsanta@yahoo.com - 583-2446*

Greetings from the CAC, *Nancy Engdahl*

ANNOUNCEMENT...

News from the Maine School of Ministry (MESOM)

Please Save the Dates!

**Please Watch for Registration Information & Links Coming Soon
on the Maine Conference UCC Website**

Two new MESOM Fall 2020 Zoom Workshops - All are welcome!

1) Saturday afternoon Nov. 21st

1:30 - 3:30 pm on Zoom, \$10 Registration Fee

"Pulpit Supply in the Covid Era"

-- led by MESOM student Lindy Howe of the Living Waters Association

2) Saturday afternoon Dec. 5th

1:30 - 3:30 pm on Zoom, \$10 Registration Fee

"Being / Becoming a Deacon in the Small Church"

**-- led by Nancy Lewis, former Chair of Deacons at Centre Street UCC Church in
Machias, Maine**



The Rev. Dr. Ron Beard, Acting Dean, Maine School of Ministry

Maine Conference, UCC, 337 State Street, Suite 3, Augusta, ME 04330

Office Phone: [207-622-3100](tel:207-622-3100) x. 104

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LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE - DISCUSSIONS

Sponsored by the Waterford Congregational Church, UCC, Waterford, ME

Join us in ongoing discussions about our relationship with race, specifically the privilege we have as white members of society. This program is based on the curriculum "White Privilege: Let's Talk, A Resource for Transformational Dialogue" created by the United Church of Christ, designed to invite members to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive and bold conversations on race.



Where: Zoom

Who: Interested church and community members, hosted by co-facilitators: Rev. Doretta Colburn, Al Struck and Dianne Morse-Leonard

When: Monthly: Wednesday December 9th 6:30-8:00 pm
Wednesday January 20th 6:30-8:00
Wednesday February 17th 6:30-8:00
Wednesday March 17th 6:30- 8:00
Wednesday April 21st 6:30-8:00
Wednesday May 19th 6:30-8:00

How: Sessions will include whole group and break-out groups via Zoom.

Why: Why do we, here in Waterford Maine, in an essentially all-white church need to discuss issues of race? In the UCC article, "Why Does My White Church Have to Talk About Race?" this question is answered as follows: "White" is a race just as much as "Black". We need to realize conversations about race are not just about people of color. Our Whiteness should be examined in the safe space of our church community. We can look at the way we tend to lump all people of color together when talking about an aggressive or violent act but if a white person has committed a similar crime, it is that one individual that has the problem, not white people in general.

There are white people who feel undermined by actions of justice and equality. These people support those in our leadership who tout racist, and sexist rhetoric. Black people alone cannot stop this sort of hate speech and thought. As the article states " The hands-on work of dismantling this level of hatred falls upon white people who remember history, who see the danger and want to see an end. You don't need people of color in your town or church to do this collective internal work of dismantling racism." We all have blind spots in regards to racism and as people of faith we need to become aware of these blind spots and dismantle them.

What: (the specifics) During our six monthly discussions we will have large group discussions, watch short videos, break out into small groups and have a chance to journal about our own experiences and understandings. There will be opportunities to read between group meetings as well as to do self-reflective writing. By the end of the sessions we each will have the beginnings of an autobiography of how race, privilege and power have impacted our lives' stories. Participants will be invited to share their writing with the group, on a voluntary basis only.

To Register: Contact Al Struck at alstruck49@gmail.com by Sunday, Nov. 22nd

...WE REMEMBER...

Richard Bardwell Lyman, Jr.

1936 - August 23, 2020



Born in New York City, Dick graduated from Bowdoin College as a member of the ROTC program in 1957. He received his PhD from Harvard University and taught at Bowdoin College, Simmons College, and Brandeis University. He lived in Sweden, Maine during vacations from 1973 and full-time since 2011. He put much energy into exploring the history of this area and founded the Sweden Historical Society in 1978. He studied the area's geology, history, and people from the Ice Age to the present, and loved to share his findings with walks and talks each summer. From the 1970's he was closely affiliated with the

Sweden Community Church, but during the winters he happily drove over the hills to the Waterford Church. He especially loved the sermons and services of Anita White and Doretta Colburn. We will miss his friendship, his love for his dog, Calliope, and his gentle, witty sense of humor...including his coffee hour "puns."



Peony picking at Meg Wheeler's Waterford home on a beautiful, sunny day...about 10 years ago.

Several of these smiling women are, sadly, no longer with us. (indicates deceased)*

*L to R: Marion Brennan, *Meg Trinward, *Phyllis Hammett, *Joann Fillebrown, *Lois Grigg, *Agnes Lahti, Joy Plate, Joanne MacKinnon*



We hope you enjoy receiving the Waterford Church Newsletter. Perhaps you know someone who would like to be added to our newsletter email list. Or...perhaps you would like your name added to our birthday list; Or...should you choose to unsubscribe,...please email Kay Leslie, Newsletter Editor. (ksleslie@me.com)

Doing Wood...Al Struck

OK kids...we need to get the wood stacked outside and bring it under cover in the wood shed. Appropriate groans and dragging of feet. Assembly of stuff needed - gloves, work clothes, and wagon . Assignment of work station - outside taking wood off the pile, pulling the wagon, throwing the wood into the shed, stacking the wood in the shed and overseer (whip optional...snacks essential).

The day is bright sun, fluffy clouds in the robin's egg blue sky with temperature in the high 40's. In other words...perfect. Klunk. Klunk. Klunk. The pieces of wood come off the pile and land in the wagon. Not fast, but steady. A rhythm develops. One, two, buckle my shoe; three, four, shut the door. Turns are taken saying each word, then the volume of voices go loud or soft, then the kind of voice deep, high, squeaky, raspy. Was that Miss Piggy? One of the kids tries to turn it into a rap rhythm. Laughing and smiles replace grimaces. Soon two wagons are in operation so while one is being trundled over to the shed the other is being loaded.



The shed crew has their own system. Have to get the wood from the door to the beginning of the row. One person kneeling on the floor picking up the stick handing it to a person standing to put the stick on the row. Look for the perfect pieces to make the end squares. Make sure the row is straight and won't topple over. 60 pieces to a wagon load. Just happens to be the amount that fills the woodbox too. We lose count of the number of wagons. This row is November, this one will get us half thru December. Now into the new year, still have a row and a half plus what is stacked at the end of the shed. Wood looks good and dry. Locust, Maple, Oak, some Beech, a bit of Birch.

Break time. Don't have to say it twice. Coffee all steamy. Milk and Cookies. Quiet talk. Looking at the rows done. Imagining the dwindling stack outside. Been at it two hours. Might get it in before 1, if we keep at it. We all agree we can do it. Break is over. One, two, buckle my shoe...three, four, shut the door...

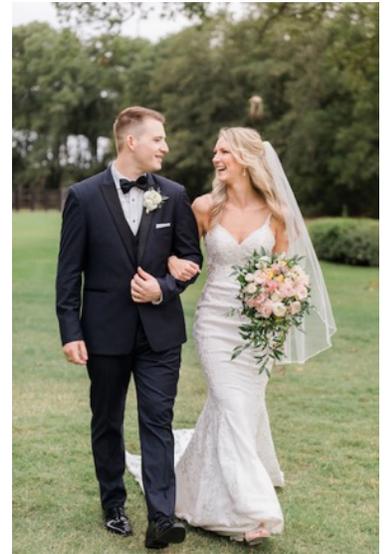
 **Plate Family News**

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." - Ephesians 5:21

September 4, 2020...

Taylor S. Mund (Henry and Joy Plate's granddaughter)...*Our biggest desire for our wedding day was that God would be glorified through our marriage. And He answered – reminding us that marriage is about more than the wedding and allowing us to experience His and each other's faithfulness as we made our vows with only a handful of people watching earlier this year. What a blessing it was though to get to celebrate big again! We didn't need it and didn't "deserve" it, but...it was so special and perfect.*

Cole Mund..."What a joy it is to be married to you, to relive the most special moments from this day, and yes, to submit to you."



This is a pillow made from Joy's wedding dress that was used to carry the rings in the ceremony. Even though grandma and grandpa couldn't be there physically, this pillow represented them and their 62 years of marriage ❤️

Austin (Joy & Henry's grandson) & Brittany Shelnett gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Haley Joy, on September 30th, making Karen a "Gigi" and J & H great grandparents for the 4th time!!



Karen Shelnett



Haley Joy Shelnett



Austin Shelnett



At left: Most of Bob and Kathy Plate's family gather at the farm last summer

😊 **Hello from the Raymonds...!**

We are very slowly getting moved in. It will take most of 2021 to get really settled. Maybe even more!!! Quite a lot to do moving from one style home to another. We have been painting and moving furniture to different places to try this and that out. Plus, I am determined to empty a box or two each day.



But moving-in is only a fraction of our lives. As many of you know, we are active in Maine Sheltie Rescue (www.MaineSheltieRescue.org). Just as I run the Church website, I am also responsible for the MSR website. Also, Denny and I foster homeless Shelties that come our way. We just placed Osa Bear, who came to live with us for a month. Osa is a Sheltie Mix that came into the Kennebunk shelter with fleas, not-spayed and with a growth on her leg. A very anxious dog, she did not prosper in the shelter, so they reached out to MSR. She was quite a handful, but extremely affectionate. With patience and training, she settled into our home. MSR found the perfect forever home for her with chickens, rabbits, a brother (Lhasso-Apso Poodle mix) dog named Boogie and a couple cats. Osa sleeps under the covers with their 18 year old daughter. A match made in heaven.

We are missing everyone. Not to wish winter away, but sure think spring will be a nice welcome when/if we can all visit together again.

👶 **Myra's Happy News...**

The newest member of my family: Great grandson "Emory Olin Juneja" was welcomed into this world on September 24th.



🏠 **News from the Colbaths...**

Mary and Bill have announced the sale of their Keoka cottage. We all wish them well and look forward to seeing them soon!





Brenda Hambleton Reports...



2021 is the 50th anniversary of the Keoka Lake Association. KLA was founded to ensure that our beautiful lake is protected for future generations. In honor of the anniversary we are putting together a book on the history of Keoka Lake. If you have stories, photos, art, memorabilia of your, your ancestors, your pets, wildlife enjoying the lake please send them to Brenda Hambleton at blhambleton@gmail.com. This book showcases our wonderful

community and heritage and will be available in the spring. Thanks!



Sally & Kerry's Very Good News...

In May, our daughter, Wynne Johnson, completed all requirements for her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Earth Sciences from Lesley University in Cambridge, MA. Like so many schools, Lesley decided to hold a virtual graduation. Wynne had already bought a small-fry cap and gown for Gabe to wear, which he happily did. Then, almost immediately, she found a job in the field of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) which is the leading therapy for treating autism with children. In the midst of the COVID quarantine, they moved out of their Cambridge apartment and into a duplex with a deck and a back yard in Marblehead. So now, they are close to his school and her work, and live a five-minute walk from the beach. Blessings upon Blessings! We are so proud of Wynne and her study-buddy, Gabey. When told the great news, he responded, "Hooray! No more homework!"



The Morse Grandchildren at the Playground...

Jane and Peter's grandchildren, Owyn and Ivy, enjoy Werner Park in South Waterford!



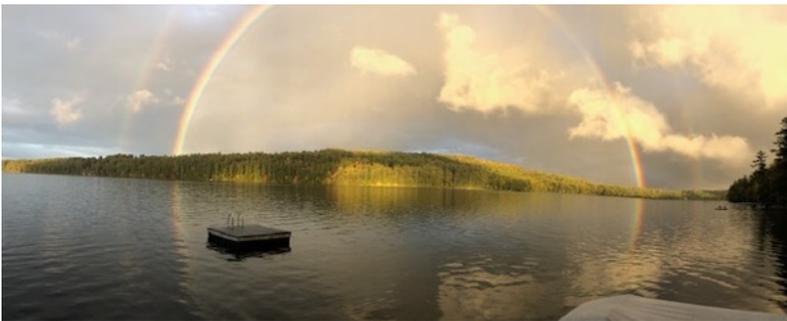


Karen Fillebrown's Ocean Adventures...

During these trying times of COVID-19 I've basically been following the rules - going out only when necessary and staying home puttering around. When I begin to feel boxed in, I go with a friend on an adventure to the ocean, which is my place of peace. I get rejuvenated listening to the tide coming in and going out. I also collect sea glass and drift wood. I take a healthy walk on the beach to take the kinks out of the legs. I want you all to meet George, my new boyfriend (see photo below), who is located at The Taste of Maine restaurant. Bo enjoys being outside running around on the beaches and playing with other dogs. Now that it's getting colder, we bundle up!



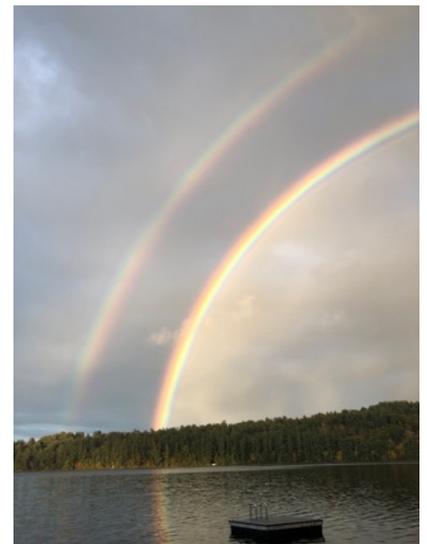
Bill Roy's Amazing Rainbow...



A neighbor's son and I were hanging out on our screen porch, due to the rain that was drizzling down, when the sun broke through and out popped this amazing rainbow.

We both ran down to our dock to view it and were astounded when it not only showed BOTH ends but then it became a double rainbow and with the reflection on the pond appeared to be a full circle! We were like little boys again, in awe of the beauty and of how special it was for us to share that moment together.

It was a moment of hope and promise that things would get better, after almost 7 months of COVID and the stress of the upcoming election. It lifted our spirits to the possibility that our world can be a better place, where fear, hate and division no longer hold sway...Also it was very cool to see...



Another Challenge for the Waits...

We continue to be busy during these pandemic months, with another Maine Adaptive Challenge. The challenge that we chose to do is called the "The Stage Race: Virtual ULTRA Marathon." The Stage Race links many of the program locations across Maine and covers 299.9 miles and is virtually a five-stage loop around a good portion of the state.

299.9 miles...are we nuts? The key is that this race is a challenge by choice — we may walk, hike, run, paddle, chop wood, etc. Any purposeful 15 minutes of exercise is equal to 1 mile. We entered the race as a team; we keep track of our activities each day and record them in a log to be submitted by January 1st.

Stage One of the race ended at Robert's Farm. John and I hiked 4 miles in the preserve, one of Maine Adaptive's program sites for Nordic Activities, and were able to record 8 miles. We are just amazed at the number of miles we have logged to this point and have no doubts about actually finishing.

This Responsive Reading, taken from the Sacredise website, is from one of our church bulletins in 2019. It resonated with me and it has been posted on our refrigerator ever since. During these pandemic months I have read it often and hope it resonates with others the way it has with me.



Life can be tough to navigate, God,
so much that is uncertain,
so much that is unpredictable;
so many detours,
so many uncharted paths;
And yet, amazingly, you do not leave us to find our way alone;
In your grace we find a path,
a compass,
a guide;
Your grace is a shelter, open for anyone who wants in,
and it does offer protection
from the worst of whatever storms we face.
And though we know we haven't done anything to earn it,
we thank you that we can find rest,
in the midst of life's turbulence,
in the shelter of your grace."



The Leslies Enjoy Two Special Days...



Peter had a true surprise when both of our children (Martha Jean & Patrick) secretly arrived to celebrate his October birthday. They each stayed for a week and on one lovely fall day we went to the Maine Mineral and Gem Museum in Bethel. It is truly an amazing world-class institution! We then took our sandwiches to the covered bridge in Newry and had a walk along the river. The fall foliage was beautiful!

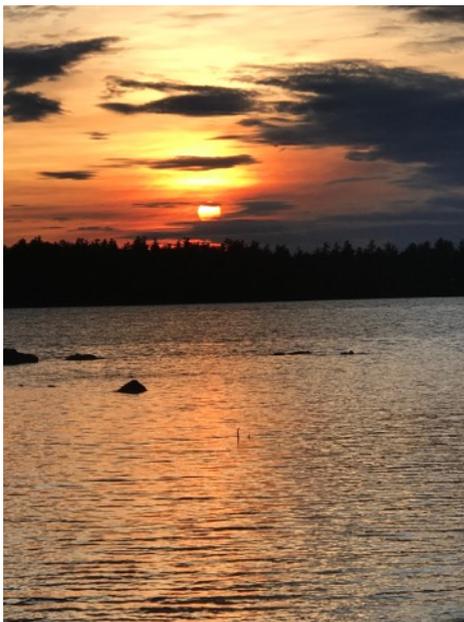


After "the kids" visit, we had another special experience as we walked part of the City Brook Trail with friends, including Bob Spencer as a knowledgeable guide. You don't have to travel far from home to find interesting things to do here in Maine.



Pam & Lloyd Travel North...

...to take a long week-end in another beautiful area of Maine. Watching this sunset at Grand Lake Stream is certainly a great way to end the day!



Dates to Remember...

- Sat, Nov.21 - MESOM lecture 1:30-3:30 pm
- Sun, Nov. 22 - bring Thanksgiving baskets to the church. 10-10:15 am.
- Sun, Nov. 29 - First Sunday in Adven
- Sun, Nov. 29 - Zoom Coffee Hour 11 am
- Sat, Dec. 5 - MESOM lecture 1:30-3:30 pm
- Wed, Dec. 9 - Let's Talk About Race 6:30 - 8:00 pm on Zoom
- Wed, Dec. 16 - deadline for bringing Waterford Santa gifts to the town office
- Sunday, Dec. 27 - Zoom Coffee Hour 11 am
- December - Send your gift for the Christmas Fund for Retired Clergy P.O. Box 59
- Wed, Jan. 20 - Let's Talk About Race 6:30-8:00 pm on Zoom
- Wed, Feb. 17 - Let's Talk About Race 6:30-8:00 pm on Zoom
- Church Pledge Cards may be sent to the church at any time

*updates regarding activities and events will be emailed to you when dates have been decided

The Whichards — No Pandemic Slowdown!...



• Arlene and Bobbi hiked to the summit of Mount Washington. (Do not tell anyone, but they did not start hiking from the base this time.) The going was slow and steady, but when Bobbi made it to the summit, more than 75 years after her first climb, she was cheered on by other climbers waiting to achieve the same goal. It was a special moment to get Bobbi back up there, and overwhelming to have so many other people share in the joy.

• Arlene, Bobbi and Chance, the hard core poodle, on the summit with the weather observatory in the background.



• Bobbi pointing down to the Lake of the Clouds hut in which she stayed "a few years ago" when she hiked the mountain as a young camper in NH. Yes, there is a story about Bobbi and that hut...ask her.



• Guess who is going to be a "grandma"? Amy and husband Todd were so happy to share the good news with Arlene and Bruce.



• Ralph Sylvester is trying on the old uniform from years gone by. Happy Veterans Day to Ralph and ALL the other Veterans who have served our country. Thank you all!



• All work and no play is not healthy. Jared is at Champlain College in VT, but he does find some time to hunt around in old barns.





November

6 Eli Ross
 7 Jeff Winslow
 8 Rev. Doretta Colburn
 11 Sheila Durgin
 14 Gabe Gabrielsen
 15 Arlene Whichard
 25 Brian Sylvester
 26 Sally Holm

December

1 Eva Brennan
 21 Carol Madsen
 29 Kerry Johnson

January

6 Joy Plate
 6 Sue Van Dewey
 11 Tabitha Day
 13 Brenda Hambleton
 17 Sherry Bedard
 21 Petra Smyth
 27 Mary Colbath

CHURCH LEADERSHIP 2020

- Moderator: Al Struck
- Clerk: Stephenie Michaud
- Trustees: John Wait, Kerry Johnson, Rich Maurer
- Treasurers: John & Dodi Wait
- Assistant Treasurer: Ralph MacKinnon
- Stewardship: Kerry Johnson
- Deacons: Myra Maltby, Ted Nixon, Pam Williams, Dianne Morse Leonard
- Church School: Myra Maltby
- Missions: Pam Williams (Global), Nancy Engdahl (Local)
- Church Activities Committee: Nancy Engdahl



**We wish you peace, joy, and love
 for this holiday season and in the coming year!**



Hymn of Winter

by Samuel Longfellow, younger brother of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*‘Tis winter now; the fallen snow
 Has left the heav’ns all coldly clear;
 Through leafless boughs the sharp winds blow,
 And all the earth lies dead and drear.*

*And yet God's love is not withdrawn;
 His life within the keen air breathes,
 His beauty paints the crimson dawn,
 And clothes the boughs with glitt’ring wreaths.*

*O God! who giv’st the winter’s cold
 As well as summer’s joyous rays,
 Us warmly in Thy love enfold
 And keep us through life’s wintry days.*



