

# Waterford Congregational Church, UCC

2019  
April - May  
Worship and Church School  
9:30 a.m.

Hello Everyone,

What an emotion-filled month March has been. Long story short, on February 17th the congregation voted to wait on the pastoral call to Doretta Colburn until our selection committee met with Rev. Darren Morgan of the Maine UCC. There were a couple of reasons for the meeting. Primarily, we wanted to apologize for not following the covenant I signed back in September. The second point was to let him know that we intended on staying in the UCC. The meeting went well, as Darren explained what we needed to do to set things right. Those steps were completed.

On March 17th, St Patty's Day, our attending church members voted unanimously to call Doretta as our settled pastor. When she came down from the church office, where she was awaiting the vote, she was met with applause and cheers from a very happy congregation. With tears in her eyes she told us how pleased she was to accept this call.

Here are a few biographical points of interest.



Reverend Doretta Colburn  
Sally Holm photo

Doretta graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1994. Her first church was North Congregational in New Hartford, CT. She started with 12 people attending. Five years later, they had one hundred members, a Sunday School and an organist. She had two additional churches in Connecticut thru 2010. It seemed Doretta and her husband Ted knew they wanted to be in Maine as they purchased a portion of the family farm in North Waterford in 2007. Doretta accepted a call to the North Waterford Church at that time, staying there through 2014.

Doretta has been recognized for her many leadership skills, being named a workshop leader at a number of leadership conferences. Of special note, Doretta was the first female pastor to give the keynote address at the Crystal Cathedral in California before 2,000 attendees.

As you read her resume, you see that not only is Doretta involved in the church, but also in the community. Specifically here in Waterford, she is on the Waterford Library Board, is on the Board of the Waterford World's Fair where she runs the children's programs, is active in the Community Food Matters group in Norway, and is on the Board of the Oxford County Extension Association.

We look forward to a long and fruitful association with Doretta.

On a more somber note, it has just been a little more than a week since we celebrated the full and loving life of our organist, sexton, coffee maker and dear friend Joan Fillebrown. The Memorial Service held on the 16th saw a packed church, filled with family and friends. The three officiating ministers, Anita White, Petra Smyth and Doretta Colburn, led us in song and down memory lane through Joan's life. Her Grandchildren did the sweetest remembrances in words and song. There are more memories later in the newsletter. Personally, I will miss Joan very, very much. It was a privilege to know her. We reap what we sow. Joan's harvest was bountiful beyond measure.

Remember, God loves each of us in His own special way.

--Al Struck, Moderator

## Stewardship Committee Reminds Us That Building Church is Everyone's Job

As we inch toward Spring, we are beginning to get a better sense of our church finances for the year, and especially of our revenue. John Wait writes elsewhere in the newsletter that we are off on the revenue side, and I'd like to give you all a little update as to how far we're off, some of the reasons why we think this is so, and what we're hoping to do about it.

I mentioned in the Stewardship annual report in January that pledges for the current year were trailing last year's pledges by about 20%. That continues to be the case both in terms of the number of pledges and in the amount pledged. I also mentioned several reasons we thought this might be so. First, we have had a reduction in membership due to the passing of some members and the moving of others. Second, the new tax laws have impacted some members in terms of the way those laws treat charitable giving. Third, there has been volatility in the markets which makes people a little cautious. Finally, and this we feel was the biggest issue, we lost our Pastor just as the Stewardship Pledge Drive was beginning which also led to uncertainty.

The good news for all of us is that while we can't do too much about the first three issues, we have been fortunate beyond our wildest dreams in solving the last issue. We have a wonderful new "settled" pastor, the Reverend Doretta Colburn. Not only is Doretta our new pastor, but she has agreed to be here for the long-term. "Settled" is an interesting UCC term meaning that she's here to stay. With that in mind, we are in a position to put some real effort into growing the church because we will have some real stability.

Building the church is, of course, everyone's job. As a congregation, we each need to continue our tradition of being a welcoming place. It's a feeling that all of us get within our church and one that we seek to make everyone who visits us feel as well. When new people visit, make them feel welcome. Ask them to sign our visitors' book. Let them know we are delighted to see them. Let's share our church community with everyone who visits and let's reach out to invite more people to visit us.

We also should remind ourselves that we are a great resource in the Waterford community. In addition to Sunday services, we are busy doing mission activities, like the Thanksgiving baskets and the fuel fund, sponsoring and running community activities such as Christmas and Halloween activities, offering music events, like the Sharps on the Flats series, and conducting spiritual activities like our Lenten Reflections and discussion series. We believe in and live our vision of community, music and spirituality. We are a busy and active place. We are "the little church with the big heart."



It's a new season...in our world and in the life of our Church.  
Sally Holm caption, Ginny Raymond photo

To accomplish all of these activities and to keep operating our church in a fiscally responsible way requires approximately \$6,000 per month. We currently need to improve our income to support that. It's a pretty bare-bones operating budget, and it's carefully managed. That being said, anything any of you can do to help increase our revenue, or any ideas you have to help increase our revenue, would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all of you who have pledged your financial support. We commit to using your pledges wisely. The Stewardship Committee will do our part to be in faith with the whole congregation in building and strengthening the Waterford Congregational Church.

-- Kerry Johnson, for the Stewardship Committee



"Our Father who art in Heaven,  
how did You know  
my name?"

# Birthdays:

## April

## May

- 5 Rachel Thibodeau
- 6 Karen Fillebrown
- 10 Darylann Leonard
- 11 Al Struck
- 11 Dwight Smith
- 14 Dodi Wait
- 16 Scott Smyth
- 17 Joanne MacKinnon
- 19 Del Leonard
- 20 Hannah Leonard
- 24 Clara Hamlin
- 25 Myra Maltby

- 2 Pam Williams
- 2 Emmi Brannan
- 8 Ella Brannan
- 8 Lauren Hewson
- 10 Sharon Harrison
- 13 Saige Winslow
- 17 Rebecca Sylvester
- 25 Jane Kimball
- 29 Kay Leslie
- 31 Dot Gilrain

## CALENDAR

### March

31st, Collection for One Great Hour of Sharing begins

### April

10th, Wednesday, Lenten discussion, Plate's home

14th, Sunday, Palm Sunday

18th, Thursday, 6 PM, Pot Luck, Wilkins House.

18th, Thursday, 7 PM, Tenebrae Service, Church

21st, Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service, 6AM, Town Beach

Breakfast at the Wilkins House after sunrise service

9:30 Worship service at the church

### May

May 5, 2 PM, Installation of Doretta Service for the  
Rev. Doretta Colburn, with reception to follow  
in the Wilkins House

May 6th, Monday, 9 AM, Wilkins House Annual Meeting  
in the small room of the Wilkins House

### June

1st, Saturday, 7 PM, Sharps on the Flat,

## WHO IS THIS? Tell Ginny Raymond

or send your answer to

[WaterfordCongregationalChurch@GMAIL.com](mailto:WaterfordCongregationalChurch@GMAIL.com)



**HINT:**  
"You probably don't recognize me  
without my glasses..."

The answer will be in the June/July  
Newsletter along with the winner's name.

P.S. There is a prize for the first right answer!



"The hands of the Almighty  
are often found at the ends of  
our arms."

From Jean Struck's entry in  
the current Lenten Booklet.

Sally Holm caption & photo

Last Newsletter's Player Pony girl:  
Joan Fillebrown

Winner: Dell Foss



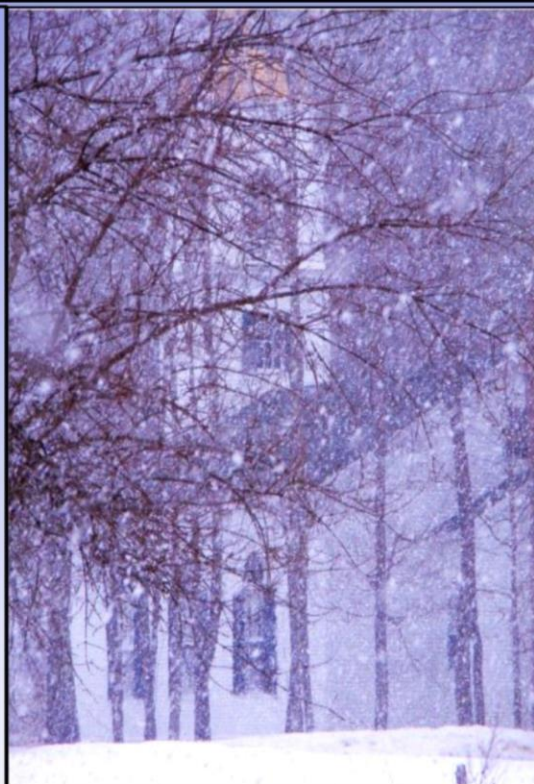
## Trustees Report on Upcoming Projects

Shoveling has been a big part of our lives over the past few months. I thought we might be at the end for this season, but as I write this, it is snowing again. We might even be shoveling for church on Sunday. From a skiing stand point, the snow has been great at Sunday River.

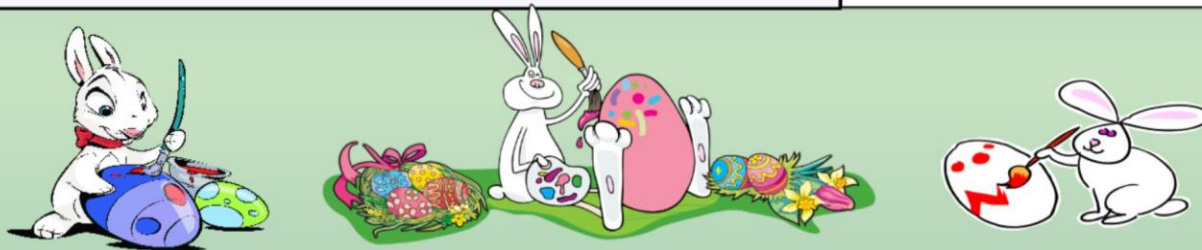
Having the use of Richard Maurer's small tractor has been a great asset this winter. Thank you to Todd Sawyer and Paul Fillebrown for volunteering their time and equipment for opening up the parking lot and the front of the church. Without their help, we would have had a very difficult time keeping the front of the church open, and we would not have had much of a parking lot. Of course, we appreciate the constant vigil of our contracted plow guy, Peter Morse.

We have developed a list of projects for this coming spring and summer: the major project being the painting of the front of the church and the trim on the Wilkins House. This project has been approved by the church council. Kerry Johnson is obtaining quotes. Another major project is increasing the electrical power to the Wilkins House. We had an electric shortfall last summer during the breakfasts. We will be addressing this issue in the spring.

-- John Wait, for the Trustees



Church through the trees and snow  
Will Raymond photo



## Treasurers Check Financial Health

Our operating income versus our expenses for 2018 was favorable for the year. We had a very successful stewardship drive in 2018, and the 2018 Sunday offerings came in as favorably as we had hoped for in our plan. The expenses were also as expected, but most of those dollars came from the pastoral budget because we were not paying the full fare for a minister the last quarter of the year.

This brings us to 2019. After two months, the income side of the operating budget is down significantly, both in pledges and Sunday offerings, as compared to 2018. The stewardship committee is working on this issue. As expected, on the expense side, we are well within our budget.

On a positive note, the church is in good financial health due to the work Ralph MacKinnon has done over the past 10 years. We hope that this positive situation will continue.

--John and Dodi Wait, Treasurers



## Deacons Prepare for Holy Week and Rev. Colburn's Installation

The Diaconate welcomed new deacon Dianne Morse Leonard, who joins Gail Nixon, Pam Williams and Sally Holm, and plunged into planning for a busy Holy Week and the Installation of and a reception for our new settled pastor, the Rev. Doretta Colburn. As of this deadline, the Installation date has been set for May 5 at 2 PM with a reception following at the Wilkins House.

### Pastoral Installation



Please join us for the joyful  
Installation of our new Pastor,  
The Rev. Doretta Colburn  
On Sunday, May 5 at 2 pm  
Reception to follow at  
the Wilkins House



Meantime, planning is underway for the events of Holy Week—beginning with Palm Sunday on April 14, followed by a Tenebrae service on Maundy Thursday, April 18, an Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 21 at the town beach in Waterford with Harrison and No. Waterford participating, followed by breakfast hosted by the WCC at the Wilkins House. Easter worship begins at 9:30 AM.

We are asking for your enthusiastic participation in these events! Please consider volunteering to sign up to make an egg strada for the breakfast or helping with set-up and/or clean-up. For the Easter worship service, we are seeking flower donations in pots or vases for the altar in memory of someone you've lost. Please use the signup sheet at the back of the church. And please note the names of those you wish to honor so that we can list them in the bulletin. Your flowers can become part of your own Easter celebration at the conclusion of the service.

The Installation and reception for Doretta will be a joyous day in the life of the Waterford Congregational Church. The Diaconate will join forces with the Church Activities Committee to host the event. The service will involve clergy from area UCC churches, and ministers from the Oxford Union, and the state UCC. So, be sure to join us for this remarkable celebration. We are so blessed!

--Sally Holm, for the Diaconate

## The CAC Makes Big Plans

Thank you to all who were able to fill out the CAC questionnaire this month. Your opinions and suggestions on our activities will help us plan for future activities. We want to do activities that interest you.



Sally Holm gave out Lenten Booklets on March 3rd. We planned three open-discussion groups focusing on selections in the booklet. The Waits hosted the first discussion with Dodi as the discussion leader. The second was at my home, hosted by Gail Nixon and myself. The 3rd will be held at the Plates (327 McWain Hill) on April 10th, 7 PM, to be hosted by Joy Plate, Sally Holm and Kerry Johnson. We will be discussing the Lenten pieces from March 28th-April 18th. Come and join in the discussion or just sit and enjoy. If you have not received a Lenten booklet, please let us know.

Plans are moving along for a music fest, Sharps on the Flat, featuring six local music groups. Please put Saturday night, June 1 at 7 PM, on your calendar. Our suggested donation is \$10 per person with all the proceeds going to the Emergency Fuel Fund.

-- Nancy Engdahl, for the Church Activities Committee

June 1, 7 pm



*A Celebration of the Life of*

**Joan B. Fillebrown**

May 28, 1930 — March 10, 2019



**Photos from Joan's Memorial Service**

Communion Table: Karen Fillebrown photo  
 Organ: Arlene Whichard photo  
 Pulpit : Ginny Raymond photo



**A Happy Moment**

Karen and handsome Bo with Joan

Dell Foss photo



**Outpouring of Love**

Mondays, at the Waterford Library, the ladies meet together to knit and chat. Mom always enjoyed joining them. Fridays, as well, there is Coffee Hour that Mom enjoyed. On March 5th in honor of Mom, they roped her chair off and put a knitting basket there. She would be pleased with all this outpouring of love.  
 Karen Fillebrown

**When Your Work Is Done ( You Go Home. )**  
 Words and music: Preston Harrison - 2001

*Joan had requested Preston sing this original piece at her Memorial Service. So he did!*

When your work is done  
 You go home  
 When your last race is run  
 You go home  
 When you've climbed your final hill  
 You go home, you go home  
 When your work is done  
 You go home  
 When you've set your last sail  
 You go home  
 When you've hammered your last nail  
 You go home  
 When you've crossed your final bridge  
 You go home, you go home  
 When your work is done  
 You go home

When you've played your last hymn  
 You go home  
 When you've sung your last song  
 You go home  
 When you've hugged the ones you love  
 To return to the One above  
 When your work is done  
 You go home  
 And you will smile your finest smile  
 With every step of every mile  
 And you will sing your sweetest song  
 Eternal grace will guide you home  
 With a light shining from above  
 Filling you with peace and joy and love  
 When your work is done  
 You go home  
 When your work is done, Joan  
 You go home, you go home



Long-time friend, Alice Jewell, with Joan  
 Karen Fillebrown photo

## Missions Committee Thanks You!

On January 23, 2019, our church received a thank you letter from the Maine Conference, UCC, reflecting on the past year and the good work our Church has done for the ministry of Christ Jesus, through our Mission work both on a local and national level.

In 2018, we again met the goal of being a “5 for 5” church. To clarify, being “5 for 5” means that our church is a leader, providing support to the UCC’s Wider Mission and the Special Mission Offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen The Church, Neighbors In Need and The Christmas Fund.

“One Great Hour of Sharing” will be received on the 4th Sunday of Lent, March 31st. We will continue to receive this throughout April. Please watch for handouts and envelopes for everyone in the coming weeks.

We continue to help families in our community with their heat as we slowly move through the winter season. Thank you to everyone who has supported this local mission. We were able to fill one request in January and one in early March. As long time Mainers, we know that even when the calendar says SPRING, we are still buried in snow with a strong North Wind.

During April, the committee will meet to plan out our summer activities. We will look into a Heifer International trip, as well as how we can continue to support SERRV without having a Sale at the breakfast this summer. Soon, we will be sharing the new SERRV website specifically for our church. So please watch for that!

If you have any ideas or questions please contact any of us on the committee: Nancy Engdahl, Myra Maltby, Carol Madsen, Stef Michaud or myself.

Shalom, Pam Williams, for the Mission Committee



Pam Williams, on Sunday, March 3,  
displaying the blankets that are distributed  
by Church World Service,  
Ginny Raymond photo

## Share with One Great HOUR of Sharing

This is one of Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM) programs. We will be accepting your offerings starting the Fourth Sunday of Lent on March 31st. These gifts are used for international programs in health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response.

In the phrase, “More than you can imagine,” we sometime think that *imagine* means something escapist or illusory. Yet, imagination is not something unreal or fake. No, it is *essential* to God’s hope for Creation. Hear how the Apostle Paul put it: “*Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more that all we can ask or imagine...*” (Ephesians 3: 20-21)

And God imagines a world where all are safe, all are loved, all are fed.

--Pam Williams for OGHS [www.onegreathourofsharing.org](http://www.onegreathourofsharing.org)

## Music in Church Presents its Challenges

Choir is ramping up for Easter and is working on a few new selections to share during Lent. In this Lenten season which highlights CHALLENGE, our choir faces challenges every Sunday! For example, we only rehearse the hour prior to the service. Sometimes we end up singing an unanticipated song due to having a smaller group, the intended choral piece is not quite ready, or we don't have enough voice-parts. Church choirs face these challenges all the time. I think that is what is so fabulous about singing in a church choir: We rise to the occasion.

Not only is a church choir all-inclusive of anyone who would like to sing, the director never knows who will show up on a particular Sunday. People are ill, folks go on vacation, Kay Leslie or Denny Raymond (pianists) might not be able to accompany, or who knows what unexpected thing might occur!

One thing I do know and people who come to our service know: This dedicated group of singers always does the best it can to make beautiful music each week! Now with no organist, Kay and Denny have really stepped up by playing. I know we all are so grateful for their devotion.

We are challenged every week but still make beautiful music. How great is that? Let music help you through your challenges.

We are planning more Sharps on the Flat concerts for June, August and beyond. So, keep tuned! June 1st we will have several local groups whom you have seen before, including the Rounds family, Skip Green and friends, and more! In August we will enjoy a special evening with Sebago Long Lake Music Festival. More will be planned for future dates.

We love bringing music to Waterford. -- Jane Morse, Music Director



Preston Harrison sings at our service on March 3.  
Ginny Raymond photo



## Wilkins House

The next potluck supper will be Thursday, April 18. Our hosts will be Ted Gerber and Carol Madsen as well as Tony and Donna Butterall. Thank you to all who host these events.

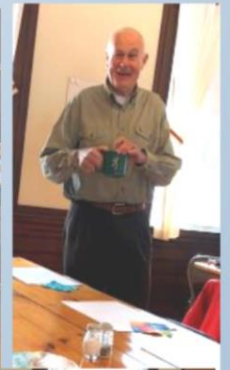
The Wilkins House is a wonderful venue for birthday parties, anniversaries and any other special occasions. Please contact Nancy Eaton at 747-8572 for detail and to schedule your event.



*Friends of the Wilkins House* will be having its annual meeting on Monday, May 6 at 9 AM at the Wilkins House. All are invited. We will be setting the dates for this summer's breakfasts, electing the Friends board and any needed business concerning the Wilkins House upkeep and the breakfasts. We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you -- Denny Raymond, Assistant Manager

Souper  
Bowl  
Sunday  
February 8



Bread served, made by Myra Maltby  
German Rye, Tunisian Olive, Ethiopian  
Honey Spice and a Crusty White Bread



Taco Soup – Ginny Raymond  
Curried Zucchini – Kerry Johnson  
Veggie – Myra Maltby  
Pennsylvania Chicken Corn Soup – Gail Nixon  
Mulligatawny Soup – Nancy Engdahl





**News of Birthdays! from Sally Holm**

Both of our guys celebrated birthdays since we last published—Gabe turned four in February, and Wynne is 27 as of March 26! We have celebrated fully and well. Both are doing well after Wynne’s health challenges these past few months. She’s healing! And Gabey has thrilled us with his spelling and early efforts to READ! We are so blessed.

**AAAAHHOOOOOOOOOOOOOO**



**Little Miss is howling  
for more News from the Pews!!!**