

Daffodils represent spring and new beginnings.....



Waterford Congregational Church UCC

Minister: Rev. Doretta Colburn

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Newsletter - March 2022



**We are now gathering inside our church for 9:30 am services on Sundays.
Masks and social distancing are requested. These services are also filmed and
are available on our website.**

THOUGHTS FROM THE PULPIT...

Dear Friends,

This time of year, when the sunlight hints of warmer days ahead, I always find an innate drive to busy myself with projects, indoors and out. It satisfies a sense of preparing for the season to come. I have a growing need to finish the painting projects in the house that I have poked along at all winter long; to do a deep cleaning in all the rooms and reorganize (a word that always worries Ted). It's a time of refreshing and renewing; a time of wonderful expectation as the Earth in our New England landscape comes alive with growth.



The excitement of returning to in person worship again seems to fit perfectly in that seasonal expectation that I've already mentioned. Though we had not wanted to close the doors for yet another time at Christmas, it was the right thing to do; and because we had been there in the past, the return to recorded worship fell back into place easily. I am filled with gratitude for the wonderfully creative team that every week has provided music, readings, the prayer and message in such a thoughtful and meaningful way for folks to experience on our website. It is a tremendous sign of dedication and commitment to the ongoing ministry of Waterford Church. That has been true behind the scenes as well, while committees and the council have continued to meet virtually to ensure a solid foundation physically, financially and spiritually. I am sure you agree that we have much to be grateful for.

As we return to worship in the days ahead, may it not only be a celebration of who we are in this moment, but **who we are becoming**. This is a time of embracing the best of who we are in our ministry and uniting together toward becoming the church of today. What does that look like? How can we grow into that? My hope and desire is that you will join with me in exploring those questions in the days ahead. As we embrace what the church means to us with all the tradition and comfortable elements we treasure, how might we also consider broadening our community to include others. A successful returning to church needs to make room for new ways of being a faith community, to explore new opportunities and celebrate creativity.

Our faith has always been about growth and opportunity as God creates and recreates us.

Isaiah 43:19

*See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

What an exciting time this is as we open ourselves up to the promise of newness that is springing up around us. May we be alert and eager to become the Waterford Congregational Church of today. Together, let us listen to what our faith is telling us about the needs around us, what we can learn from others and how we can take action to be faithful to our Christian call of love and peace.

Overflowing with gratitude, *Doretta*

LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR ... March 1, 2022

Dear Friends,

The Oneth of March. Is that possible? It feels like I have been in a whirlwind since the beginning of the year. The council has been working hard getting ready for the annual meeting and holding a special meeting to discuss the reopening of the church. Each of the Committee Chairs will have more details about what their committee has done.

If you had a chance to come to the annual meeting, you would have heard about a packed year. Yes, most of the time we were not physically together due to Covid, but, we met regularly to keep the spirit of the Waterford Church alive and well. The Trustees have made sure the property is well maintained and ready for use. The Deacons have been active preparing for our return to live services. We bid adieu to Pam Williams as head deacon after many years of service. Thank you, Pam, from all of us.

The Stewardship Committee reports that members and friends are keeping us in their thoughts thru generous pledges which will help us meet the needs of the church.

There are special projects like the Climate Conversations that are unique to WCC. We finished a workshop this past spring on understanding what White Privilege is which is leading to a new project which you will see later in this newsletter. It involves our education about indigenous people here in Maine, how our arrival impacted their lives, and, more importantly, how we can build relationships and trust with each other, now.

We welcomed two new members to our church in 2021: Elizabeth Tempesta and Brenda Hambleton.

We want to greet Larry Griffin who will be assuming the Clerk duties from Stef Michaud, who has done yeoman's work in that position. Thank you, Stef.

We hope to see you all back in church starting March 6th at the regular time of 9:30am. Singing and music from our organist, George, will fill the sanctuary again!! Amen!!

Peace to you all, *Al Struck*

TRUSTEE'S REPORT...

With the church closed for the last few months, the trustees do not have much to report. We continue to monitor both buildings and, yes, have been shoveling snow in the past few months.

We are getting ready to begin work on repairing the chimney on the Church due to the damage from the storm a year ago. After the chimney is completed, we will then finish the rest of the repairs on the building.

The trustees have ordered new microphones and they are ready to be used when the Church reopens for services.

If you have any issues, please do not hesitate to contact one of the trustees.

Regards from the Trustees, *John Wait, Kerry Johnson, Larry Griffin*

DEACONS' UPDATE...

We are so grateful that we will return to in-person services starting in March! Since all the Deacons for 2022 - Myra Maltby, Ted Nixon and Dianne Morse-Leonard - are in the choir, which practices before church, we are seeking greeters to hand out bulletins and welcome people as they enter the church. Please speak to one of the deacons if you are willing to volunteer.

We will continue to stream live on Facebook as well as post sermons to our website. Watch for Facebook Live to start up mid-March.

UPCOMING CHURCH SERVICES: Further details will appear in upcoming bulletins and by email.

- **Ash Wednesday, March 2nd:** look for a special Reflection on the website from Rev. Doretta Colburn to help us prepare ourselves for the Lenten season.
- **Communion Sunday, April 3rd:** Communion is now the first Sunday of every other month.
- **Maundy Thursday, April 14th:** Details of this evening service to come soon.
- **Easter Sunday, April 17th:** Our traditional sunrise service as well as our 9:30 church service.

We are also looking forward to planning an outdoor service this spring!

If you know anyone who needs the deacons or our minister to contact them, please let us know. Hope to see many of you in church soon.

Dianne Morse-Leonard, Head Deacon

MUSIC NOTES...

I am writing this on a 60-degree February day! Is it just a late January thaw? The Choir has been recording music since our church closure in December 2021, but we are looking forward to singing for the Easter season when we return in March! We missed two live Easter seasons, so it will be great to work on some new music, which was ordered for the 2020 season! Choir will begin with a **rehearsal on March 13 at 8:30 am**. This is **Daylight Savings** morning; be sure to set your clocks the night before!



The **Sharps on the Flat** concert series will start up again this year beginning with a **July 23rd concert** by Sebago-Long Lake Music Festival.

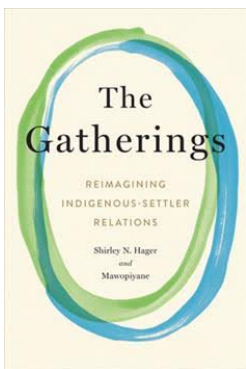
Mark your calendars for this fabulous event! Donations to support this group will be accepted at the door. Our church is a perfect venue for their performance, as we remember from the last concert when the power had gone out and they played as the sun set and only candlelight remained! It was breathtaking to enjoy their sound in our beautiful church! You will not want to miss this live event!

I look forward to seeing and singing with everyone soon!

Yours in Music, *Jane Morse*

THE GATHERINGS BOOK STUDY...

"Mawopiyane, in Passamaquoddy, literally means 'let us sit together,' but the deeper meaning is of a group coming together, as in the longhouse, to struggle with a sensitive or divisive issue. The word indicates an urgency to meet because the outcome is something very desirable, such as resolving a conflict or bringing about peace. It's a healing word."



Those opening words come from a book that we are inviting you to join with us in reading together in order that we may engage in a greater understanding of our indigenous neighbors in Maine, the Wabanaki, "People of the Dawnland," those who called this land home for thousands of years. The Wabanaki are made up of four Maine tribes, respectively the Maliseet, Micmac, Penobscot and Passamaquoddy. Their story is important for us to know and vital for us to engage in. The impacts of colonization and issues of injustice that remain a reality for the native people in Maine are of concern to all of us. Healing and moving forward together can only happen when we are willing to listen to and learn from one another.

"The Gatherings: Reimagining Indigenous-Settler Relations" is a book compiled of stories and perspectives from the voices of those who committed to sitting in the circle to listen and to share. The first gathering began 30 years ago and became a life-changing experience for those who joined together. Their voices teach us the value of hearing one another, the importance of acknowledging each other's perspectives and the healing power of respectful dialogue. Recognizing our interconnectedness is the way toward peace, harmony, and justice. So then "let us sit together" as we explore The Gatherings and share in this journey alongside one another.

The Gatherings Book Study, co-facilitated by the Reverend Doretta Colburn, Dianne Morse-Leonard, and Al Struck is open to all. The book study will be held on Wednesdays in April (**April 6,13,20 and 27th**) from **6:30-8:00 p.m. on Zoom**. Books can be purchased online. If the cost of the book is a barrier for you, please let Al Struck know.

Please contact Al Struck to register at alstruck49@gmail.com by March 22nd.



MAINE SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

**SAVE THE DATE -SATURDAY APRIL 9, 2022 • 9:00 – 11:30 AM on ZOOM
MESOM WORKSHOP ON THE SMALL CHURCH STORY PROJECT
A WORKSHOP FOR CLERGY AND LAITY**

The Maine Small Church Story Project: What is Your Story Now?

Heartening Stories Before and During the Time of COVID

***Vibrant Worship, Spirited Fellowship, Faithful Service: Small Congregations in the Maine Conference Create
New Ways of Being Church***

Workshop Presenters:

- The Rev. Susie Craig is a retired minister in the United Church of Christ, previously having served as Associate Conference Minister for the Maine Conference and as Interim Minister for the Wiscasset Church. Currently, she serves as part of the Pastoral Team for the Sheepscot Community Church. Susie lives with her husband, Brad, on a small farm in Jefferson with their black lab, Thacker. It is her joy to work with Doug Dunlap as they discover the wonderful stories of our small churches.

- The Rev. Doug Dunlap is a retired minister, ordained in the United Church of Christ. Doug and his wife, Mary, a Nurse Practitioner, have lived in Aroostook, Penobscot, and Franklin counties. Currently they reside on their farm, north of Farmington, in the settlement of Fairbanks. Doug is a member of the New Sharon UCC Church. He is a member of the Earth Care and Spirituality Resource Team of the Maine Conference, and Vice-Moderator of the Living Water Association.

About this Workshop: “A common narrative of our time is that churches are dying as membership drops, and church income becomes insufficient to retain full time pastors and to maintain church facilities. But there is a counter-narrative, that of churches, some quite small, and some following a time of brokenness, who are creating new ways of being church. In vibrant ways they celebrate their faith, care for one another, and reach beyond themselves to minister to the wider world in out-sized ways. We regard that vibrancy as coming not in spite of small size, but rather as a result of congregations taking advantage of their small size.”

- The Rev. Doug Dunlap

Cost of the Workshop is \$10.00 due at the time of Registration. Scholarships are easily available by contacting the Rev. Dr. Ron Baard, Dean of MESOM, at rbaard@maineucc.org

**Watch for more Information and Registration coming soon on the Maine School of Ministry
website: www.maineucc.org/ministries/mesom**

GROWING NEWS FROM OUR CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS:

What Can WE Do?

You might recall that in late fall several volunteers planted about 300 daffodil bulbs in one of Ted and Doretta's greenhouses to winter over for our pollinator/therapy garden at the Library. They are emerging nicely on these sunny days where the greenhouse heats up to a pleasant 60 degrees and more. It won't be long before they open and turn their yellow faces toward the sun. Our plan is to then pick the flowers for a purpose we are still deciding on and when the ground is



free of snow and workable, transplant the bulbs into our planned garden where they will reside for years to come welcoming spring into our lovely village.

Another fantastic outcome of our Climate Conversations is the formation of a climate action group that is working on grant opportunities and other initiatives for our Waterford community. The name of the group is PEER Waterford (Partnerships in Energy, Efficiency and Resilience). We have held a couple of community-wide Zoom meetings to discuss our Governor's climate initiatives and are putting together a grant proposal to submit for the first round of grant opportunities. We are excited that the Select Board is supporting our work and we are thrilled that some significant energy-saving and land-protecting outcomes will be included in our proposals. Our desire is to include as many voices from our community going forward as we continue this work toward a more climate responsive, energy saving, resilient community. We are hosting a zoom meeting on **Saturday, March 12th at 4:00** as we move forward. You can copy and paste this link to join the meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87673560564?pwd=ZDA2VmZDN29RRREtSUXQxU1RH
NW5zZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87673560564?pwd=ZDA2VmZDN29RRREtSUXQxU1RH
NW5zZz09)

Meeting ID: 876 7356 0564
Passcode: 388155

You can also reach out to us at PEERWaterford@gmail.com

...WE REMEMBER...



Dora Else Emma (Kenklies) Pegel

1933 - 2021

Dora and her husband Erwin served the Waterford Church from 1972-1975. Born in East Prussia, her family settled in Schleswig Holstein, northern Germany where she completed her secondary education and was accepted into the Bodelschwingh Institute. She had intended to become a nurse and serve as a medical missionary in Africa, but that changed when she met a young student of theology, Erwin Pegel. Married in 1955, after completing their studies and missionary training in Germany and the United States, the couple faithfully served 28 indigenous churches in the Truk Islands of Micronesia for 13 years where Dora was housemother/teacher to sixty students, served as a medical provider for the island, led women's groups, and used her love of music extensively in her ministry. They were blessed with five children during their time as missionaries. • In 1963 the family became US citizens and moved to Waterford in 1972 where Dora actively partnered with her husband in youth ministries and choirs. Our church loved the liveliness and enthusiasm this young family brought to the entire community. • Dora was preceded in death by two sons, Donald and Martin Pegel and her husband Erwin. She is survived by her son Daniel Pegel (Kimberly); her daughters, Christiane Pegel-Olden, and Angelika (Bruce) Pegel-Quade; daughter-in-law Cheri Pegel; 8 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

George W. Morse

1943 – 2021



The son of Frank and Elaine Morse, George married his wife Elizabeth in 1965. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from University of Maine, a Master's Degree from Purdue University and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin in Applied Economics. George was a professor at The Ohio State University from 1977-1989 and later at the University of Minnesota until 2007. The couple retired to the coast of Maine, which had always been their dream. George, an avid gardener, took great joy in creating his garden each year. He loved anything outdoors, especially spending time at their Waterford cabin. The couple spent their retirement traveling all over the world. • George had fond memories of the Waterford Church where he grew up attending Sunday School, and even playing the organ for services upon occasion. He was “king” of one of the Winter Carnivals, which were inspired yearly by the Rev. Wilbur Bull. His parents were always so pleased and proud when he and his family came “home” and attended church, where everyone “made a fuss” over them! • Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Elizabeth; two sons, Ryan Morse, Bradford Morse (Julie), and his daughter, Pamela Gutmore (Josh); three grandchildren; two brothers, Ken Morse (Nikki Millonzi), Peter Morse (Jane); sister, Dianne Morse Leonard (Del); He was preceded in death by his parents; Frank and Elaine Morse and his brother, Frank (Chipper) Morse.

Del Angers

1938 – 2021



Del enjoyed life! Baptized Adelard Raymond Joseph Angers, Del was strongly devoted to his family, the catholic church and his career with ATT. Del fell in love with his high school sweetheart and was married to Irene for 62 years, had 5 beautiful children, and has been blessed with 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. He was a hard worker who took pride in all that he did. Del loved to help people and was always willing to lend a helping hand. There didn't seem to be a job that Del couldn't figure out how to do. He loved to sing, tease people, and most especially come up with goofy one-liners. Although Del grew up without a father, he became a male role model figure for so many. He had an infectious smile that never dimmed even when life threw him curve balls. Del was many things to many people; he was love, compassion, thoughtfulness, beauty – and so much more. Del's desire to exceed and lead by example drove him to be a pillar that many would come to lean on. We are blessed that Del entered our life, whether for a reason, a season or a lifetime. He enjoyed his 83 years of life and was truly an unforgettable man. May we make room in our hearts to treasure the man he was and the memories he left behind. The Waterford Church choir enjoyed having Del join them in the summers or whenever he and Irene were town!



News from the Pews



We hope you enjoy receiving the Waterford Church Newsletter. If you know someone who would like to be added to our newsletter list; or if you would like your name added to our birthday list; or should you choose to unsubscribe...please email ksleslie@me.com.



PRAYER FOR UKRAINE...

George Wiese, our organist, will play on March 6, during our in-person church service, an anthem that is very popular in churches and at solemn ceremonies in Ukraine. George shares with us the following: "It was written in 1885 and is called Prayer for Ukraine. A Ukrainian-American friend kindly translated the lyrics for me and I took the liberty of paraphrasing them into a prayer that could be spoken by a non-Ukrainian. I thought folks who may wish to pray for the people of Ukraine might want to use a text very meaningful in that country."

Prayer for Ukraine — Adapted from anthem lyrics by Oleksandr Konysky, 1885

"Lord, Great and Almighty, protect Ukraine. Bless her with freedom, and the light of your holy rays. Let children there be enlightened with knowledge and learning, and let them grow in Your love, pure and everlasting. We pray, oh Lord Almighty, protect Ukraine. Grant people and country all of your kindness and grace. Bless them with freedom and wisdom; guide them kindly in the world, and bless them with good fortune always."



An Addition to Joy and Henry's Family...

Karen Shelnutt reports that another great grandchild has been added to Henry and Joy's "plate"! Piper Jane Shelnutt, 2/8/2022, 8 pounds 9oz. Austin, Brittany, and Harper (16 months) are thrilled and all are adjusting nicely.



♥ And a Very Special Day For Them...

February 1st was The Plate's 64th Wedding Anniversary! John & Dodi took Henry & Joy out to lunch to celebrate. The smiles tell of a good time!



🎄 Christmas at Beech Hill Farm...



Doretta and Ted with their Connecticut grandkids.



Christmas Day with Erin, Ed and the boys enjoying the snow and a bonfire!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

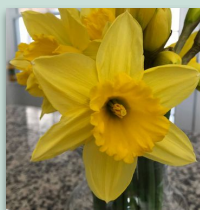
1 Kelsey M Brockett
2 Jared Whichard
19 Ted Colburn
26 Wynne Johnson
31 Ivy Brockett

APRIL

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

MAY

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



Church Leadership 2022

Moderator: *Al Struck*

Clerk: *Larry Griffin*

Trustees: *John Wait, Kerry Johnson,
Larry Griffin*

Treasurers: *John & Dodi Wait*

Assistant Treasurer: *Ralph MacKinnon*

Stewardship: *Kerry Johnson*

Deacons: *Myra Maltby, Ted Nixon,
Dianne Morse Leonard*

Church School: *Myra Maltby*

Missions: *Nancy Engdahl (Local)*

Church Activities Committee: *Nancy Engdahl*

Communications Coordinator: *Sally Holm*

Webmaster: *Ginny Raymond*

Church Historian: *Dianne Morse Leonard*

The Hallelujah Chorus

George Frideric Handel

Hallelujah!
For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world
Is become the kingdom of our Lord,
And of His Christ, and of His Christ.
And He shall reign for ever and ever.

King of kings, Forever and ever.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!
And Lord of lords, Forever and ever.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!
King of kings, and Lord of lords.

And He shall reign for ever and ever.
King of kings! and Lord of lords!
And He shall reign for ever and ever.
King of kings! and Lord of lords!
Hallelujah!

