



Waterford Congregational Church, UCC

The Little Church with the Big Heart

2018
April/May
Worship and Church
School
9:30 am

From the Pastor:



Have you ever lost something and then known the joy when you find it in the most unexpected place: Car keys, credit cards, or you are just plain lost driving around because the GPS failed. When we lose tangible things we go to the 'lost and found' department. Where do we go when we lose Jesus?

Easter morning we are up early to celebrate the joy of finding Jesus. Back in the day, some people thought that following Jesus was a crazy thing to do. They did not believe his teachings nor that he was the Son of God. How fitting it is that we are gathered on April Fools Day. And the joke is on the nonbelievers. There are those who think us foolish for standing in the freezing cold to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Mary Magdalene had thought she had lost Jesus on this day. She was not celebrating. Instead she was searching for answers and distressed about the absence of the body in the tomb. During her bewilderment she did not recognize Jesus at first, despite his calling out to her. She was not expecting to find him alive; she was not expecting a miracle.

It was as if Mary had a blind spot because she was so distraught about losing her teacher. Imagine Mary trying to make sense of what she saw or did not see, such as the carefully folded up linen, the stone removed, and an empty rock slab. Where was the body? She heard a voice and looked up at the face of the gardener, not realizing that she had found Jesus.

Where do we go to find Jesus? The 'lost and found' — I don't think so!

Finding Jesus is different for everyone, including those of us on a chilly morning in Waterford, Maine and around the world, as we celebrate today through scripture and singing the joy of finding Jesus.

We live in the Easter assurance that Jesus is alive and that even though we don't always recognize his presence, we do take comfort that Mary Magdalene witnessed Jesus' new life which is also promised for us. So everyday, not just on Easter, go out there and expect a miracle.

Happy Easter! Rev. Petra Smyth

Letter from the Moderator

Good Afternoon,

How did this date sneak up on us so quickly, and Easter too!

My last letter started with a weather report about the snow and sledding. It would be rough sledding now in 6 inches of mud. Ahhh, but the sun is warm, and the snow is retreating, exposing those leaves we forgot to rake last fall. At least it is just a little bit at a time, so you can get your raking muscles back in shape.



We have had a number of Council meetings since our last newsletter. As expected, a majority of our energy is aiming at Easter week. However, there were plenty of other things to keep us occupied.

🐰 Thank you to Sally Holm for the publishing of our church's first Lenten Book and for all the energy she put into its compilation. I'm sure it will get easier over the next 10 years 😊

🐰 The Mission Committee has been working on the One Great Hour of Sharing campaign and locally helping community members get through the winter.

🐰 We had a heating emergency at the Wilkins House which was quickly addressed by John Wait and Rich Maurer. They spent hours of their time getting all the plumbing and heating back on line. For sure they have a big check mark in the Golden Book.

🐰 The new officers have settled into their roles and information is flowing on plans for spring projects.

🐰 The CAC is busy planning trips of interest. I believe some folks went to the Portland Art Museum last week. I like the fact that the committee is not deterred when the response is light. They are a spirited committee!

🐰 Petra has been busy with the Deacons planning the Easter week activities: the Seder & Maundy Thursday, the Sunrise Service which includes Harrison, North Waterford, and also North Waterford Breakfast followed by our Easter Service. Whew!

Now deep breath... This week is what we are all about. The renewal, the rebirth, the promise, the love His father has for us. So complete is that Love that He gave up His only begotten Son for our salvation.

May this letter find you all feeling that love during this holiest of times. -- Happy Easter, Al Struck

Calendar 2018

April

- 8th Council Meeting
- 19th 6 pm Pot Luck Supper
- 25th 8 am Maine State Museum in Augusta

May

- 13th Council Meeting
- 17th 6 pm Pot Luck Supper



WHO?

From our last newsletter:

This picture is **Nancy Engdahl**

SALLY HOLM - THE WINNER!



APRIL

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 5 Rachel Thibodeau | MAY |
| 6 Karen Fillebrown | 2 Pam Williams |
| 10 Darylann Leonard | 2 Emmi Brannan |
| 11 Al Struck | 8 Ella Brannan |
| 11 Dwight Smith | 8 Lauren Hewson |
| 14 Dodi Wait | 13 Saige Winslow |
| 16 Scott Smyth | 17 Rebecca Sylvester |
| 17 Joanne MacKinnon | 25 Jane Kimball |
| 19 Del Leonard | 28 Joann Fillebrown |
| 20 Hannah Leonard | 29 Kay Leslie |
| 24 Clara Hamlin | 31 Dot Gilrain |
| 25 Myra Maltby | |

WHY???

Every year Easter falls on a different day, and you can blame the moon for that. Christ's death coincides with the Jewish Passover, which is celebrated during the first full moon after the vernal equinox, better known as the first day of spring. The rule was set for the Christian church by the Council of Nicaea, stating that Easter would be held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox.



Waddya mean?
That wasn't you
who just said
'Good morning'?



There is a PRIZE for the
FIRST CORRECT GUESS!

WHO
IS
THIS???

Answer in
the next
newsletter
with the
winner's
name....



In kindergarten, this little
guy's teacher banished him
to the closet because she
said he was "too curious!"

Send guess to BABYPICTURE
WaterfordCongregationalChurch@gmail.com
or a written note to Ginny

Trustees Report

The trustees have had a busy first quarter. We have finally completed all the repairs in the Wilkins House. The good news is: Dead River is sending us a check for all the materials used for the repair.

Snow storms have continued to keep us busy shoveling out the Church and the Wilkins House. It looks like the last storm might be the end of clearing snow for this season. I am sure most of you are happy about this and are looking forward to spring.

Speaking of spring, we will be scheduling spring clean up in the Church and grounds as soon as the snow has cleared. We will keep you informed of which Saturday this is planned. We will be looking for your help in this project.

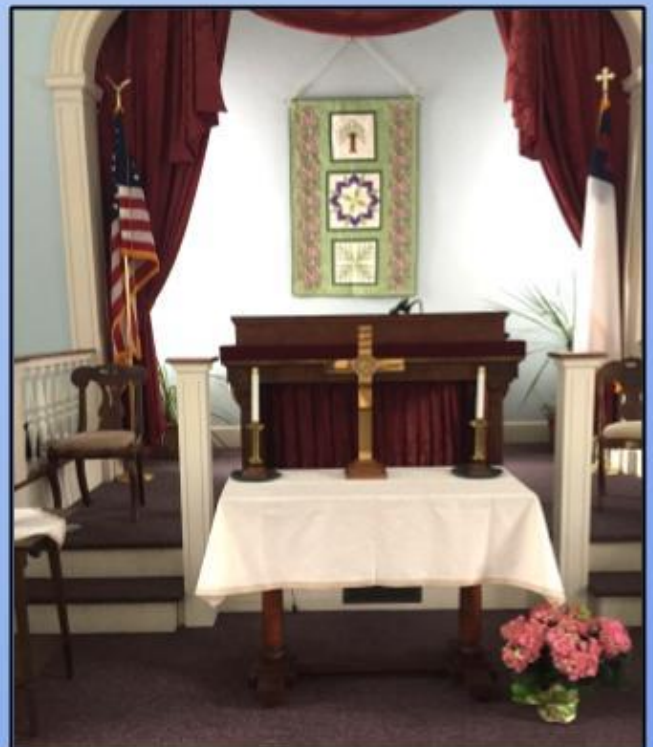
The trustees had a request to build a rail to go up the steps to the pulpit. We decided to build two banisters, one on each side. Richard Maurer built the banisters, and we installed them on Monday March 26th.

The Trustees would like to thank James Long and his crew for repairing the railings on the front steps of the Church. They have done an excellent job. You can not tell that they were damaged.

Kerry Johnson is working on quotes to paint the front of the church, including the steeple, and the trim on the Wilkins House. We are planning these two projects to be completed this summer.

-- For the Trustees, John Wait

New banisters by pulpit.
John Wait photo



Note from the Deacons

Since the last newsletter, the deacons have been preparing for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and of course Easter. Palm fronds were given out to people as they entered church. We hope everyone received some. On Thursday, March 29th we had the Seder Meal which we have done every other year for many years and now is now followed with a Traditional Tenebrae Service in the church.

A big thank you to Jean Struck who made our new "Easter/Spring" banner which is hanging over the pulpit.

Next we will be working on Pentecost Sunday, Mother's Day and Father's Day. By that time, hopefully there will be green grass and beautiful gardens. -- Myra Maltby



Myra Maltby photo
New Easter/Spring Banner
hanging behind the pulpit.

Happy Bakers

Five of us got together at the Wilkins House to learn how to make Brown Sugar-Oat Bread. Our teacher, church bread maker Myra Maltby, gave us a list ahead of time of the ingredients and equipment we would need for our bread.



Ginny Raymond photo
Happy bakers showing off their breads.

We arrived at 9 a.m. anxious to start.

Myra took us step by step through the process of mixing, kneading, rising, kneading, rising again until finally we were ready to put our works of love in the oven, and to sit for another hour as the breads bake. In between, there were 3 hours of waiting for bread rising, so Myra, Gail, Ted, Ginny, Denny and I played scrabble. Myra was the winner with the highest score.

By 1:30 the fruits of our labor were sitting on the counter. We cleaned up quickly so that we could go home and sample our bread. I must admit it was quite yummy.

Thank you, Myra, for a fun day. -- Nancy Engdahl

Mission News

As we head into April, we are finishing up a successful month of giving for **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Thank you to all who took part. There is still time for anyone who still wants to participate.

On Mother's Day, we will be hosting the **Blanket the World with Love!** offering with the UCC, sponsored by Church World Service (CWS). Please watch for more information in the coming weeks.

In May, we also will be participating on Pentecost Sunday: **Strengthen the Church**. We will receive your offerings which are used for helping in the growth of new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership trainings.

On the national level of the UCC, there is a new initiative; **3 GREAT LOVES, a just world for all**, Love of Neighbor, Love of Children, Love of Creation. We are already doing this work and have plans to do more. *"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ"* (1st Corinthians 12:12-27). For more information go to 3greatloves.uccpages.org. The Mission Committee will be sharing more information over the next year. -- Pam Williams

Upcoming monthly events:

May	Pentecost Sunday (Strengthen the Church)
	Mother's Day (Blanket the World with Love!)
July	Christmas in July – Retired Ministers Fund

CAC Museum Trip

On March 20, The Nixons, the Plates, and I met at the church to go to the Portland Museum of Art. We visited all three floors of the museum as well as the McLellan House which has direct access from the museum. We enjoyed the special exhibit which was the Biennial Art Show, featuring the art of Maine artists and artisans. One exhibit which fascinated us was a collection of quilts which had Indian treaties printed with fabric letters.



The Museum Day Trippers Nancy Engdahl photo

Another featured display was *The Robbers...German Art in a Time of Crisis*. George Grosz created a series of nine provocative images of industry and inequality in post-World War 1 Germany. We were pleased also to see works of several masters of the past, as well as modern artists. A new exhibit was being prepared behind a screen barrier. A few of us peeked at what look like art of the Space Age.

We ended our Portland visit in a tapas-style restaurant in the Old Port. Here we sampled many interesting types of food before heading back to Waterford. -- Nancy Engdahl

News from the Church Activities Committee

The CAC will be meeting in mid-April to continue with planning for several events. The snow has been playing havoc with our meeting dates.

Our next event, April 25th, will be a visit to the Maine State Museum in Augusta. If you haven't been there, this is really a very interesting museum with displays and artifacts from Maine's history. There are 3 floors with access elevators. Wheelchairs will be available.

We shall meet at the Wilkins House at 8 a.m. to carpool to Augusta. Please remember to eat a hearty breakfast. Entrance fee is \$2.00. We shall pick a restaurant close by for lunch. We have lots of fun when we go on field trips, so I hope you will join us for this one. We will have a sign up sheet at church soon.



Mackerel Cove Bailey Island
lobster shack
Internet image

For those of you who enjoy an ocean trip, we are planning a trip to Bailey's Island during the last week in June. There is a garage for parking on Commercial Street where the boat departs at 10. This is a narrated 2 hour cruise as we sail out of the harbor, past the islands close to the harbor, and on to Bailey's Island. Along the way we are most apt to see dolphins, seals and hopefully a whale. We arrive at Bailey's around noon and have 2 hours to spend exploring or eating at the restaurant on the dock. You also are given the option of staying on the boat for a further cruise to view sea life. The cost for this trip will be \$22.50 for seniors and \$26 for other adults.

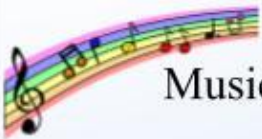
If you would like to go on these field trips but you are short on funds, see Petra about assistance from the Discretionary Fund. -- Myra Maltby

Message from the Clerk



The council has been meeting once a month and getting a lot done. What a great group of people, dedicated and working towards one goal, making the church stronger for God's glory!

All of the committees have been busy even with the bad weather. Each has its own report to present, and I do not want to preempt them. We are doing very well as one body.
--James Long



Music Notes

We hope you are enjoying the music and choir music as much as we are in sharing it. Please if would like to join the choir, come practice with us on Sunday mornings, at 8:30. Also, if you wish to share your musical talent, please talk with me.

The choir will be a vacation on April 15 & 22. -- Jane Morse



Introducing Ivy Ellen Brockett, Jane and Peter Morse's new granddaughter, born March 31.



Kelsey, Peter and Jane's daughter, and her husband Mike, introduce Owyn to his new baby sister!

Hi ya Grandpa!

Church Railings

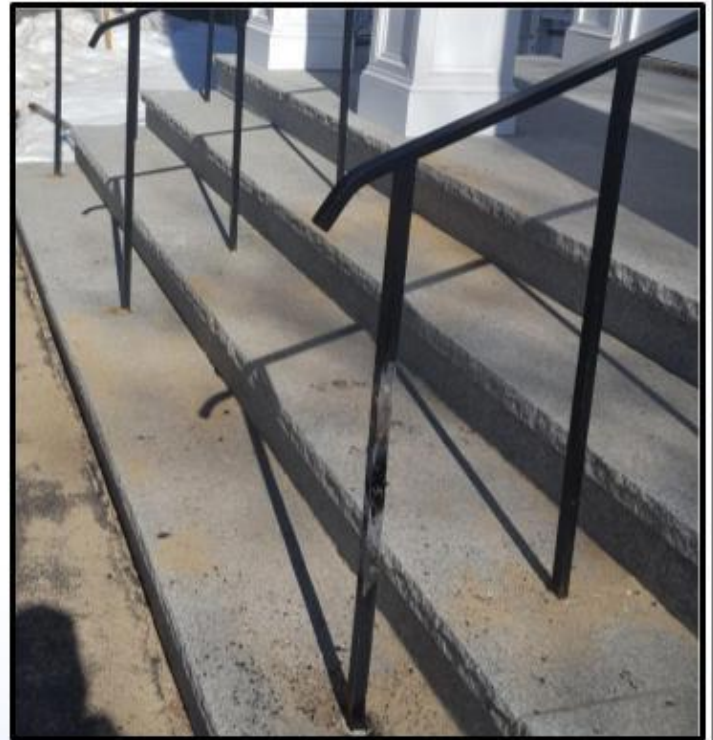
It was a hard winter on the church step railings!

You may have noticed that two of them had been bent very badly by a motor vehicle. But the James Gang and their crew came to the rescue. With the right equipment and knowledge, and heart's desire for pleasing God, they are looking like new again.

The prime and paint makes them look as good as they did in 2009 when the stairs were renovated. At that time we took the railings to the farm and sand blasted them. They were really rusty and the brass balls were dark brown from oxidation.

This winter we had to repair them in place. The Blue Rock Stone people, who did the stair renovation, set them in an extremely strong adhesive which held even with the railings being car-damaged. If you look at the post with the discoloration on it, that is the one we had to heat to straighten it.

We hope the rails do not get run into again, as the steel gets stretched and eventually it will require replacing them at a substantial cost. —James Long and the Gang.



James Long photo

PLEASE BE CAREFUL WHILE BACKING OR
DRIVING UP TO THE CHURCH !!

Thoughts and Remembrances

I am particularly grateful for the repair of the exterior step railing. And why is that? They are a piece of our Church history!



Chapin Cutler (Sr) photo

Blanche & Urban Tyler with their
grandchildren, Chapin, Ginny Lou &
Billy Cutler (1960)

To my recollection, the railings, as we see them today, were donated around 1970, in memory of my 81-year-old grandmother, Blanche Tyler who had passed on that year.

My grandmother was a dedicated church worker, serving the church in various capacities including Treasurer and Sunday school teacher.

The church edifice has many items given in memorial, some of which have plaques (like the front steps: a memorial given by my mother), but many don't. It is good to remember people who give of their time and money to our beloved institution.

We have many giving-angels in our own midst. Thank you all for your dedication and work. --Ginny Raymond

From the Wilkins House

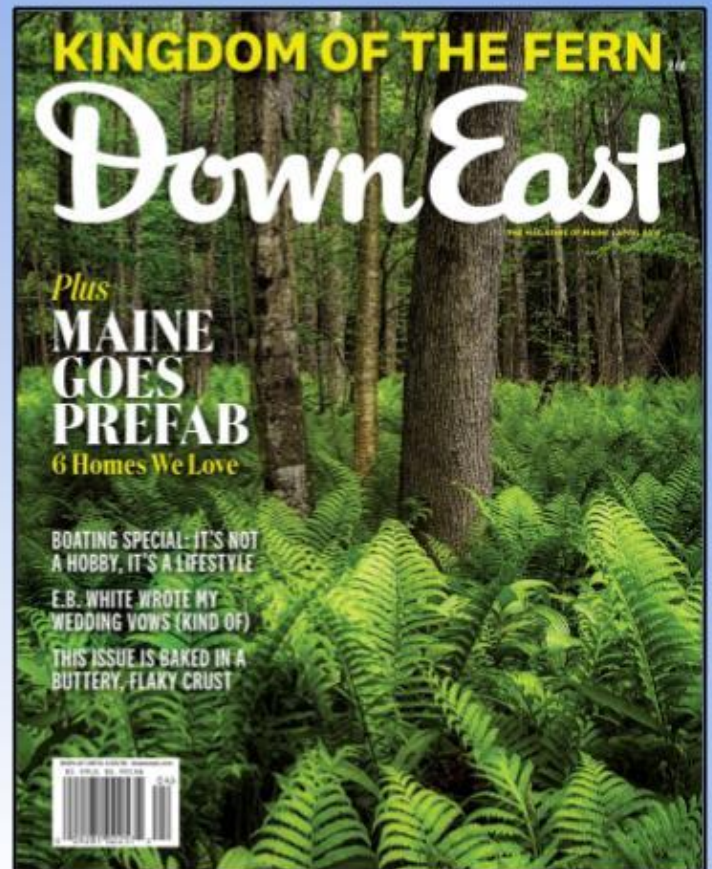
We are coming up to a busy time of the year for the Wilkins House. On April 19, we will have a potluck supper at 6 PM with Clara Hamlin and Cindy & Jane Kimball as hosts. All are welcome. Please bring a favorite dish to share.

We will begin May with our Friends of the Wilkins House annual meeting where we will decide the details of the summer breakfasts (including the dates) and elect our officers for the coming year. The date of this meeting and other important 2018 events will be determined soon.

Our last potluck supper will be on Thursday May 17 at 6 pm with our friends the Stockwells and Tarbells as hosts.

June will have our annual cleanup when we will spruce up the Wilkins House for the summer and the breakfasts. You all are certainly encouraged to participate in all our events. We certainly appreciate the amazing amount of help we receive from our eager volunteers and hard working officers. Thank you.--Denny Raymond

News from the pews - Nancy Engdahl



Down East has chosen Darylann Leonard's photo of ferns for the front cover of its April issue. Look for her photo in the May issue which they used for "Where in Maine?"



More News

This is John at Maine Adaptive tethering a young man with CP! He is doing what he loves and feels so blessed to be able to enjoy the enthusiasm of the participants!

Dodi Wait photo

Look Out from the Bell Tower - Monday, March 26



John Wait photos

The Seder Gathering March 29



Mrya Maltby photos

The Seder is a ritual performed by a community or by multiple generations of a family, involving a retelling of the story of the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt.



Stef Michaud photo



Sally Holm photos



Maundy Thursday Service March 29



Christian holy day falling on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles as described in the canonical gospels. This meal is the last time Jesus spends with his disciples and he tells them what is to happen. It is the fifth day of Holy Week



Stef Michaud photos

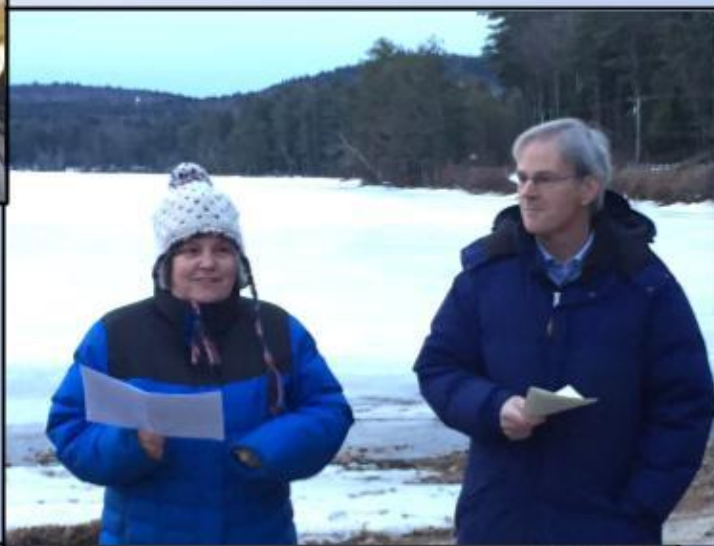


Myra Maltby photos

Sunrise Service



He IS RISEN
HE IS RISEN
INDEED!!!

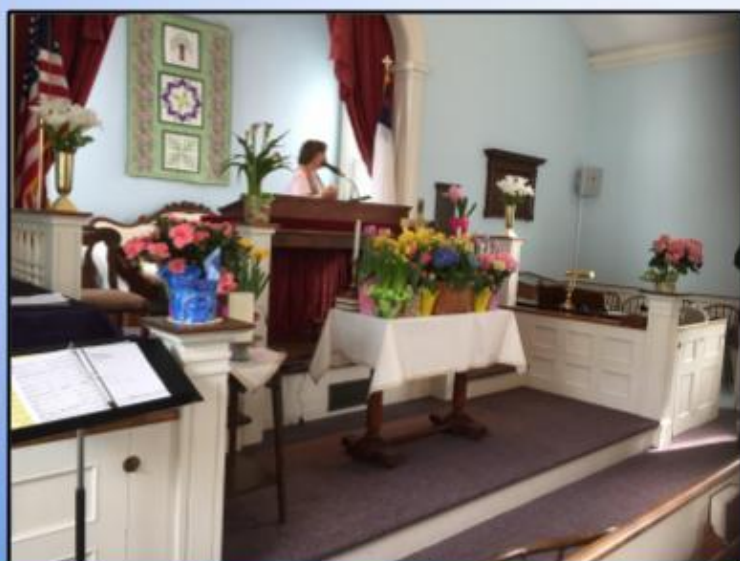


Ginny Raymond photos

Easter Breakfast And Easter Service



Ginny Raymond photos



News from the Pews - from Bruce Whichard

Arlene and Bruce have been visiting with Bobbi for the past three weeks down in Florida. If a picture says a thousand words, then check out these pictures of what Bobbi has been doing!



An airplane ride in a fully restored 1928, barnstormer bi-plane over the fields and swamps of southern Florida. Bobbi held on tight to Arlene, not wanting to lose Arlene out of the bi-plane when the stunts were performed.

Suited up in wet suits bright and early, taking in a beautiful Florida sunrise. Bobbi with two of her sons, Glenn and Bruce, along with wives Arlene and Ruth take a short boat ride out the Crystal River to Three Sister Springs to go snorkeling with some friends.



Bobbi
snorkeling in
the Crystal
River



Arlene face to face with a 1400 pound manatee swimming in the Three Sister Springs

What does Bobbi have planned for her next adventure?

LORD, I HAVE TIME (edited)

By Abbe Michel Quoist

Submitted by
Joy Plate

All men complain that they haven't enough time. They look at their lives from too human a point of view. There is always time to do what God wants us to do, but we must put ourselves completely into each moment that he offers us.

I went out, Lord.
People were coming and going,
Walking and running.

Everything was rushing:
Cars, trucks, the street, the whole town.
People were rushing not to waste time.
They were rushing after time,
To catch up with time.
To gain time.

Good-bye, Sir, excuse me, I haven't time.
I'll come back. I can't wait. I haven't time.
I'd love to help you, but I haven't time.
I can't think, I can't read, I'm swamped,
I haven't time.
I'd like to pray, but I haven't time.

You understand, Lord,
They simply haven't the time.
The child...The schoolboy...
The student... The young married...
They haven't time...Later on...
The grandparents have their grandchildren.
They haven't time...Later on...
They are ill, they have their treatments,
They haven't time...Later on...
They are dying, they have no...
Too late!...They have no more time!

And so all people run after time, Lord.
They pass through life running--
Hurried, jostled, overburdened, frantic,
And they never get there. They haven't time.

There is a big mistake somewhere.
The hours are too short.
Our lives are too short.

You who are beyond time, Lord,
And you know what you are doing.
You make no mistakes in your
distribution of time to men.
You give each one time to do what you
want him to do.
But we must not lose time,
waste time, kill time,
For it is a gift that you give us,
But a perishable gift,
A gift that does not keep.



Darylann Leonard photo

Lord, I have time,
I have plenty of time,
All the time that you give me,
The years of my life,
The days of my life,
The days of my years,
The hours of my days,
They are all mine.
Mine to fill, quietly, calmly,
But to fill completely, up to the brim,
To offer them to you, that of their insipid
water
You may make a rich wine
Such as you made once in Cana of
Galilee.
I am not asking you tonight, Lord,
For time to do this and then that,
But for your grace to do conscientiously,
In the time that you give me,
What you want me to do.