

To everything there is a season....

Waterford
Congregational Church UCC
Minister: Rev. Doretta Colburn
.....
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We are now gathering inside our church for 9:30 am services on Sundays.
Masks and social distancing are suggested. These services are also filmed and are available on our website.



Newsletter - June 2022



THOUGHTS FROM THE PULPIT...

Dear Friends,

A few days ago as I was walking passed our porch window that looks out to the hills, a bright red color stood out among the green leaves in the tree at the top of our driveway. I knew it wasn't a cardinal and I had a hopeful thought that it might be a bird I haven't seen since I was a child. I picked up the binoculars and sure enough, it was a scarlet tanager. It's brilliant reddish orange was highlighted even more by the backdrop of green. To say the least, I was in my glory as I watched it perched singing away for quite some time. I'm not sure how long it was there because I had to move on, though reluctantly, and I have not seen it since. Yet, I can still see it in my mind's eye and smile every time I do. Partly nostalgic and fully in awe of its delicate beauty.



As I reflect on that moment, I consider the image it brings to mind of our church community faithfully, eagerly, vocally, standing out as a hope-filled presence in the midst of a challenging world and I am, once again in awe and gratitude. We are a wonderful mix of folks, diverse in our backgrounds and individual in our spiritual paths, yet united in striving to make a positive difference in our community and in our world. On Pentecost Sunday we even held a service outdoors, not just because it was different and fun, but as a reminder that our faith is to be active and alive beyond the church walls moving us forward in love, compassion and justice.

So often we celebrate what we do as a church within the church. We lift up our ministries and activities with joy and enthusiasm and rightly so. We have much to be grateful for. Yet, sometimes we forget to celebrate what we do beyond our faith community. We often overlook the good work individuals are doing in their daily lives everyday putting faith into action. So in this moment, I celebrate all that each of you are doing to carry your faith into your daily lives. I rejoice in the compassion you show your neighbor, the kindness you bestow on a stranger, the goodness that shapes your decisions that impact others. Today, I celebrate you with a heart full of gratitude.

Life is challenging and it seems even more so in these days when our sense of trust and security are threatened around every corner. I know I am not alone in such thoughts and I am thankful that together we can support one another in living our belief that love must be the driving force for all that we say and do – love for one another and all of creation. I truly believe the source of the brokenness in our world comes from a misguided belief that power rests in status and things instead of love that has the true power to change everything for the better. Together may we strive to embody that love individually and as a community supporting one another on this journey and holding each other with compassion when the way seems too much to bear alone.

May the image of that scarlet tanager I mentioned at the beginning of this message, brilliant in color and cheerfully singing, become a reminder for each of us to make it our aim to live boldly and joyfully in all that we say and in all that we do.

With gratitude, *Doretta*

LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR ... June 3, 2022

Dear Friends,

Here I sit on a dreary spring day waiting for the sun to warm me. In the meantime I have started a fire in our kitchen stove (please note the date!!).

Like the seeds in our garden, our church council is full of promise, working together for the betterment of our congregation and community. As you will read further on in the newsletter, we have a number of projects started. Probably the most visible is the new chimney and repaired roof on the church building, thanks to the efforts of the Trustees led by John Wait.

The grounds also are looking good thanks to Dodi coming across the lake to shape up the meditation garden. It looked great for our outdoor service on June 5th. That's one of the ideas of the Deacons, led by Dianne Morse-Leonard, to encourage folks to come to our services. Last week we had a hymn sing embedded in the service and it was great fun.

The pollinator garden at the library is a community effort kicked off by our Climate Conversation talks. Please go to the library and see the great enhancement of the library grounds which is pleasing to the eye and a benefit to our local ecology.



The July 4th parade is coming up and work is afoot to embellish our “Little Church with the Big Heart” float to reflect our commitment to our larger community beyond the Church. An example of which is our church’s participation in getting relief supplies to Ukrainian refugees, which is described later in this newsletter.

The Stewardship committee reports progress toward meeting our financial needs but we still have a ways to go. Please remember to send in your pledge card to make sure our doors stay open for all.

Finally, the Church Vision Committee has had a couple of meetings to look at our five-year plan and think about what the next five years may bring through our efforts. More to come on that project.

So, friends, you can see the spirit of Jesus burns brightly in our church as we take care of our church, our community, and our environment.

I hope to see you soon in church.

Peace, *Al Struck*

TRUSTEE'S REPORT...

The good news for this newsletter is the completion of the repair work on the chimney of the Church. It was a long time coming but the contractor that we worked with did an excellent job, the next step is to complete the repairs to the roof and the damage to the rear of the building. We are working with James Long and Sons on this portion of this project.



Flowers have been planted in the Meditation Garden. Ted Nixon has volunteered to water the flowers as needed; thank you, Ted.

If there are any issues that need to be addressed, please contact one of the Trustees.

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



NEWS FROM THE DEACONS...

The Deacons thank everyone who has helped out with greeting people, flowers for the altar, the peace prayer, and the weekly scripture reading. It takes all of us working together to make the church services run smoothly. Sign-ups for flowers, greeting, and peace prayer are on the counter in the narthex. If you are willing to read scriptures and haven't been asked lately, please talk to Dianne.

Starting in March we have had services in the church, and now have no restrictions as far as seating or mask-wearing. Of course, anyone may wear a mask, but we are not requiring it.

Many thanks to Tabitha Day for stepping up to run the FB Live every week.

Easter week was a busy one with a Maundy Thursday service including the pastor and members of the Harrison church in the service. Friends from North Waterford attended as well. Easter morning we had 40-plus people at the sunrise service at the beach! This was followed by an informal breakfast of muffins and coffee at the Wilkins House. Later that morning at the Easter Day Service the altar was full of beautiful flowers in honor of loved ones.

The Deacons led the service on Memorial Day weekend so that our hard-working pastor, Doretta, could have a well-deserved day off before the busy days of summer. This service included a hymn sing and we chose many of our favorite hymns. • June 5th was Pentecost which we celebrated by having an outdoor service on a beautiful sunny day. • Carnations were passed out on Mother's Day. Come to see what the men get on Father's Day!

If you know anyone who needs the Deacons or Minister to contact them, please let us know.

Hope to see you in church soon,

Dianne Morse-Leonard, Head Deacon

CHURCH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE (CAC)...

The CAC had its first meeting since October 2021. We are hoping to be able to again present social events for our church members and friends. We will be planning a trip to Pilgrim Lodge in the near future as well as an Ice Cream Social one Sunday after church. Myra and John hope to bring back their delicious French Toast Breakfast on Sunday, November 6 when we have time change. Another favorite, a Lasagna Dinner with several different kinds of lasagna, is currently in the works for September. We'd love some suggestions about a program afterwards. Last time we did this, we had a musical presentation. And I'm sure many of you remember the Italian cookies that Joanne MacKinnon made. Weren't there about 1000 cookies???



We are excited that things appear to be getting back to normal. The first outing will be a tour of the Doll Museum in Fryeburg on July 18th with lunch to follow for those who wish to join. Dodi has made arrangements for a private tour which will start at 10:00 am....cost \$5.00. Come to the church to carpool with departure at 9:30. Invite your friends and children who enjoy dolls. Dodi will provide more information.



If you have any ideas for a program after a lasagna dinner, or any other ideas for events, please contact one of us...Nancy, Myra, Dodi, Denny, and/or Doretta.

Nancy Engdahl, CAC Chairperson

MUSIC NOTES...

George has been giving worshippers information about hymns that he plays each week. This has been very interesting. Thanks! We also love hearing you play the Gage organ and your piano. Beautiful!



Choir has returned to singing, but between vacations and illness, our numbers have been variable. Luckily we are flexible!

I hope to have more special music this summer and into the fall. If anyone has ideas of folks to ask, please let me know.

Sharps on the Flat concert will happen on **July 23**, so keep an eye out for the posters and put it on your calendars! You will not be disappointed! Our church is a perfect setting for Sebago-Long Lake Music Festival musicians who love to play short programs in communities in addition to performing at nearby Deertrees theater. You will be amazed at the sound created by these professional

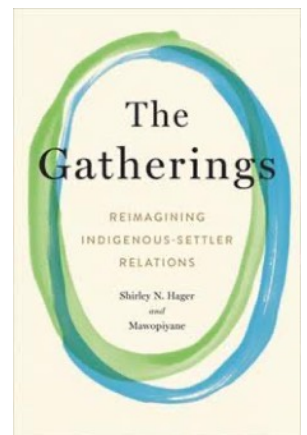
musicians in our lovely church. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the door.

Thank you all for your generous support of music in our little church!

Yours in Song, *Jane Morse*

THE GATHERINGS BOOK STUDY...Learning about the Indigenous People of Maine

In an effort to continue to learn about and clarify our understanding of people of different races and cultures a book group was started to read and discuss the book "The Gatherings". This book is about the courage of two people and a desire to help their friends build relationships and understanding of one another. Shirley N.Hager and gkisedtanamoogk (he does not capitalize his name) brought Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together in a setting called the Talking Circle. Meeting twice a year for 6 years they built trust, friendship and a fuller comprehension of the impact of the meeting of their two cultures. They also explored ways to mend old wounds.



Doretta, Dianne Morse-Leonard, and I facilitated the group which met 4 times in the month of May. We had a number of folks from our congregation and from as far away as New Mexico. There were 18 of us in all.

When the series of meetings ended we agreed we had learned a lot and wanted to know more. We also wanted to do something that would increase the visibility of the Indigenous people of Maine through laws that were being debated in our current legislature. Some of our efforts were successful some weren't. Dianne told the Committee on Social Justice about our group and now we are repeating the book study for them.

UKRAINIAN REFUGEE RELIEF PROJECT... by Al Struck

It was the last day of March, a Thursday, a chilly spring-like day. Folks in Waterford were rising from under nice warm blankets, smelling fresh coffee brewing and the bacon sizzling.

It was the same day, but noonish and pretty much the same temperature about 6,000 miles to the East on the border of Poland and Ukraine. There more than a million refugees have fled from the war in Ukraine. There had been no warm blankets that night and babies were kept protected from the cold night air inside their mother's coats. Breakfast was only a memory and a mid day meal was questionable. These people, forced from their peaceful homes, wondered among themselves if anyone knew what they were experiencing and if anyone cared.



As it turns out, there were people who cared and, most importantly, were doing something to relieve their plight. The Deacons at the Waterford Congregational Church had met on Wednesday, March 23rd for their monthly meeting. Dodi Wait,

one of the church members, came to the meeting to describe a relief program, "Maine to Ukraine," started by the Retail Association of Maine and the Maine Tourism Association. The two associations were looking for donations of shelf-stable food, utensils, hygiene products and monetary gifts — with a deadline of April 1st. Quickly, on social media in the Waterford Church, word of mouth, and posters placed in the community, the message spread. Donations were brought to the church where a big box was placed on the church steps. Ted

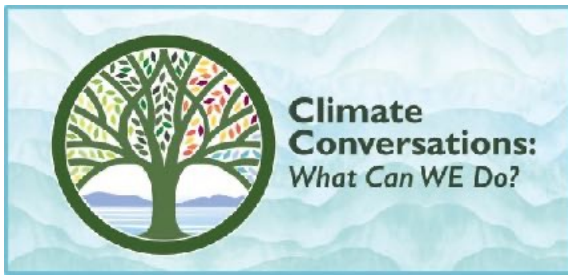


Nixon emptied the box daily and brought the contents into the church for safe keeping.



Money donations sent to the our church were deposited in a special account. 100% of the donations are going to this Ukrainian relief program. The Waterford community and surrounding area responded with the generosity. When volunteers arrived at the church on Thursday morning, March 31st, to load the donations collected, they found enough to fill a pickup truck. They transported this to the Fryeburg Maine Tourism Center. The monetary donations collected in the six days totaled \$2600. The "little church with the big heart" had done it

again, rallying its congregation and community to action. Soon, Ukrainian refugees would receive our outpouring of love and hope and care. They would find out we do know about them, and we do care about them, and we did something about it.



WONDERFUL THINGS ARE HAPPENING AS AN OUTCOME OF OUR CLIMATE CONVERSATIONS!

Join us on **Thursday, June 16th** to learn from **Sue Inches**, author, educator, and climate change advocate, who will present and lead a discussion on:

"Bridging the Left and the Right: How to communicate across the ideological divide."

Where: **The Wilkins House** 15 Plummer Hill Road, Waterford (next to the Waterford Congregational Church)

When: **June 16th, 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

Sue's message is critical to addressing climate change and finding innovative ways of working together to develop effective responses.

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OUR COMMUNITY POLLINATOR GARDEN

The pollinator garden project on the Library lawn is coming together beautifully! Our volunteers have been so supportive with physical labor and contributions that are a constant reminder of what a special community this is. I'll let the following pictures speak for themselves though they do not represent all the people who have been helping and the behind the scenes efforts. There is more work to be done, but that does not inhibit you from enjoying the peace of sitting one of our granite benches and taking in the beauty.



WATERFORD COMMUNITY EVENTS...



This familiar logo is at the top of the Community Newsletter which, if you haven't discovered it already, contains a wealth of information about what's going on in our little town! Whether you're interested in gardening, books, outdoor adventures, music, animals, local produce, politics, quilts, or climate; there is always something for you. To join the email list just contact Kelley at :

waterfordcommunitycoordinator@gmail.com.



This **wilderness safety class** is taught for *free* by Waterford's very own Tony Simpson (local PA and wilderness safety expert). Tony teaches around the nation about wilderness safety and we are very thankful that he is offering his expertise to us in this 3-hour class.

Gardner Waldeier and Betty Anne Henderson will be supporting the class and the assembly of our wilderness safety kits. Gardner is a first responder and wilderness safety expert and Betty Anne spent her career in the Emergency department triaging patients and providing

training about how to provide crucial initial support.

We will learn about how to keep ourselves and loved ones safe while enjoying outdoor adventures and what to do if we run into trouble. Each person will build a safety kit upon completion of the class so please sign up by June 10th to ensure we have enough supplies. Simply send an email to register: waterfordcommunitycoordinator@gmail.com

June 18th from 9am-noon • Wilkins House



Chewonki Traveling Natural History Education

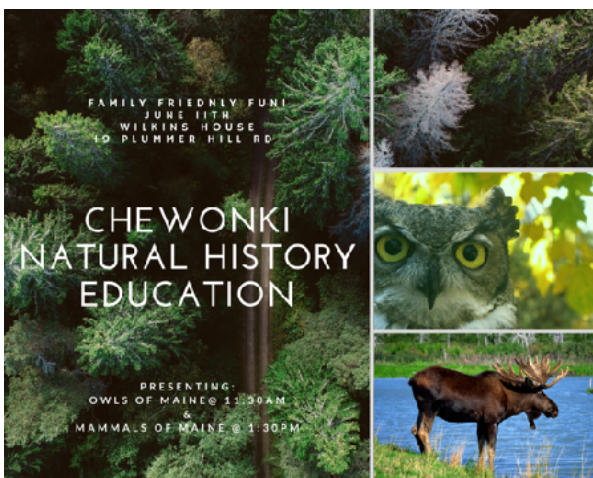
Join us at the **Wilkins House on June 11th**. Bring the kiddos in your life and enjoy learning together!

This event is sponsored by the Waterford Library.

Maine Owls from 11:30am - 12:30 pm

Bring your lunch and we can picnic together

Maine Mammals from 1:30-2:30 pm



News from the Keoka Lake Association (KLA)

- The KLA50 Anniversary Committee is raffling off a queen-sized quilt: "Windows on Keoka, Seasons of the Lake." The winning ticket will be drawn at the 50th Anniversary Celebration. For tickets go to keokalake.org.

- The KLA50 Historical Society Exhibit will highlight the history of KLA and Waterford during the years 1971-2021. Date to be announced. If you have items to submit, please contact Nancy Marcotte at kla50@gmail.com for more information.

- 9th Annual Bud Lazott Regatta & 3rd Annual Camp Cup



Keoka Beach Camp Ground has been

our gracious host for the past two races and we hope to launch from their beach again this year. Boats from other lakes will be checked by our past president, Charlie Tarbell, to insure no unwanted flora comes into Keoka. Local camps are being invited to participate in the KLA Camp Cup Race. Birch Rock is the defending champ, but participants from Wigwam, Waziyatah and Fernwood Cove will be sailing hard to take the trophy back to their camp this year.

Regatta date is **Saturday July 30, rain date July 31** •

Registration is at 1:00 PM • Captains meeting at 1:30 • Sail at 2:00 PM • There will be a ceremony after the race with awards for 1st and 2nd place in each class. The KLA CAMP CUP will be presented and the names will be put on the Bud Lazott plaque. Contact Al Struck for more information.

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Waterford 4th of July Events



7:30-10:00 am **Wilkins House Breakfast** Adults: 10\$; Children 10 & under 5\$
(Future Wilkins House Breakfasts to be held on: July 20, August 3, and August 17)

- **Library Book Sale** 8 am • **Parade!** 11:00 am • **Farmers Market** on the Common •

- **Duck Race Raffle** (Get your ducks at the booth day of & race starts at noon)



KEOKA LAKE ASSOCIATION
50TH ANNIVERSARY QUEEN-SIZE QUILT RAFFLE





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.

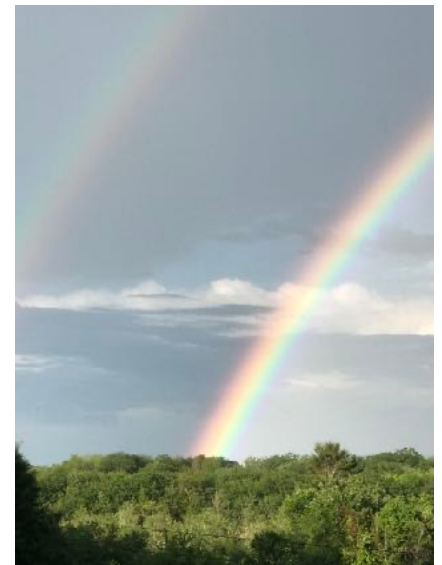
Travels with the Pam & Lloyd...

This is our early summer/summer traveling year. In May we flew to NC to visit with my (Pam's) Aunt Frances. She had been in the hospital after Christmas and then to rehab to build up her strength only to fall the day before she was to come home. It was a difficult winter for her and she really want us to come before our trip. It was warm and beautiful with everything in bloom. We played many games of cribbage which is a family favorite and shared many wonderful meals. It was hard to leave as she is aging and it may be our last visit.



First butterfly of the season at the Williams home in Maine.

We left on Sunday, May 29th for our trip out West, arriving in Seattle WA on June 16th. This is a dream come true for Lloyd and me, spending 10 days in Seattle, celebrating a High School Graduation, and family time. We've mapped out our trip to visit with family all along the way, stopping in Niagara Falls for a couple of days. I'll send post cards and postings as we go.



A special Maine rainbow!

We will celebrate July 4th in Salt Lake City with our nieces and husbands. This stop will be exciting as they are Rock Climbers - I don't think we'll do that, but who knows!

We plan to be back on Long Island, NY by the end of July for a small family gathering with my oldest brother and his family. Lloyd and I have made a few trips to NY to support my brother as my sister-in-law has been ill for the past few months. Just last week we learned that my brother has cancer, so this will be a much needed visit as he goes through his own treatments.

As the song goes, "see you in September" - hopefully August. Wishing all friends and family in Maine a wonderful summer!

Shalom, Pam & Lloyd

Voice Your Hopes! Shape The Future!



MESOM FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN STAKEHOLDER DISCOVERY DAYS

Dates & Time

- July 18 from 11am-2pm on Zoom
- August 1 from 11am-2pm at Pilgrim Lodge
 - On August 1 you are welcome to come as early as 9am and stay as late as 6pm just let us know
- *June 6 is full please stay tuned for results and next steps.*

Discover & Share

- We want to hear what you need from your grassroots ministry school.
- *We need YOUR call story!* We want to record your "call" story for future ministers of the Maine Conference.

Design & Dream

- Email your RSVP to Rev.Dr.Abbey@gmail.com to learn more or to join us!
- Help us better serve your educational needs for serving in the wild Maine ministry frontier!



MAINEUCC.ORG/MINISTRIES/MESOM/



@rbaard@maineucc.org



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Augusta ME 04330

The Strucks Celebrate...



THEIR YOUNGEST SON'S ACHIEVEMENT...

On May 30th at 6:30 pm Alaska time, Jamie Struck and three other members of their expedition 2Hot2Cold, summited Mt. Denali's south peak at 20,310ft. It was the 17th day of their climb which required multiple trips between camps at 7,000, 14,500, 17,500 to transfer food and supplies needed for the final assault of the summit. This is Jamie's second attempt to summit. The first was in 2018 when the expedition was stymied by Denali's fickle weather. This time the weather was exceptional allowing them to make excellent progress to "High Camp". From there the team decided to push on the next day without a rest day to take advantage of the good weather. It paid off in a successful ascent and a safe return to high camp. The team then went to Anchorage to prepare for their trips back home to California and Vermont, hence the moniker 2Hot 2Cold, used as the expedition's name. During their climb two other climbers died and four had to be medivaced off the mountain. The success of Jamie's team was due to their experience, skill, and preparation.



IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?!

Jean and Al's daughter-in-law, Lauren Struck, graduated from the Vermont Medical School on May 22. She will be doing her residency in Waterville Maine. It has been a long four years but Lauren has done an admirable job. She was awarded the top accolade in the Family Medicine program, which is what she will be pursuing for the next 3 years in Waterville. The Vermont Strucks will be moving to Oakland, Maine at the end of June. Lots closer than Burlington, VT. We are so proud of Lauren's accomplishments and so happy that they will be that much closer.

A Transition for the Rev. Robert H. (Bob) Ross...

I'm happy to report that my two sisters, Susan Steingass (Madison WI) and Carolyn Ross (San Mateo CA) are now the sole owners of the Waterford cottage at 662 Waterford Rd. I raised son no. 2 there (Eli Ross, b. 6Nov1996, Hebron academy 2015), and will always be grateful to the village and to the church for all the good years we shared in Waterford across from the library.



My sisters (and their children and their children's own families) will take possession and care for the house that Grandpa Eliot (b. 18Jan1880) and Grandma Pearl Rogers Bishop (b. 9Nov1882) acquired in 1922. Growing up, Grandpa Eliot spent summers up from Brooklyn NY, living and working in Waterford and staying at "Aunt" Susan Wilkin's summer home on the North Waterford road.

By September, I will reside across the border in Grantham NH at the Eastman community. But don't be surprised to see me, from time to time, mowing the field under Mt Tir'em, or traipsing up Plummer Hill Rd, or heading to the Transfer station. It's in my blood.

Sincere best wishes, Bob

Whichard Family News...

Such an incredibly blessed time...

This May, our daughter, Amy, and our son-in-law, Todd, had a lovely week adventuring on the Amalfi Coast of Italy; while I had the wonderful honor of spending just over two weeks with our



grandson, Joseph Valentino! It is amazing to see how much little ones grow and change in what seems to be a blink of an eye. Joseph is now 16 months old and an absolute joy! "Pappy" - Bruce, and "Godfather - Uncle" - Jared were able to join in and have some special time there too!

Although Bruce and Jared had less time on this adventure, as they had to get back to Maine for chores at our CAMP, they also had an unforgettable time! "Pappy" even got

to take Joseph to two swim class sessions, as "Grammie", Arlene, watched and photographed!!

My journey continued... and I got to spend time at Bobbi's home in Florida and visit with my sister-in-law Ruth and brother-in-law Glenn. Before this newsletter is completed, Bobbi and I will have returned to Maine! We look forward to a wonderful summer - filled with more blessings!

See you soon! *Arlene Whichard*



The Leslie's Silly Hats Birthday Party...



On Memorial Day Weekend we were joined by daughter, Martha Jean; son, Patrick; and granddaughter, Johnna. We celebrated 2 birthdays by having, at Johnna's request, a "silly hat party." She organized the hats and helped blow out the candles. All this... while we were quarantining (MJ had just tested positive for Covid - fully vaccinated - light symptoms!)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JUNE

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

JULY

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

AUGUST

1 Ralph Sylvester
3 James Long
3 Diana Wright
9 Lauryn Bedard
10 Meg Wheeler
19 Lydia Sylvester
21 Marion Brennan
23 Ellie Winslow
24 Denny Raymond
27 Caren Long
30 Ginia Brannan

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*



TREES

by: Joyce Kilmer (1886-1918)



I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day, and lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear a nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain; who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a tree.

Psalm 52: 8-9 "But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever. I will praise thee for ever, because thou hast done it: and I will wait on thy name; for it is good before thy saints."