



Waterford Congregational Church, UCC

2018-2019
December-January
Worship and Church School
9:30 a.m.

**The Church
has received a
Thank You card
from Petra.**



Dodi Wait photo



Karen Fillebrown photo

The card reads:

THANK YOU SO MUCH
YOUR KINDNESS MAKES SUCH A DIFFERENCE IN MY LIFE.

Petra wrote the following personal note:

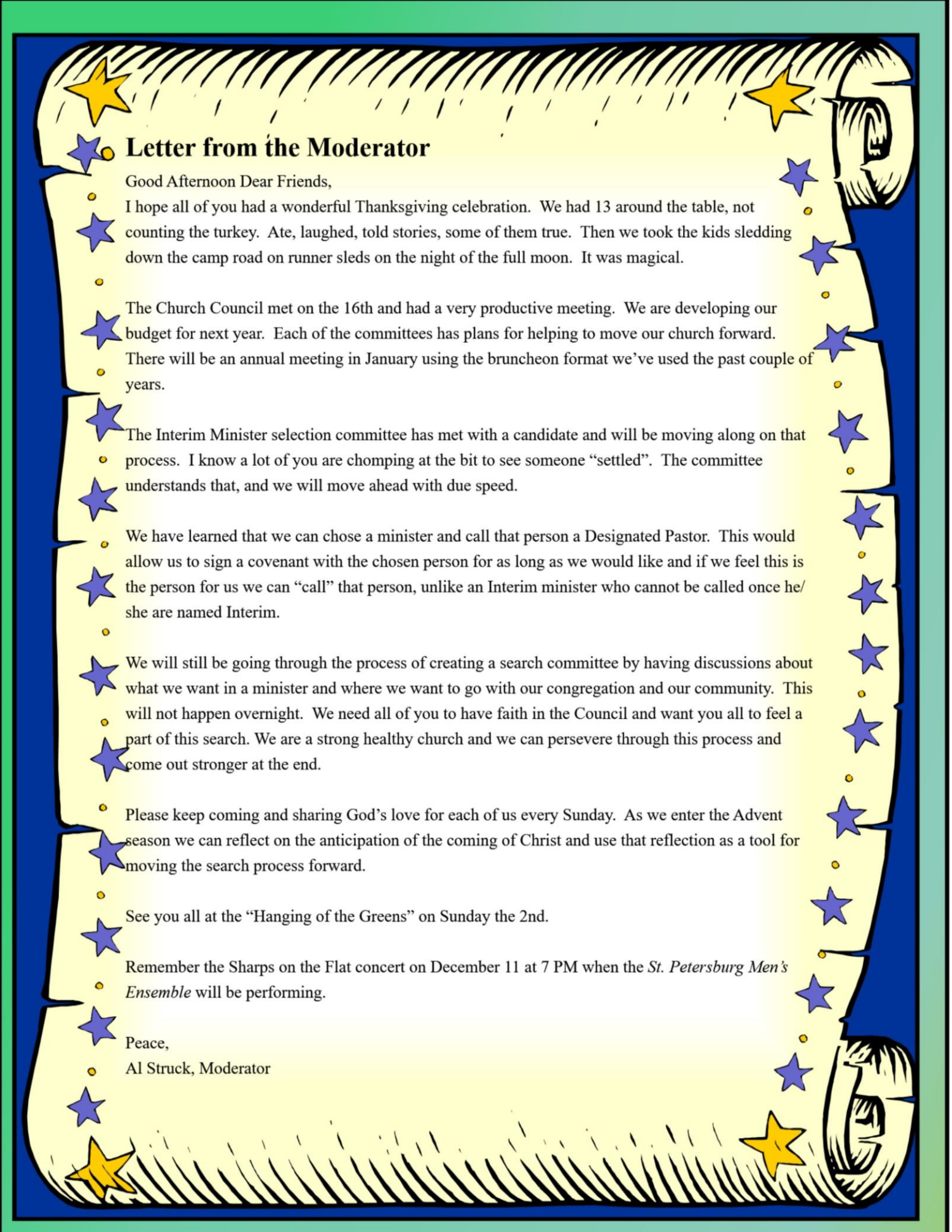
Dear Waterford Church Family,
It has been so much fun looking at the pictures and fondly remembering so many occasions, get togethers, worship services, field trips, celebrations, and presentations. Thank you also for the gift certificate. Of course the reception as well as the balloons in the sanctuary were fantastic.

I am so glad and grateful that we have done ministry together for almost six years.

May you remember that each one of you is a blessing and encourage you to go out into the world being a blessing.

Many thanks again.

Fondly, Petra



Letter from the Moderator

Good Afternoon Dear Friends,

I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration. We had 13 around the table, not counting the turkey. Ate, laughed, told stories, some of them true. Then we took the kids sledding down the camp road on runner sleds on the night of the full moon. It was magical.

The Church Council met on the 16th and had a very productive meeting. We are developing our budget for next year. Each of the committees has plans for helping to move our church forward. There will be an annual meeting in January using the brunch format we've used the past couple of years.

The Interim Minister selection committee has met with a candidate and will be moving along on that process. I know a lot of you are chomping at the bit to see someone "settled". The committee understands that, and we will move ahead with due speed.

We have learned that we can choose a minister and call that person a Designated Pastor. This would allow us to sign a covenant with the chosen person for as long as we would like and if we feel this is the person for us we can "call" that person, unlike an Interim minister who cannot be called once he/she are named Interim.

We will still be going through the process of creating a search committee by having discussions about what we want in a minister and where we want to go with our congregation and our community. This will not happen overnight. We need all of you to have faith in the Council and want you all to feel a part of this search. We are a strong healthy church and we can persevere through this process and come out stronger at the end.

Please keep coming and sharing God's love for each of us every Sunday. As we enter the Advent season we can reflect on the anticipation of the coming of Christ and use that reflection as a tool for moving the search process forward.

See you all at the "Hanging of the Greens" on Sunday the 2nd.

Remember the Sharps on the Flat concert on December 11 at 7 PM when the *St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble* will be performing.

Peace,

Al Struck, Moderator

CALENDAR

December

2nd, Advent Sunday, 9:30 AM
 Hanging of the Greens
 Event in Wilkins House following service
 11th, Tuesday, 7 PM
 Sharps on the Flat concert
 St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble from Russia
 15th, Saturday, 4 PM
 Church and Common Christmas singing
 23rd, Sunday - Service as usual, 9:30 AM
 24th, Monday, 5 PM
 Christmas Evening service



January

8th, Tuesday, 7 PM
 Lenten writing workshop at the Wilkins House
 ??, Sunday, after worship
 Brunch and Annual Meeting
 17th Thursday, 6 PM
 Potluck Supper at the Wilkins House
 31st, Monday
 Lenten pieces are due to Sally Holm

February

3rd, Sunday, after worship
 Souper Bowl Sunday at the Wilkins House

BIRTHDAYS

December

1 Eva Brannan
 21 Carol Madsen
 29 Kerry Johnson

January

5 Joy Plate
 17 Sherry Bedard
 21 Petra Smyth
 27 Mary Colbath



Who is this? Tell Ginny
 OR Send your answer to:

WaterfordCongregationalChurch@GMAIL.com

The answer will be in the February/March
 Newsletter along with the winner's name.

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



HINT: She sometimes
 looks in on what is happening...

Last Newsletter's
 Straight Shooter:
 Ralph MacKinnon



Winner:
 Myra Maltby

Stewardship

A few weeks ago I spoke to the congregation about stewardship and about this year's campaign. As we approach our budgeting deadlines for our next fiscal year I'm reminded how important your pledges are for our planning and for building confidence in our church's ability to do all that we would like to do in support of the church and the broader Waterford community that we serve. Yes, your weekly contributions are essential, but for planning purposes knowing what you plan to give in advance is critical to the decisions the Council makes every week and every month.

Thank you each one of you for all you do and all you will do. We are indeed "the little church with the big heart," and we are so because you care and you participate and you contribute to our mission.

Stewardship Sunday Message November 2018

Good Morning,

By now most, if not all of you, have received your Pledge Letter from the Stewardship Committee. Today, Stewardship Sunday, is an opportunity for the Committee to thank you all publicly for everything you do for our church and our community. Thank you.

This has been quite a year for our Waterford Church. We are in full swing implementing our vision, and our progress has been amazing. In all three of our ministries—service, music, and spirituality—we have done some wonderful things thanks to you. For me, it is especially heartening to see how we have also reached out to our neighboring congregations to include them in achieving some of our goals.

This year our Stewardship message is:

Each new day is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift to God.

Among the ways we give to God are through our service, our music and our spirituality. Another way is through our financial gifts. That's what our pledges are all about. Your pledge allows us to plan and manage the operating expenses of the church. By committing financially to the church through pledges you allow the Council to be thoughtful and deliberate in how we use our resources. We've done a great job of that, thanks to you and your commitments. We are financially strong, and we have met all of our day-to-day requirements.

This coming year will likely be challenge, however, because we need to replace our Pastor. That's never easy and it always raises financial questions. We need to be financially flexible if we wish to attract the right person to our Congregation. So, the more we know ahead of time the better idea we will have of what is possible. And, certainly, a financially stable Church is much more inviting to any Pastor candidate.

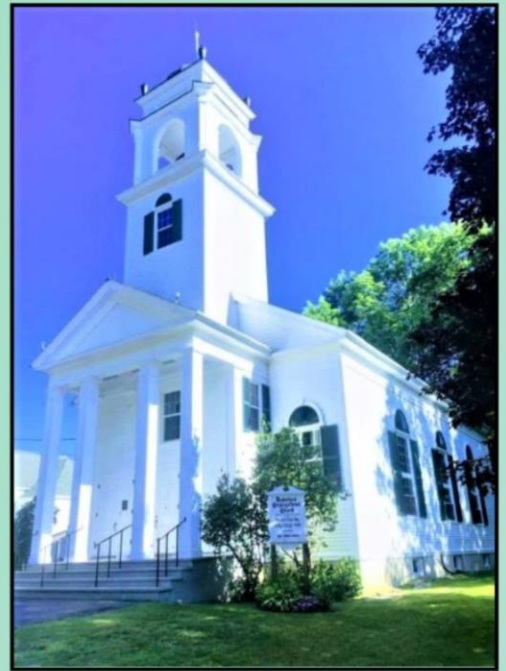
So, "Each day is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift to God." That tells us that our spiritual life is a daily occurrence. We strive to honor and preserve our past through our care for our history and our building. That happens every day. We seek to behave spiritually in the present through our ministries and our interaction with our community. That happens every day. And, we plan and anticipate our future by focusing on our legacy. That happens every day.

Together we are the Stewards of our past, our present, and our future, and your pledges make our Stewardship something all of us can be proud to be a part of.

Thank you for all you have done, all you do, and all you will do. Please take the time to read your letter and please return your pledge cards by early December. If you did not receive a letter there are some on the choir rail. Or, you can ask a member of the Stewardship Committee—Dodi Wait, Ralph MacKinnon, Barbara Allen, Jean Struck, or me—to get you one.

Thank you,

Kerry Johnson, for the Stewardship Committee



Brian Sylvester photo

From the Trustees

The meditation garden has been put to bed for the winter, the pots and one of the bird baths are in the basement of the Wilkins House. I hope next year we have more people interested in putting out a flower pot in the garden.

The trustees have been mouse hunting for the past six weeks in both the Wilkins House and the Church. Both building seem to be doing better over the past few weeks. We have not caught any mice in the past five days in the Church and the Wilkins House has been clean also.



We want to thank Dell Foss for cleaning the basement in the Wilkins house after the departure of the yard sale. There are a few things left to take to the dump and we will get that in the next few days.

If there are any concerns, please let one of us know.

John Trustees, For the Trustees

From the Deacons



Christmas is just around the corner and another year is coming to an end. We will celebrate the first Sunday of Advent on December 2nd. This service will be the traditional "Hanging of the Greens" and tree lighting. If anyone would like to bring a Christmas Tree ornament to hang on the tree it would be appreciated.

While we are undergoing the search for an Interim Minister, we will make sure worship services continue as usual.

On Sunday, December 23rd we will hold our regular 9:30 AM service, and on the 24th our traditional Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 PM.

Wishing everyone a very blessed Christmas and we look forward to the New Year.

Myra Maltby, for the Deacons

Fuel Fund Appeal

Due to the rise in prices for home-heating oil, the Fuel Fund ran very low in funds this fall. We have had new contributions which will keep us going for a while. We give 100 gallons for each request of K1 or K2 fuel. The last delivery for K1 was \$343.

This time of year is a hard time for many people as their fuel subsidy might not kick in until January or February. Thus, it might be a choice among warmth, food, medicine etc. We are hoping to plan fund raisers in the near future, but contributions small or large would be appreciated. Make sure you note Fuel Fund on your check. Please either mail them or put contributions in the collection plate.

Thank you!

Waterford Congregational Church
PO Box 59
Waterford, ME 04088

Nancy Engdahl, for the Mission Committee





Lenten Booklet Deadlines and Workshop Announced

How has God Challenged you?

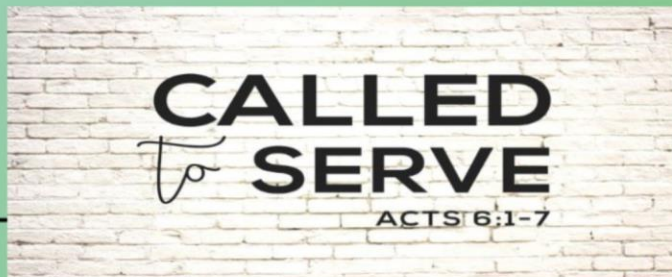
Our second booklet of Lenten Reflections is about to get underway! Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, so working backwards brings us to a **final deadline for pieces to be submitted of Thursday, Jan. 31.**

Please participate! Your contribution must be no longer than 350 words. Please include a relevant scripture, if you want, or we can provide them. Please send your piece to: sallyvholm@gmail.com.

In the spirit of learning together, we will once again offer a writing workshop at the Wilkins House. The session has been scheduled for **Tuesday, Jan. 8 from 7-8:30 pm.** Please come with several ideas for pieces, or poems, and a pen.

We look forward to sharing our thoughts and putting together our Lenten readings. The Church Activities Committee also is planning discussion sessions based on these reflections during the weeks of Lent.

Hope to see you there!
Sally Holm and Kerry Johnson



A Thank you!!!!

Four years ago the nominating committee was seeking an extra deacon to fill a vacant spot but no one was available. I was just finishing my 4th year as a deacon and according to the by-laws I was not to be re-elected. However, thanks to the congregation a vote was taken to change the by-laws for just one time to allow me to be considered for a second term.

I would like to thank the congregation for this opportunity. I am sad to leave as an active deacon in January but look back at the wonderful 8 years I was able to serve.

Thank you, Myra Maltby



Arlene Whichard photo

Music News

The Waterford Congregational Church Choir is very excited to start the Advent season on Dec. 2nd, as we have chosen some fabulous new and familiar old songs to sing during worship this season.

On Dec. 11th we are pleased to present the 3rd *Sharps on the Flat* concert with the St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble from Russia! 7 PM, at the church.

Remember the Christmas celebration on December 15th in the Flat. It starts at 4 PM at our church with folks sharing Christmas music. The choir will sing a piece or two and others will perform. Then we are off to the Common to sing carols around the BIG tree. (It used to be so small!) Waterford Library hosts us all for refreshments, more music with the Backroom Brass, story time, and then Santa! Bring your children to participate in this long- standing event! Every child gets a book from Santa to take home.

This brings us to the most wonderful church service—our Christmas Eve Service. The choir will perform. There will be special music, carol singing, readings and then by candlelight: Silent Night. It is another lovely gift our church gives to our community. We hope everyone can come this year. As always, music is a great part of the holiday season and a wonderful piece of our regular worship services year-round. Wishing you Peace, Love, and Joy through music this Christmas!

Jane Morse, Music Director

From the Church Activities Committee

We have had a busy October and November. Many little gremlins enjoyed the trunk-or-treat on the Common. The lit carved pumpkins, which spelled out WATERFORD greeted everybody. Cider and hot chocolate were served to warm everyone up. On November 4th, thirty people enjoyed a French toast breakfast cooked by Myra Maltby and John Wait. The extra hour of the time change was well used.

Thank all those who filled a Thanksgiving basket! We were able to help make a happy Thanksgiving for 16 families. Two baskets were filled using money contributed by our congregation. Most folks leave saying, "Tell everyone thank you." ...so.... THANK YOU ALL!

Sunday, December 2, will be a busy day. We shall have the Hanging of the Greens followed by a workshop with refreshment for an extended Coffee Hour. Dodi Wait will have supplies to making an Advent candle wreaths, one per family. If you have any special decorations you would like to put on your wreath, bring them along.

Please mark your calendars for Souper Bowl Sunday on February 3. We again will have a variety of soups, breads and of course lots of fellowship for all who come. This will follow out regular worship service.

Nancy Engdahl, for the CAC

John Wait, Kerry Johnson and Gail Nixon trim the Church Christmas tree in preparation for Hanging of the Greens.



Sally Holm photo



From the Wilkins House

Our potluck suppers are underway, the next being Thursday, January 17. The Nixons and the Waits will be hosting. There will be no supper in December because of Christmas. Please remember that if on the Thursday of a potluck supper Oxford Hills (SAD 17) schools are closed due to weather, there will be no supper that evening. Thank you to Nancy Engdahl for managing these suppers, and thank you all who are signed up to host.

At our last supper, Waterford Santa slips were distributed. If you have one, please remember to get your wrapped gift to town hall by December 13.

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

Denny Raymond, Assistant Manager



World Communion Sunday

October 14, 2018

Petra joined Reverend Leslie Chatfield in serving
World Communion in the
East Stoneham Congregational Church..

The breads whose recipes were
from 9 different countries were baked and
supplied by Myra Maltby



Arlene Whichard photos





Goodbye, Petra October 28, 1018



Myra Maltby, photos

Thoughts on the departure of Reverend Petra

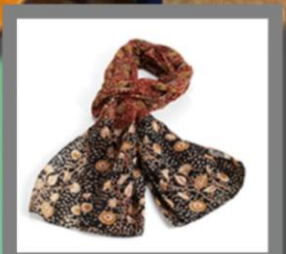
We all have missed Petra so quickly and so deeply. In my opinion this is the greatest loss of a Pastor since I have been coming to this church.

Petra spurred us onward and upward as she met with us on Sundays. Her innocence and energy sparked each one of us to get going with our life. She preached from the Bible, sometimes without our realizing that it was right out of the book of God, as she cited other people's opinion of life. But it was from God.

Petra was sent here to get us going, give us direction, even though she was a new pastor. She had God's will in her from her studies and a lot of it from her upbringing in Germany. We will miss her for a long time. It will be hard to replace such a strong person, doing God's will for her and us.

God Bless you, Petra !!
James Long

Mission Committee SERRV Holiday Fair & Luncheon October 20, 2018



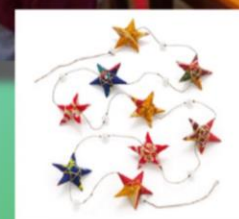
WCC Shop & Support our Fundraiser:

It's never been easier to change a life for the better. When you buy handmade gifts and home-decor using the web link below, 20% of your purchase will be donated to WCC mission fund

You'll do a world of good by supporting this Serrv & Earn fundraiser. I hope you'll shop and share my web link today:
<http://serrv.org/?a=WCC1>

Dedicating to fighting poverty through fair trade since 1949, Serrv International works with nearly 8,000 artisans and farmers in 24 countries to bring you the world's most beautiful handcrafts. #worldofgood

Thank you so much for your support!
Stephanie Michaud



Myra Maltby
Ginny Raymond
photos



An interview (in part) with Happy Chapman

Church History
Ginny Raymond



Happy & Wallace McDaniels (left)
Happy as a young girl (above)

You were born Happy Hamlin?

My first name is Margarette: Margarette Happy. Happy is for my great grandmother. My Mother's grandmother was... her name was Happy... I had three older brothers. They never thought they were not going to have a daughter, I guess. And boy was my father tickled when he finally got a daughter.

And you were quite a bit younger than your siblings, right?

My youngest brother was five years older than I, and he was the only one I was really close to. And when I think about it, I married Wallace and he was eleven years older than I, and my oldest brother was eleven years older than I, but I was not close with him. (laugh). I never knew what Wallace saw in me... I was just a kid. I was 15.

How long were you married to Wallace?

Over fifty years,

Then Perry came along?

And then Perry came along, right. Actually, Wallace and Perry were friends when they were young. So that is how I met. I met Perry...

... Now growing up in Waterford: You grew up on Mill Hill?

No, I grew up in South Waterford.

... did you go to the church in South Waterford?

Ahhh, Not very much. The church was closed for a long time.

When you were a child?

Yes. And we only had the church at the Flat. And finally some of us decided that we were going to lose the church because we still had two members, but they were elderly, and if they passed away we would lose the church. So some of us changed from the Waterford church membership to the South Waterford Church because we wanted to keep the church. But then we ended up losing it anyway, because we just got down to two or three members, and you can't keep a church going on that.

... Actually, back when I was young, we were part of the, gee... I want to say the United Parish [Oxford County United Parish], and I am not sure what that took in. Stoneham and Lovell, and another town as well as the Waterfords.

But eventually ... it was just the Waterford Churches.

And [when I was young] we were always in the Flat [for church] during the summer.

Always, Always, because that was what they insisted on. Because that is where the summer people went. And they depended on the summer people for income, actually a lot, and so naturally we would have wanted that because it was the best for the Parish anyway

And do you remember when the South Waterford Church closed?

No, I don't but it has been a long time.

Happy p 2.

I was thinking in the 70s... [early 80's?]

Probably

I remember my Dad going down and talking with the people that bought it, and I guess they ended up having a sale there for stuff.

Yes they did....

It was heart breaking when they finally had to close it. I guess because it was part of my childhood. I mean, I was a South Waterford girl.

... So is there anything that you would like to tell me about your childhood or about ... growing up in Waterford?

...Actually, I didn't have very many friends because everybody was older than I that lived in town. I can remember one day when I was a kid, I always had to go to bed at 7 o'clock, when I was growing up. And in the summer time it was still daylight, and at that time, as I said, I was young, my bed was still in my parent's room, and it was right beside the window and I would look out the window and there would be kids out on the street playing, and I was so mad because I had to go to bed. (laughs)

I understand that!

You were there in the village, so you did not have a farm there? You did not have any animals or anything?

Yeah, my father had cows.

Oh he did? Where did he run them?

Well you know, back then there was not much traffic. So we would take the cows and they would leave them over to Bear Mountain... Down almost to the lake, actually: land up on the mountain there.

It's all woods now then.

Yes.

You've seen a lot of change that way then.

Oh yeah!

A lot of change everywhere!



September 4, 1948



Happy & Wallace (left)
Happy as young adult
Happy and Perry (right)



August. 5, 2000



Baptism of Ivy Ellen Brockett, October 21, 2018



Witnesses to the baptism:

Kelsey and Michael Brockett - parents

William Brockett } Grandparents
Peter and Jane Morse }

Jeff Ballou - uncle

Owyn William Brockett - brother

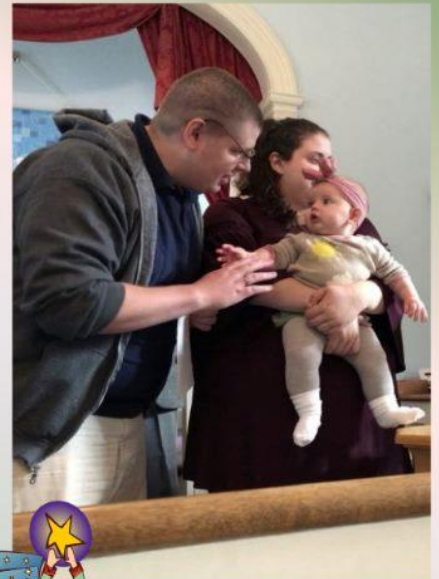


Ivy follows her big brother Owyn, who was baptized in the Waterford Church in 2016.



Ivy was 7 months old at her baptism.

We were very pleased to have Petra do the honor, as she also baptized her big brother.



Arlene Whichard
Myra Maltby
Ginny Raymond
photos

BECAUSE HE LIVES

sung by James Long.

It comes from the church hymnal where Caren and I were married.

It is one of my favorite hymns along with others from same hymnal. I don't have the hymnal any more. "God sent his son, they called him Jesus, because He lives."

I found this hymn at a time of my life where God found me wandering around in the desert, looking for more in life than I had experienced, something with the truth and something on which I could rely. I found it in the Bible, He found me, led me to his truth, to his unconditional love. It was a turning point in my life. As I studied relentlessly, I developed a thirst for His love, knowledge, truth and meaning of life. I found all this in His Bible, his life story of sacrifice for ME!

It changed me in so many ways, gave me a new direction for my life. It has been a wild ride at times, always full of Him, always with His control of my life. It is the only way to live.

As I talk to Him about problems, the answer comes quickly, completely, and it is the trust in Him that gives me peace as I conduct my life. ~ James Long



God sent his son

God sent his son, they called him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive.

He lived and died to buy my pardon;
An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives.

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow
Because he lives, All fear is gone
Because I know he holds the future
And life is worth the living just because he lives

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy he brings;
But greater still the calm assurance:
This child can face uncertain days because he lives

And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then, as death gives way to vict'ry,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know he lives.

Authors: Bill Gaither, Gloria Gaither

Another wedding for the Plates!



On Sept 29th, Henry and Joy Plate were able to see another grandchild get married!

Austin, Karen and Rex's son, married Brittany in northern Georgia with the entire family in attendance - from Maine, Connecticut, and Virginia to Chicago and Dallas, Texas! Twelve found beds at Karen's house Thursday night (the last four arriving after one AM!) and spent the festive weekend in Auburn, Georgia.

Brittany and Austin now live in Gainesville, Georgia



Thank You, Ted Nixon!!



I thought this photo was sweet. - Arlene

Bruce, "Chance" and I say *Thank you* for helping with Honor Flight Maine in moving wheelchairs, Ted!

Gail, thank you for sharing Ted with us!

As you can see Chance was very happy to be with Ted! She just about sat on his lap and didn't feel the need to move away.

Arlene Whichard

Two families celebrate at 2018 Fall Foliage Roadrace



Ginia Brannan, photos



Meg and Whizzer Wheeler's grandson, Andrew Chingos (#69), came in first place over all in the 5K road race.

Ginny and Denny Raymond's granddaughter, Ella Brannan (19) came in first place overall in the one mile fun run.

TRUNK or TREAT



Jack-o-lanterns carved by the CAC



Joy Plate
&
Dodi Wait

Ted Nixon

Jasmine Merrill
photos



Owyn
Jane Morse photo



Owyn and a friend



Jane Morse photo



Wynne Johnson and Gabe
with Jane Morse and Owyn



Sally Holm photo

Sharps on the Flat *b* # Concert

The Masterpieces of World Classic Choral Sacred
Music & Traditional Russian Folk Songs

CREDO

St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble
RUSSIA



ANDREI VOLIKOV

KIRILL SOKOLOV

SERGEY SHAPINSKIY

VADIM SMANTSER

Tuesday, December 11th ★
7 p.m.

Waterford
Congregational Church
15 Plummer Hill Road
Waterford Flat

★ Snow date will be December 18th.
A week later: Same time same place.

Donations will be kindly accepted.
Proceeds will go to community charities
and the local church music mission.

The group's repertoire encompasses various epochs and styles - from ancient Russian chants and chorals of Western European to modern music. Since one of the tasks of the ensemble is popularization of preeminently Russian music, our program allows to most fully elucidate and introduce to the audience Russian folk songs, secular and ecclesiastic compositions, as well as modern composers and transpositions of popular melodies. In a wide range of time we represent examples of Russian sacred music, starting from ancient songs of the Orthodox Church to works of little-known, but remarkable composers of the 18th-20th centuries, as well as famous masters - D. Bortnjansky, P. Tchaikovsky, P. Tchesnokov, A. Gretchaninov, S. Rachmaninov, I. Stravinsky and others. We perform different folk songs of lyric. We make our own arrangements of folk songs. Secular songs of Russian classics, such as S. Taneev, P. Tchaikovsky, S. Rachmaninov and others represent another side of our creative activity.