



Pastor's Corner

Rev. Deadra Ashton

Later this fall several members of the congregation and I are planning to attend a conference titled "The Church in the Inventive Age," sponsored by the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ. The speaker, Doug Pagitt, Director of Inventive Initiatives for the Center for Progressive Renewal, believes that American culture has moved through three ages: the *Agrarian Age*, the *Industrial Age*, and the *Information Age*. Now, it's in a fourth—the *Inventive Age*.

He says that each of these ages has brought shifts in what we think, what we value, what we do, and how we do it. "We live in the midst of inescapable change, and cultural change has always impacted the church. The role of the church is to live as a participant in our culture. Faith looks different in each cultural moment; this workshop will help us to tell the story of Good News in our Inventive Age."

I'm looking forward to using the conference as a springboard to generate new ideas for how the Tunbridge Church can thrive in the Inventive Age.

Parish Council

Kay Jorgensen

Please plan to spend some time on Saturday, Oct. 10, helping us make two church events — the annual 5K Walk/Run and the new Anything Apple fundraiser — a success.

The morning 5K to benefit capital projects is hosted by the Outreach Committee with Margaret Rogers in charge. Volunteers will be needed on the course and at the Parish House. Proceeds will come from entry fees, donations to participants and direct donation. Please tell your walking and running friends that they can download applications on our website or register that morning — early — the pack of runners and walkers will take off at 9.

Anything Apple is a free admission event from 12-4 at the Town Hall and Parish House lawn with an apple pie contest at 1:30, a big silent auction that ends at 3:30, many apple food samplings and products, a farmer and crafts market, apple pressing, Apple iTunes gift card raffles and more. We will sell coupons for people to use to "pay" for the treats they choose to sample.

Donations of services, crafts, collectibles, theme baskets and basket items and gift cards are requested for the silent auction. This is a good marketing opportunity for businesses. Early donations include a 3-month family membership at the VTC SHAPE facility, five 1-inch apple trees from E.C. Brown's Nursery, a basket of apple-related sewn and craft items, skeins of wool, 90-minute horse riding lesson or consultation, three days of dog boarding, a Brocklebank Craft Brewery basket, Vermont products, and new books for Lincoln buffs. Contact Kay Jorgensen about the auction.

If you bake or cook with apples, or know people who do, we will need pies,

cakes, cookies, crisps, bars, ciders, candies, sauce, jelly — anything apple, including heirloom apples, for people to eat that day or take home. We also need apples for the pressing, if you have apples that you don't want. Contact Rob Howe, who heads the food committee with Kate Caldwell, if you have apples and can help contacting donors and suppliers.

We will need help Friday and Saturday. Jobs include setting up tables, auction items and foods, collecting coupons, monitoring the sampling foods, cashiering and clean-up.

Please tell friends and family about Anything Apple. Posters, print and online announcements will promote the afternoon which we hope will attract tourists as well as local residents. Linda Lazaroff can send a pdf of the poster to anyone who would like to share it on Facebook or print it for handout. Please help spread the word. Thanks.

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Sometime this fall the Parish Council will schedule a special coffee hour discussion to share ideas about how to keep The Tunbridge Church vibrant and attract attendees and new members. Vermont has the lowest church attendance in the country and has the highest percentage of people who describe themselves as non-religious. This affects all congregations and their ability to be financially secure and maintain property and programs. We would like to hear your ideas on what we can do here in Tunbridge.

September/October Events

The Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School resume in the Congregational Church building in Tunbridge Village Sept. 6. Thanks to everyone who made July services at the South Tunbridge Methodist Church and August services at the North Tunbridge Baptist Church possible.

Special Events:

- Sept. 20 – Festival of Worship / Fair Service
- Sept. 26 – High Country Cloggers Variety Show
- Oct. 10 – 5K Run/Walk
- Oct. 10 – Anything Apple
- Oct. 18 – Senior Sing
- Nov. 1 – Shorter service followed by Special Meeting for vote on revised bylaws and annual Stewardship Sunday potluck supper.

Regular Meetings and Programs:

Adult Choir: Rehearsals resume Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Community Food Shelf: At the Parish House every Friday from 4-6 p.m.

Youth Group: Third Sunday of the month.

Soup and Stories: Informal Parish House lunch third Wednesday of the month at 12:30 p.m.

Rev. Ashton's Parish House office hours: Tuesdays 12 -1:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 10-11:30 a.m.

Parish Council Meeting: Sept. 27

Outreach Committee

Nancy Chapman

Whether you can sing or not come and join us for the next Senior Sing on Oct. 18 right after church. We'll have snacks for you. It's uplifting to sing to folks who enjoy hearing us. If there are enough singers two groups can go around and sing to even more seniors who dance and sing along.

The Outreach Committee hosted more than 30 people at an August Super Seniors lunch and plans another one on Oct. 31.

Christian Education

Sunday School begins on Sept. 27. During the service we'll introduce our teachers. We'll celebrate Sunday School at coffee hour after the service

The teachers for this year are:

Ashley Amodeo
Lois Gross
Lenora Kimball
Kathi Terami
Ben Wolfe

Teenage helpers are:

Joshua Amodeo
Eleanor Frost

Sunday School will be held every Sunday morning through the first week in June except on Sundays when we celebrate communion or there is special event during the worship service. We're looking forward to a great year!

News and Notes

The Tunbridge Church hosted the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center's Clinical Pastoral Education Program for a tour of church facilities and Rob Howe's farm. Our pastor, Deadra Ashton, is enrolled in the DHMC program.

During lunch the visitors discussed patient and family needs and services in rural communities with Sue Barnaby, Sarah Buxton, Dennis Cilley, Euclid Farnham, Judy Tucker, Deadra and Rob. The Parish House lunch was catered by Lucy Howe whose cousin, Addie McClain, helped serve. Photos from the day are displayed in the Parish House.

Ann and Corey Chapman welcomed their third son, Morgan Cross Chapman, on June 25. Nancy and Randy Chapman and Elaine Anthony are grandparents and great-grandmother, respectively.

Evan Richard Johns was born July 1 in Lisle, Ill., to Nate (Deadra Ashton's son) and Kate Johns. Grandparents are

Deadra and Chuck Ashton and Allan Johns and Cindy and Rick Schlichting.

Marshall Distel, son of Rosemary and Skip, and grandson of Hazel and Roger Welch, graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Vermont College of Arts and Sciences with a Bachelor of Arts in Geography and minors in Spanish; Community and International Development; and Vermont Studies. Marshall was recognized for his honors thesis, received the Outstanding Senior in Geography award, was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and two honor societies. He is now a transportation planner for the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission in Williston.

Three Tunbridge residents were among some 100 students ages 7-18 who appeared in "Cinderella," the annual July Youth Musical at Chandler Music Hall. Tommi Hoyt, Matthew Mulvey and Olivia Swayze were in the teen chorus for song and dance numbers and Tommi was a featured dancer. Olivia also attended Northern Stage's Summer Musical Theater Intensive program which concluded with two outdoor performances of "13."

The Herald and Valley News ran front-page stories about Peg Elmer Hough's donation of her Route 14 White River frontage, including the Pinch Rock swimming hole, to the Vermont River Conservancy and Town of South Royalton.

Rosemary Distel was a member of the VTC Knightriders team that rowed in the Aug. 2 Lake Champlain Dragon Boat race. It supports area cancer survivors through Dragonheart Vermont and its Survivorship Network on Wellness. A preliminary race determined divisions. VTC came in second in its division. Rose said the 18 paddlers and their drummer met their fundraising goal and went home happy and tired after rowing in four races.

Many attendees from the church's Ice Cream Social stayed for the Historical Society's "Tunbridge Speaks" oral history program in the church. Euclid Farnham narrated. Costumed presenters were Deadra Ashton, Sarah Buxton, Priscilla Farnham, Frank Fetter, Elaine Howe, Dawna Neron and Ben and Tim Wolfe. Some of them will have roles at the Oct. 11 Ghost Walk in Spring Road Cemetery.

Bill Chester and Pam Dietz, each holding a baby goat, appear in a Vermont PBS promotion. They say, "We're Tunbridge and we love Vermont PBS." You can also see them at www.vpt.org under DonorSpeak.

Thanks

The Tunbridge Church had busy summer months and there are many people to thank for their time and support.

We appreciate the vocalists and musicians who provided special music while the choir had the summer off: Peggy and David Ainsworth, Bunchie Angell, Connie Button, Priscilla Farnham, Marybeth Lang, Hannah Rogers McClain and her daughter Whitney, Paul Rivers, and the quartet of Deadra Ashton, Kate Caldwell, Rob Howe and Elaine Lenz. And thanks to the North Tunbridge Players — Judie Lewis, Dawna Neron and Olivia Swayze — for their dramatization of Jonah and the Whale.

The Tunbridge Grange graciously allowed us to open their building on Sundays in August, so that the bathroom was accessible, and hosted fellowship on our last Sunday in North Tunbridge, with coffeecakes, juice and coffee — and we had the first choices at

their food sale. Many churchgoers left with delicious pies, cookies and other baked goods.

Webmaster Geoff Hansen has made some changes to the website. Visitors will see new photos and information about community services which The Tunbridge Church provides. This is a good place to refer anyone who is interested in learning more about The Tunbridge Church.

In addition to the people who donated baked goods, Christmas and other items for the annual July Community Yard Sale and Coffee Creche, a big thank you to Nancy Howe for organizing this annual fundraiser and Nancy and Ed for moving tables back and forth to the church sales area.

Yard Sale and Coffee Creche helpers were Deadra Ashton, Kate Caldwell, Nancy and Randy Chapman, Madison Distel, Brenda Field, Nan and Alec Frost, John Holder, Elaine Howe, Nancy and Ed Howe, Rob Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Maureen Moriarty and Fred Pond. Thanks to all.

The Tunbridge Church hosted 80 children and adults at the annual Ice Cream Social. It was held in the Town Hall, rather than on the lawn, because of rain. Chair Pam Dietz was helped by Kay Jorgensen, Sadie and Ernest Kennedy and Maureen Moriarty.

The church and Parish House flowerbeds flourished during the summer thanks to a donor who paid for Deb Mullen's services. She spent many hours weeding, thinning, transplanting and mulching. Weeders are welcome any time. A big thanks to Eric Flanders who mows around the Baptist Church and Ed Howe who mows the grounds in Tunbridge Village and South Tunbridge.

Happy Birthday

September

- 17 – Ben Wolfe
18 – Alison Gravel
Samantha Fraser
20 – Elaine Cilley

October

- 03 – Randy Chapman
04 – Byron Angel
Mertie Clark
14 – Warren Baldwin
30 – Joey Serviss

Happy Anniversary

September

- 04 – Bob & Linda Lazaroff

October

- 17 – Vivian & David Smith

Church Positions

Parish Council

Kay Jorgensen, President
Dawna Neron, Vice President
Sue Barnaby, Secretary
Townsend Swayze, Treasurer
Nancy Chapman
Pam Dietz
Rob Howe
Jim Sweeney
Judy Tucker

Staff

Rev. Deadra Bachorik Ashton, Pastor
Judie Lewis, Director of Music
Janet Zug, Youth Choir Director
Linda Lazaroff, Administrative Asst.
Euclid Farnham, Sexton
Rev. David Wolfe, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Gordon Mitchinson, Parish Associate

Elsie Farnham, Recording Treasurer

Committees

The church committees are posted on bulletin boards in the church and Parish House. Interest in committee work and volunteer help are always welcomed.