



Vol. 11 Issue 2 • March-April 2020  
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## Welcome, Jenny

The Tunbridge Church welcomes the Rev. Dr. Jennifer “Jenny” S. Cook as our settled part-time pastor. She was called at a Feb. 2 Special Meeting and began her tenure in February after serving as interim pastor for four months.

Jenny’s previous experience includes being a senior minister, directing Christian education, ministering to the homeless, leading retreats, developing seminary curricula, and being a police and fire chaplain.

She has drawn on those and other experiences in Tunbridge. The church’s presence has been shared beyond the congregation with lip balms, Valentine lollipops with “You Are Loved” messages and microwave “pop in sometime” popcorn packets. Popcorn was also handed out at Anything Apple and recently went in welcome bags for new residents.

Jenny’s led A Service of Light on the winter solstice and a drum circle at the February Food, Fun and Frolic. Her first Care for the Caregivers session was well received and is now offered monthly on the second Saturday through June. Her Saturdays in Tunbridge include pastoral visitation and communion.

The congregation sang “Happy Birthday” and Christmas carols over cell phones and children found gifts under the tree on Christmas Eve and stuffed animals and books in the back of the sanctuary. Sunday services have included roses on All Saints’ Day, Advent gifts, water from the River Jordan, and a guided imagery session.

In previous ministries Jenny initiated a variety of study, support and crafts programs. She has lots of ideas to increase our church’s outreach to the

community, including outdoor drum circles and a blessing of the animals.

Aside from her ministerial work, she is a Reiki master/teacher and a certified life coach and reflexologist. She plays the flute, directed an English handbells group and loves to bake and cook.

## Pastor’s Corner

*The Rev. Dr. Jennifer S. Cook*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is really a joy to be your pastor!

Here we are, at the beginning of Lent. It seems that we just celebrated Christmas and Epiphany. Time really passes quickly. Even though the snow is piled to the top of my bedroom window, Spring is just around the corner!

Growing up, my Catholic friends would ask, “What are you giving up for Lent?” I would reply, “homework” or “curfews.” As a young Protestant, it never occurred to me that Lent might interest me or be of value as a way of knowing God more intimately. I have since realized, it’s not about what you give up, but who you become.

Lent is a church season that lasts for 40 days, not including Sundays, until Easter. In the ancient church, this was a time for new converts to learn about baptism and for the “sinners” to focus on repentance. Gradually, all Christians came to view Lent as a season to spiritually prepare for the celebration of Easter.

This isn’t a time to “earn” God’s favor by good intentions or good work. We are fully “covered” with God’s grace. If during Lent you wish to grow more deeply into God’s grace and love for you, I think you have the right idea about this season!

If you want to “keep” Lent, how might you do it? Here are a few suggestions:

– Give up something like television, or just the news, in order to devote time to Bible study and prayer.

– Set aside time each day to slow down and meditate on the depth of the journey to the cross.

– Read the book *The Last Week*, by John Dominic Crossan.

– Consider directing your focus on the Good Friday event or the joy of Easter morning. Or, any discipline that will make this season meaningful and help you grow in God’s grace.

– Keep a journal if you wish, and if you would like to share it, I would be glad to listen.

If Lent isn’t something you wish to “observe,” then don’t feel obligated. However, know that millions of Christians who have experienced Lent as a time to intentionally deepen spiritual life, have also experienced deeper worship and faith.

Blessings to all as we journey together to the cross and the empty tomb.

Please keep me in your prayers, you will be in mine.

*Jenny*

## **Parish Council**

*Kay Jorgensen*

The Parish Council welcomes Bunchie Angell and Jerilyn Zaroogian who were elected as members at the Feb. 2 Annual Meeting. Bunchie fills two years remaining on Ben Wolfe’s term.

At its March meeting the council reelected officers Kay Jorgensen, Rob Howe and Dawna Neron as president, vice president and secretary, respectively.

Thanks to Maureen Moriarty for her three years of service on the council, most recently as treasurer after Townsend Swayze’s retirement last year. She is staying on in that capacity until a new treasurer/Parish Council member is chosen. If anyone is interested in the

position please contact a council member.

As always, there was plenty of food and variety at the potluck meal before the Annual Meeting. Thanks to all who brought food and Shirley Boles, Nancy Chapman and Sue Rogers for serving, setting up and cleaning up. And a big thanks to Margaret Rogers, master of the kitchen and the dishwasher.

This will be a tight year financially, requiring withdrawal of investment funds. No capital projects are planned. Rob Howe told the Annual Meeting that funds from Arnold Castagner’s bequest paid for last year’s new Parish House doorway. Memorial donations in honor of Barbara Howe will fund upgrades to the lighting in the church sanctuary.

Contributions to the church are still being received in response to our January letter which detailed the many ways in which the church serves the Tunbridge community. The mailing list was expanded so that more residents would be aware of our work. To date, 19 people who are not church members or attendees sent donations. More than \$3,000 has been received. We appreciate their support.

Winter isn’t over at this writing. Until spring arrives Gordie Barnaby will be plowing behind the Parish House and Rob Howe will shovel at the church and Parish House. Thanks to both of them.

## **Music News**

*Judie Lewis*

The choir is preparing music for Lent, Palm Sunday and Easter. It will sing “The Palms” on Palm Sunday and the traditional Hosanna songs.

On Sunday, March 29, flutist Barbara Smith and Nancy Taube will play their own flute and piano duet composition.

Looking ahead to the last Sunday in April, when the choir will not sing, fiddler Beth Telford and guitarist George White will provide the music.

## March/April Calendar

### *Holy Week:*

April 5: Palm Sunday service, 10 a.m.

April 10: Good Friday Tenebrae Service, 7 p.m.

April 12: Easter sunrise service at the top of Strafford Road (about 6 a.m. , to be announced) followed by Parish House hot drinks and pastries.

April 12: Easter worship service, 10 a.m.

### *Special Events:*

March 13: Care for the Caregivers

April 25: Super Senior Luncheon

April 11: Care for the Caregivers

### *Regular Events:*

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Choir rehearsal: Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

Community Food Shelf: Fridays, Parish House, 4-6 p.m.

## Care for the Caregivers

*Jenny Cook*

Just for You!

If you need a time away from the urgency of caregiving for a loved one, join us on the second Saturday of every month through June, 2020. The first gathering will be on March 14 from 10:30 until noon.

We will experience prayer, conversation, share resources, a little yoga, music, a spiritual discipline, and maybe even a laugh or two. Come to relax and unwind during this time that is set aside just for you.

At noon, if you wish to stay, you are invited to a light lunch and fine fellowship. Please mark your calendars for the next several months on the second Saturday! It might give you peace of mind if there was someone to stay with your loved one. That is completely up to you.

I come to this program with clinical pastoral work at the Cleveland Clinic, retreat writing and leadership, and many years of caregiving experience for

my family members at various levels of infirmity. I have also written and taught seminary curricula on grief, caregiving, and self-care.

I hope you will join the group. "Drop-ins" are always welcome. If you know in advance that you would like to attend, please call to let me know you will be attending at 401-263-5812.

## News & Notes

### **Town Honors**

Lifelong church member Euclid Farnham was honored at Town Meeting for his 37 years as Town Moderator with a proclamation from the legislature and U.S. and Vermont flags that were flown over the state house.

After Selectman/Rep. John O'Brien spoke about Euclid's multiple years of service with so many groups, institutions and town offices and presented the proclamation and flags, Euclid received a standing ovation. He said, "Tunbridge is my home. It's where I've lived for 86 years and Tunbridge is where I'm going to die. Now let's get down to business."

The next item of business was election of Gordon Barnaby as Moderator. Several church people worked at Town Meeting, most as members of the Friends of Tunbridge Public Library, helping serve the meal and dispense pies, and behind the scenes providing provisions and baking, setting up and cleaning up.

### **Skee Barnaby's Passing**

Edward H. "Skee" Barnaby died Feb. 27 at age 95. He was a native of Tunbridge where he and his late wife Anna raised seven children. After working many years as a logger, he retired and joined the grounds/maintenance crew at the fairgrounds. He and the late Blanche Fisk, who died last September, lived for many years in a house next to the fairgrounds.

Skee's survivors include sons Gordon (Susan) of Tunbridge and James (Kim)

Barnaby of Warren, Mass.; daughters Diana (Larry) Brock of Greenwood, Ark., and Jean (Harlie) Parker of Chelsea; 13 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; sisters Beverly Benoir of Windsor and Marilyn Vesper of Tunbridge.

The March 6 funeral was held at The Tunbridge Church with our Funeral Fellowship Committee serving refreshments at the Town Hall.

Memorial donations may be made to the Tunbridge Town Forest Committee, PO Box 6, Tunbridge.

Full obituary information is at [www.boardwayandcilley.com](http://www.boardwayandcilley.com).

### **Pageant From the Past**

Where have all the children gone?  
They grew up.

The 1996 Epiphany Pageant roster recently surfaced. Major roles went to Kacie Merchand, Erin Barnaby, Karen Savedra, Sara Munger, Jonelle Philbrick, Neal Miller, Suzanne Howe, Michael Merchand, Luke Barnaby, Kacie Howe, Brandy Caron and Meagan Swahn.

Portraying angels, shepherds and sheep were Sara Swahn, Andrea Russell, Jessica Ware, Ashley Pettit, Lindsay Dyer, Jesse Dyer, Ryan Pettit, Forrest Miller, April Miller and Nicole Munger.

## **Thank You**

### **Euclid's Retirement**

Many thanks to Euclid Farnham who served as treasurer of our Community Food Shelf for the 13 years since it was started. He also was the church treasurer for years before being succeeded by Townsend Swayze in 2008. Mary Fisk is the new food shelf treasurer.

### **Super Senior Soup**

The Outreach Committee's first home-delivered soup meal for seniors last winter was a big success, so this year, the Outreach Committee is doubling its efforts.

Some 30 quarts of soup were delivered in February. The turkey roaster, soup

makers, bakers, bread and cracker baggers and deliverers were Sue Barnaby, Shirley Boles, Nancy Chapman, Kay Jorgensen, Jacque Norris, Jean Parker, Margaret Rogers, Sue Rogers and Judy Tucker. (See photos on last page.)

On March 27 the Outreach volunteers will be putting together a mac and cheese lunch for home delivery. For information contact Nancy Chapman.

### **February Event Report**

Thanks to volunteers, cooks and bakers, auction donors and bidders, lunch patrons and a generous donation, we made \$627 for the Parish House restoration fund at the February Food, Fun & Frolic event. Soup, grilled sandwiches and an array of desserts were offered.

Jenny Cook led drumming and generated interest in some summer evening drum circles on the lawn. Rose Terami set out supplies of paper, envelopes, markers and decorations for card making. Nancy Howe had a table for cupcake decorating. Auction donors included Boardway & Cilley, Lenora Kimball, Saturday Sewing Circle, Billie Smith, Tunbridge World's Fair, and Worthy Burger.

Also working at the event were Shirley Boles, Nancy Chapman, Elaine Howe, Rob Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Joyce Miller, Dawna Neron, Jacque Norris and Margaret Rogers.

Photos from the day are displayed on the church vestibule bulletin board.

### **Undecorating**

Christmas decorations were packed up in January. Brian Cook took down the tree and windowsill ornaments while Jenny and Parish Council members were meeting. Later in the week Nancy and Randy Chapman, Rob Howe, Kay Jorgensen and Jim Sweeney did the rest of the undecorating, putting all the ornaments, greens and candlesticks away and taking the tree out of the sanctuary. The Chapmans put the outdoor creche figures away.

## Birthdays

### March

- 04 – Sharon Mee
- 07 – David Wolfe  
Eve Ermer
- 09 – David Smith
- 18 – Jacque Norris
- 21 – Shelia Mitchinson
- 30 – Lisa Amodeo

### April

- 07 – Elaine Howe
- 08 – Nan Frost
- 09 – Edward Howe  
Judy Hilts
- 11 – Alec Frost
- 13 – Don Hilts
- 20 – Rob Howe  
Kay Jorgensen
- 21 – Linda Lazaroff
- 25 – Vivian Smith
- 26 – Shirley Boles

## Parish Council

Kay Jorgensen, President  
Rob Howe, Vice President  
Dawna Neron, Secretary  
(vacancy) Treasurer  
Bunchie Angell  
Sue Barnaby  
Nancy Chapman  
Judy Tucker  
Jerilyn Zaroogian

## Back page photos Super Senior Soup Volunteers

Clockwise from top left: Sue Rogers bagging bread; Margaret Rogers carving a turkey; Judy Tucker and Jacque Norris bagging cookies; Margaret, Sue and Nancy Chapman ladling and pouring soup into jars.



## Called to Care

The Rev. Dr. Claire Bamberger, second left above, commissioned Marybeth Lang, left, Judy Tucker and Sue Rogers after they completed 40 hours of training with her for Called to Care: A Resource for Lay Caregivers. The women, who are trained to do pastoral visitation, received pins to wear when on Called to Care visits and a handbook and visitation packets.



