



Vol. 12 Issue 3 • May-June 2020
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Coronavirus Special Issue

Offerings & Donations

Thank you to everyone who has mailed checks to Recording Treasurer Elsie Farnham at 425 VT Route 110. While we have not been able to meet together for church services, our expenses continue and your support is appreciated.

Many churches accept donations online. The Parish Council wonders how much interest there is in that. Please let us know if you would consider making online donations by writing Kay at kjayvt@gmail.com or call 889-5528. Thank you.

How Are We and What Are We Doing?

Sue Barnaby

THANK YOU to EVERYONE who has given so generously during this time of need to The Tunbridge Church Community Food Shelf!

Attendance on Friday's open times has not increased a lot but we do feed 25 people every week through the school's backpack program that we supply food for.

We continue to need canned fruit and meat and cheese products. Money donations may be sent to treasurer Mary Fisk at PO Box 12, Tunbridge, VT 05077.

The Community Food Shelf at the Parish House is open Fridays from 4-6, thanks to volunteers. Orders can be placed at the front door and picked up at the back door.

Rob Howe

Easter at Howvale Farm was as different as it has ever been. While cooking in the late morning, I listened to Parts 1 and 2 of Handel's Messiah. My sister Suzie and her husband drove down to join me and my children in a dinner on the lawn, with distance to spare. We have been very fortunate to remain healthy throughout this strange time, and hopefully that will continue.

I cooked a leg of lamb (a favorite of my mother) and had contributions from each in attendance to round out the meal. It had been sunny, but a little windy until we were about to eat, when the clouds overcame the party and it got a little chilly. We were all dressed for the occasion, so we all enjoyed each other's company.

When we are all able to gather again in the church building, there is a noticeable change. As a gift to the church from the memorial donation given in my mother's memory, there are new light fixtures in the sanctuary as well as over the choir loft and pulpit, LED bulbs (to last a good long time), and new wiring and switches to control brightness.

I hope that the fixtures that were chosen are well liked and find the brightness of the church interior to have a positive effect.

Anne Peters

I have been calling two people a day to check on well-being; doing two household tasks long put off; doing weekly prep for outside helpers; doing gifts handmade; re-reading the Constitution with study plan; reading one Rachel Maddow blog; listening to the governor of New York daily; researching how well Vermont extended

care/nursing home facilities are being serviced; trying new recipes; ordering out with friends/we eat separately and talk by phone during.

I am so busy I don't get to bed till after midnight.

Judy Tucker

I have cloth face masks at my house made by Nancy Howe. If anyone needs them I place them under my car wiper blade after they call and tell me what they need. I have not had to deliver any yet, but I can if need arise. Contact me at 889-3305 or tuckerjudy40@yahoo.com

Bunchie Angell

I would like to share that I have made face masks for my entire family and they are using them. We had a fun experience on Easter Sunday afternoon. Our granddaughter Amanda did the organizing. She brought plastic eggs for Byron and I to hide and each child had their own color to look for.

One family came at 2 p.m. the second family came at 2:30 and the third family came at 3. No family were here at the same time and Byron and I watched the whole thing from our sunroom windows. It was such a great way to see our great-grandchildren.

We miss seeing all of our friends at church and hope we can be all together soon.

Nancy Chapman (written April 29)

News from the Spring Road Corvid 19 front: Randy and I are finally able to take our daily Jeep rides on the back roads of Tunbridge, South Royalton and Chelsea. I bet we know the roads as well as nearly anyone in town.

On the occasional days when the weather has been warm enough and not windy, we have been able to spend time pruning bushes and raking out the flower gardens. I am thinking longingly about planting our vegetable garden. Still quite a while, yet.

Most of the past 5-6 weeks I have spent in my sewing room making cloth masks. It's been satisfying supplying all my family, a few friends and the Chelsea Rescue Squad, as well as completing over 100 mask covers

for the Randolph Glove Factory masks which were sent to NYC.

My most recent project has been making masks for the Vermont State Police. A woman in Waterbury has organized the effort and Joann's Fabrics is supplying all the fabric. My commitment is 70 for our local Royalton barracks, which I should have completed by this weekend. That will leave me with time on my hands, so if anyone needs masks, please give me a call at 889-5542. I have 60+ years of fabric begging to be used! They can be made with elastic behind the ears or with ties.

We miss seeing everyone, especially our kids and grandkids. Please stay well. Thinking of you.

Barry Wampler

We have been enjoying the emailed Sunday Tunbridge worship services. I really like the YouTube links to listen to the hymns/songs in the service. While watching and listening to them a sidebar of other songs will pop up. I pulled up several of these and liked "I'll Fly Away" and "I Saw the Light" done by a group called Ransomed Bluegrass.

You know how I like hymn/song history, so I went to Wikipedia to find out about "I Saw the Light." I thought it was an old gospel song but I was surprised. It was written by Hank Williams in January 1947.

While returning from a show in Fort Deposit, Ala., at night, he and the band were sleeping in the back of the car. Approaching Montgomery, his mother Lillie driving, she spotted the lights of Dannelly Field regional airport. Williams, sleeping and inebriated in the back seat, was roused when his mother said, "I just saw the light," telling him they were close to Montgomery.

From that he penned the three verses and chorus for the song. A biographer said of the song's origins, "The lyrics were the prayer of a backslider who lives in the hope of redemption." The song was recorded in 1948 and after a slow start gained the following it has today. As for all of us, "Praise the Lord I saw the Light."

Editor's Note: Barry and Portia each had a knee replacement since January. On April 27 Portia underwent hip replacement surgery and is recovering well.

Jerilyn Zaroogian

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow"
-- Audrey Hepburn

This has been a fave of mine for a far back as I remember. The words have always given me hope, comfort and inspiration.

I work at a garden center and although we are open all year round, April through June is really our time to shine. And because garden centers are deemed "essential" we are open and this year has been no different. Well, that might not be completely true. We are continuously adapting and growing to the new "normal" of retail-curb-side pickup, physical distancing, masks, gloves and the endless disinfecting. There are times the struggle is too real, too hard, and I just feel exhausted.

And then, I think of that seed, that little seed, I planted today, that is also continuously adapting and growing. I'm reminded of the beautiful flower that will bloom tomorrow — and my hope, comfort and inspiration is renewed.

Plant a garden. It can be a large as a field of poppies or as small as a teacup. No matter the size, may it bring you hope, comfort and inspiration.

Be well, Peace.

Linda Lazaroff

I continue to walk each day with Darla and enjoy hearing the birds starting to chirp and saying better days are coming and the sun will shine. Bob and I are continuing are with our daily exercise. I am making medical masks with supplies I have on hand, which is many. I've been making many phone calls to the older folks in Tunbridge as well as some in Chelsea.

Jenny Cook

I have been making calls, writing emails, doing the midweek connection and Sunday services. I promised myself I would sew and weeks ago I cut out the pattern. The pieces rest on my buffet. I will get to it. I am cooking and baking constantly which means I am also eating what I made. I am cleaning out the freezer so I have to be creative. It's like the show "Chopped." I close my eyes and pull out three things . . . chicken carcass, cubed butternut squash

and a bag of frozen strawberries. Pulling it all together is a challenge.

I'm also chasing my grandsons. I'm a little weary of playing in the dirt with bulldozers and skid steers, but someday they won't want me around. So, I do it. I'm washing my hands often and rationing paper towels. I used to spin the tube like a lottery wheel, now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.

I surely miss all of you. Know that you are in my prayers and I'm blessing the space between us.

May/June Events

At this time of uncertainty about gatherings and advisories on distancing, mask wearing and other protections the church does not have any services or events, such as Super Senior Luncheons and the Community Yard Sale, scheduled.

Birthdays

May

09 – Jed Putney
13 – Kathi Terami
16 – Ashley Armstrong
17 – Olivia Swayze
19 – Lorelai Putney
Sue Barnaby
22 – Nancy Chapman
24 – Isabella Amodeo

June

12 – Janet Zug
24 – Jerilyn Zaroogian

Anniversaries

May

10 – Patty & Tom Swahn
26 – Bob & Margaret Rogers

June

21 – Randy & Nancy Chapman

News, Notes & Thanks

Congratulations to the Terami family. River is graduating from Tunbridge Central School this year. While the family has not made a final decision, he has enrolled at

Hanover High School and registered for classes.

Rose is graduating from Hanover High School and has been accepted as a Presidential Scholar and in the Honors Program at Loyola University Maryland.

Kathi and Scott say, "We are so proud of both of them and know how much The Tunbridge Church, the Tunbridge Public Library, the Tunbridge Central School and the Tunbridge Fair has shaped their childhood experiences."

Thanks to Maureen Moriarty who continues to carry out treasurer duties, primarily of check signing, although she is no longer on the Parish Council where she held the position. If anyone is interested, please contact a council member.

The church garden is full of daffodils and will soon be bursting with colorful tulips

and summer plants. Rob and Kay cleaned up the garden and were joined in Parish House lawn raking by neighbor Janet Wells. Lenora Kimball is again taking care of the flower bed in front of the Parish House.

Minister

The Rev. Dr. Jennifer S. Cook

Parish Council

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