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Parish Council

Kay Jorgensen

Coronavirus Journal

- 19 weeks — mid-March through July
Pastor Jenny Cook emailed weekly Midweek Connections and Sunday Worship Services
- 10 weeks — outdoor worship services
- 5 weeks — worship in The Tunbridge Church sanctuary
- ? weeks — suspension of services, resumption of Jenny's emails

In-person services began on Aug. 2. Masks, physical distancing, bring-your-own chairs, a drop-in jar for offerings, prefilled disposable communion cups, and quiet singing while seated became the norm.

A Sacred Sound in Worship service was held on the Parish House lawn in lieu of the annual potluck service. Jenny led a Sacred Sound Circle with drums and other noisemakers.

The second August service was at the South Tunbridge Methodist Church.

Members of the Howe family, whose home church for multiple generations was the Methodist Church, planned and led four August services when Jenny was on vacation. Thanks to Elaine, Nancy and Rob Howe for the readings, messages, and hymns read and sung.

Services moved to Antique Hill on Aug. 16. Judie Lewis provide music. Don Hilts led the lighting of the peace candle, by his granddaughter, Maggie Serviss, and prayers. Nancy Howe Rogers gave a reading one Sunday and Margot Frost and Rose Terami sang a duet at another.

A "fair service" on what would have been the fair weekend kept the tradition going for the 53rd year. Musicians included a trio with Andy Mueller, mandolin, Rudi Ruddell on harmonica and rainstick shaker, and Adam Smith, guitar, and their vocals.

Also taking part were soloists Jerry Blakeney, Marybeth Lang and Dawna Neron and musicians Scott Paulson and Barbara Smith.

Since we missed Lent and Easter in March and April, Jenny led an Easter service at our Oct. 4 outdoor service.

We appreciate the fair directors allowing use of Antique Hill where there was plenty of room for spacing out chairs and parking. The English Barbecue, set up behind the grandstand, was a popular post-service stop.

Indoor services began on Oct. 11 with a new feature — radio transmission. Thanks to a borrowed Part-15 radio transmitter, people in cars parked within 100 feet of the building could listen to services.

The Future

Now that services are suspended, Jenny, the Parish Council and Outreach and Community Food Shelf Committees are making plans for outdoor gatherings and events, including a 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service, weather permitting.

Details are coming about short 10 a.m. Sunday services during Advent (Nov. 29-Dec. 20) to light candles on the church deck railing. On Nov. 29, a tree, the creche and wreaths will be set out.

Also watch for information about a "reverse" Advent calendar, the giving of small items to benefit the Food Shelf.

Church Quilt

Nancy Chapman

The quilt that is hanging behind the pulpit was created by my maternal great-grandmother, Lizzie Lang. I know little about Namie's history other than she was born in Brome, Quebec, in 1877, and grew up with 15-16 brothers and sisters in Berkshire, Vt.

At some point she married my great-grandfather, and later a Mr. Lang who our family knows nothing about. She moved to Tunbridge from Connecticut with her son Howard Sears, my grandfather, and her three grandchildren: Richard, Barbara and my mother Elaine.

Interestingly they rented Elaine Howe's present home. Later in life, she lived in North Tunbridge in the home owned by my uncle Richard Sears and for a short time with my family until her death.

Namie was a talented seamstress and most likely helped the family income with this skill and taking in laundry in her early life. She also crocheted prolifically well into her old age.

The quilt was discovered unfinished in a bin along with others when I was cleaning out the home of my parents, Wally and Elaine Anthony. It was in amazing condition for one that must have been made 80-90 years before.

It is a Depression-era one made of older fabrics. It is often called a Dresden Plate design, symbolizing "We are many, we are different, we are one."

With Nancy Howe's significant help and advice, the quilt was trimmed, backed and hung. It is an honor to have it in the front of our sanctuary. Namie, who had a typical unassuming Vermont personality, would have been amazed to know it is there and being enjoyed.

Community Outreach

Holiday Plans

Outreach Committee and Community Food Shelf volunteers will deliver Thanksgiving bags of treats and pointsettias and banana bread to seniors and the homebound. No caroling this year.

Boxes with dinner and breakfast ingredients — from turkey, sausages and eggs to vegetables, pancake mix and cranberry sauce — will be packed for Food Shelf families. Donations of small food, holiday and personal items are welcomed for them to choose as gifts.

Nov. 21 is the day to fill the Thanksgiving bags. Donations of fruit, candy and baked goods can be taken to the Parish House back door from 4-6 p.m. on Nov. 20 or left on the Cilley porch in the village that week.

Donations for purchased foods are also appreciated. Helpers are welcome at 1 p.m. for packing and delivering.

Sue Barnaby can provide more details at 889-3736, susan.c.barnaby@gmail.com

Senior Meals

Since the last newsletter, Outreach Committee members prepared and delivered meals to homebound residents and seniors in August, September and October.

The first meal was ham with salads and cookies. Margaret Rogers baked two hams. Sue Barnaby, Nancy Chapman, Elaine Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Dawna Neron, Sue Rogers and Judy Tucker were the potato, pasta and 3-bean salad makers.

Nancy Chapman and Sue Rogers prepared all of the containers and bags to be delivered. The drivers were Sue Barnaby, Shirley Boles, Nancy and Randy Chapman, Elaine Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Linda Lazaroff, Sue Rogers and Judy Tucker.

September's meal was chicken pie, squash, cranberry sauce, gravy, and four choices of pie. Amy Bogardus, Elaine Howe, Melissa Lamson, Bonnie McCrillis and Jean Parker made the pies.

Sue Barnaby, Nancy Chapman, Jean Parker and Margaret Rogers made the chicken pies. Additional cooks were Elaine Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Dawna Neron and Judy Tucker.

October's beef stew, roll, apple crisp and Halloween candy was delivered to some 50 people. Cooks and bakers were Sue Barnaby, Nancy Chapman, Elaine Howe, Kay Jorgensen, Dawna Neron, Jean Parker, Margaret Rogers and Judy Tucker. Delivering the meals were Sue Barnaby, Nancy and Randy Chapman, Kay Jorgensen, Margaret and Bob Rogers and Olivia Swayze.

News & Notes

Church Letter

The church will not send an annual appeal letter in December. As we did last year, we will share the budget and information about our community service and programs in a January letter.

If you would like to donate in this tax year, please do — our expenses are outpacing income. Acknowledgement for your tax filing will be sent.

Donations are also invited for the Pastor's Fund, a separate account through which confidential assistance is given at the pastor's discretion.

Checks may be sent to Recording Treasurer Elsie Farnham at 425 VT RT 110, Tunbridge VT 05077. Thank you.

Alec Frost's Passing

Church member Alec Frost died on Oct. 8 at age 88. He grew up in Cornwall, Conn., majored in English Literature at Colgate University, served in the US Army from 1954-56, then attended Columbia University's School of Architecture.

After working for other firms, Alec established his own practice, doing work for libraries, museums, hospitals and schools in Connecticut.

Alec and Nan retired to a home he designed in Tunbridge and became active in town and church life. His photographs of barns and old houses

were used for calendars that benefitted the Tunbridge and Cornwall historical societies.

In addition to Nan, Alec is survived by children Ruth Frost and Ben Nilson (Kelowna, BC); Matthew and Amy Frost (Tunbridge); and Adam and Andrea Frost (New Salem, Mass.); and eight grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the libraries of Tunbridge or Cornwall.

The full obituary can be read at www.boardwayandcilley.com.

Contacting Jenny

If you would like to speak to Jenny, please call her during business hours at 401-263-5812 unless there is an emergency. Her pastoral visits and in-person communion have been limited because of Covid-19.

Community Food Shelf

The food shelf is open on Fridays from 4-6 p.m. at the Parish House. Contact Sue Barnaby about access at other times.

Funeral Fellowship

The church's Funeral Fellowship Committee provided fellowship after two memorial services held at the Pavilion Building on the fairgrounds.

Samuel Beidleman Dilcer Jr. of Brookfield died on Aug. 25. He married Mary Ellen Farnham of Tunbridge in 1964. He was known for his whittling in Floral Hall during the World's Fair.

The full obituary can be read at www.boardwayandcilley.com.

Marjorie A. "Marge" Stender, 91, died Oct. 6 at the Barre Gardens Nursing Home. For the past 15 years she had lived in Tunbridge with Baxter Doty.

She married Charles W. Stender of Tunbridge in 1946. Most of their married life they were in South Royalton and enjoyed their Tunbridge hunting camp.

The full obituary can be read at www.boardwayandcilley.com

Birthdays

November

05 – Nancy Howe
06 – Gordon Mitchinson
21 – Eleanor Frost
22 – Sebastian Fraser
24 – Nancy Howe Rogers

December

12 – Felicity Swayze
23 – Bob Rogers
– Patty Swahn
27 – Mary Fisk
30 – Matt Zaroogian

January

01 – Krem Zaroogian
05 – Judie Lewis
07 – Cameron Putney
10 – Quinton Putney
15 – Dawna Neron
16 – Wright Frost
17 – Maggie Serviss
28 – Carley Howe
– Lorraine Withington
30 – Margaret Rogers

Anniversaries

December

22 – Don & Judy Hilts

The Tunbridge Church

Minister

The Rev. Dr. Jennifer S. Cook

Parish Council

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

**To receive weekly announcements by
email contact
thetunbridgechurch@gmail.com.**