

Tower Tidings

May 31, 2017

**The Congregational Church of Laconia
United Church of Christ
18 Veterans Square
Laconia NH 03246-3425**

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Church Staff

Interim Senior Pastor: Rev. Ed Koonz
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Carolyn@laconiaucc.org

Director of Music: K. Robert Bengtson

Sexton: Chuck Laurent

****Office hours 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P. M.
Monday thru Friday**



A Note From Paula -

Helping to open up Horton Center – the NH Conference summer church camp, was great fun over Memorial Day weekend. Twenty or so members of our church went up to wash windows, build a deck, clear pathways, pick up sticks, glaze windows, sweep floors and more! It was a time of great fellowship and sore muscles. At each meal we sang a grace camp song. It brought back great memories and reminded me of how valuable church camp was in my own faith journey. Below are two of the songs....do you remember?

Encourage your kids, grandkids and neighbors to think about sending their kids to church camp. Horton Center is a place that changes people's lives and I for one am so proud to be a part of this important mission. Try to sing these songs of grace tonight at dinner!

Sung to the "Superman Theme"

(Put both arms up in the air and pretend you are flying – each time you sing Thank you Lord)

Thank you Lord for giving us food.

Thank you Lord for giving us food.

Our daily bread.

We must be fed.

Thank you Lord for giving us food.

Amen

(Sung to the "The Adams Family Theme")

We thank the Lord for giving

The food we need for living

Because we really need it

And we like to eat it.

Chorus:

na na na nah (snap fingers twice)

na na na nah (snap fingers twice)

na na na nah (sing three times)

(then snap fingers twice, last time say Amen)

Blessings
Paula

Pentecost Tidings...

Dear Members & Friends,

If Christmas is Jesus' birthday, what is Pentecost? You likely answered: the church's birthday. (If you answered differently, let me know so we can talk about it.)

At Christmas, I have sometimes asked younger children of God, "What kind of birthday party would it be if everyone except the birthday child received gifts?" Their general answer: "a lousy birthday party!"

The point, of course, is this: Amidst all the gift-giving, we sometimes miss the point of Christmas!

Well, what about Pentecost? Pentecost is a time for remembering and celebrating supposed the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that marked the birth of the church. So, I wonder what younger children of God would say, if I asked: "What kind of birthday would it be, if no one remembered or celebrated it?" What would you say if I asked you?

The point – whether you like having your birthday acknowledged or not – is that it's often nice to be remembered on your birthday. (And, it's even nicer, sometimes to receive a gift!)

I wonder how the church would feel if it received a gift for its birthday. As a part of the church - the Body of Christ, how would you feel?

Further I wonder: "What might the church want for its birthday?" If you could answer on behalf of the church, what would you say?

I invite you to share with me what you think the church might want for its birthday this year at Pentecost (June 1st). Maybe, sometime, we could give the church a birthday party. Maybe we could give the church a gift. What do you think?

Blessings of Pentecost,
Rev. Ed

TRANSITION

Your Transition Team has been meeting 2-3 times per month since January.

Our responsibilities have been to advise and consult with Interim Senior Pastor Ed Koonz; communicate and bear witness to the fact that transition is ultimately work of the congregation; and hear and respond to the concerns of members of the congregation.

We have discussed a variety of areas of ministry, keeping in mind our church's History, Mission, Leadership/Structure, and Connections to the wider community.

So far we have identified issues/dynamics related to ONA, Reaching Out to New People, Church as Employer, Financial Stewardship, and Committee Structure.

We encourage you to share with our team, any concerns you have for this transition period and how we can best continue and strengthen our ministry together.

Transition Team.....Diane Tinkham., Emily Clement, John Walker, Peg Petrie, Sandy Brallier, and Ray Vercoe.

SAVE THE DATE!

September 17, 2017 at 1:30 PM
Capitol Center for the Arts, Concord, NH
Unveiled: A One Woman Play
by Rohina Malik

In her rich, upbeat and provocative 70-minute collection of five character studies of Muslim women in modern-day America, Rohina Malik brings the five women to life on stage as they serve tea and uncover what lies beneath the veil in this critically acclaimed one-woman show. Racism, hate crimes, love, Islam, culture, language and life are interwoven in this uplifting theater experience.

Sponsored by the NHCUC Peace with Justice Mission Group

TEACHER AND GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Educational Ministries will be recognizing all the School teachers and all graduates on June 4th. The faithful dedication, nurturing and instruction provided by our teachers and the Educational Ministries Committee is a vital and important ministry of this church.

Our Teachers

Diane Tinkham
Robbie Neylon
Lisa Marshall
Sherry Weeks
Penny LaMarre
Dave & Sue Smith
Bernie Chapman
Carolyn Hunt
Muff Walker
Jean Clarke
Deb Williams

High School- Graduates

Jacob Mozier
Jacob Nelson
Dylan Lines
Trevor Hunt

College Graduate

Lorienne Valovanie
Master's Degree in
Educational
Administration

One Sunday a year we say thank you! Let us join together in giving them thanks!

Confirmation Sunday June 4th

One service of confirmation and communion at 9:30 am.

Being Confirmed into this church family are: Sophia Joyal, Aly Lines, Emily Mussen, Zachary Nelson and Brady Reynolds.

Join us in celebrating with them!

Sunday School News!

The Sunday School classes will be remaining in worship on June 4th to join the church family in welcoming the new confirmands. There will be child care in the Nursery.

Starting on **June 11**, we enter into our summer schedule that offers child care/nursery coverage for young children (parent's discretion) each Sunday. They may stay in the Church until after the Children's message or go directly to the Nursery at the beginning of the service. Mary Reynolds will be coordinating the adult coverage –please contact her to volunteer!

Organ Recital Laura Belanger

4pm - June 4th



Not Your Parents' Stewardship Committee!

Shouldn't Stewardship be about more than a financial campaign every fall? How should we celebrate stewards who generously give time, talent, energy and money throughout the year to fulfill our church's mission? Do we all have a clear understanding of that mission? Is the church only a talented staff, beautiful buildings, and joyful worship? Are we not charged to celebrate the blessings that God has bestowed on us, and to use those blessings and resources to change people's lives through the church's ministry?

These and other important questions are being prayerfully and thoughtfully considered by the Stewardship Committee recently authorized by Church Council to serve year around. Meeting regularly since February, the Committee has focused on how to better illuminate our church's mission, promote a broader understanding of stewardship and provide more opportunities to celebrate stewards, privately and publicly.

While the Committee is still getting up to speed, pieces of a wider and more comprehensive Stewardship ministry are starting to appear, including: "Thank You" notes sent to all pledgers in February; the Horton Center Mission Team commissioning on Sunday, May 21st; and a new "Time & Talent" survey to be conducted in June with results celebrated in September. Many other education, celebration, and inspiration events are contemplated to make the mission of our church come alive and to celebrate Stewardship and Stewards.

Stewardship Committee: Jaylene Bengtson, Bill Gile, Paula Gile, Ed Koonz, John Kreitler, Muff Kruse, and Dan Tinkham

Refugee Resettlement Update

For those who are unaware, this church resettled refugees from 1990 through the late '90s. One family that came here in the late '90s was the Krupic Family from Bosnia. The parents found work, rented a nice house and the two girls started school. Then later they built their own home. Both girls went to college: Irma the elder girl daughter worked at the Laconia Police Dept. and now has a similar job closer to the coast.

On Sat. May 26th, Irma graduated from Plymouth State University! Much to her surprise, as she received her diploma it was announced that she was graduating with honors in psychology and will continue her study of psychology in the fall. What a day it was!!

Bobbie Thomas

Welcome to our Newest Members!

Please welcome our new members: **Betty Bergstrom, Martha Crane, Sylvia Quackenbush, and Mark Townsend.** We will publish a short biography on each new member in this and subsequent Tower Tidings. If you have not met them as yet, please introduce yourself to them!

Martha Crane grew up in our church. So when she moved back to the area last year, returning here was on her mind. But, being a faithful Congregationalist, she first checked our Statement of Faith and Mission Statement to see if she were comfortable with them. Deciding she was comfortable with them, she came and found a welcoming and friendly bunch of folks, so as she writes, "Here I am."

Family and music are Martha's passions. With her husband, Bob, who passed away in 1996, she raised six children. The French horn is her instrument of choice, and she has played in a symphony orchestra for 30 years as well as the Yankee Brass Band. (Ask her why her period instrument makes her feel very young!). Her playing has taken her to many states and Canada.

Martha has been an active serving member of her church and community over the years. She says, she's taking a "year sabbatical" before deciding where to commit herself here. In the meantime, she hopes to bring more music to our worship in the form of a brass quintet, so stayed tuned as Martha seeks to help us make a "joyful noise unto the Lord" as well as "serve the Lord with gladness."



Tower Tidings Reminders!

Please note that all articles for the newsletter should be to the office no later than the Monday before the publishing date on Wednesday. These dates are always included in the Tower Tidings for the next few issues.

Also, please send articles and pictures to the following email address ONLY:

Towertidings@laconiaucc.org.

This will help prevent duplications and omissions. Please DO NOT send newsletter items to the churchoffice email even as a duplicate. Feel free to call with any questions. 524-0668.

HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

- 1 – Evelyn Millar
- 1 – Patti Hines
- 1 – Michael Mussen
- 1 – Cassie Precott
- 2 – Mary Anne Ross
- 2 – Thomas Anderson
- 2 – Zachary Nelson
- 4 – Michelle Piscopo
- 4 – Alex Shippee
- 5 – Rev. Ed Koonz
- 10 – Janet Woods-Karp
- 12 – David Smith
- 14 – Benjamin Jacobs
- 14 – Allison Kyle
- 19 – Susan Bolsterle
- 20 – Cindy Rogers
- 20 – Ron Baker
- 24 – Jacqueline Shoemaker
- 24 – Callum Bronson
- 25 – Stephen Lanning
- 26 – Charlotte Cilley
- 26 – Connie Bickford
- 26 – James Groleau
- 27 – Kimberly Lovely
- 28 – Jean Clarke
- 28 – Charles Kurz
- 28 – Michael IZard
- 29 – Michele Palella-Veazey
- 30 – John Gauthier
- 30 – Alison Lines
- 30 – Mitzi Tucker
- 30 – Lisa Marshall
- 30 – Joshua Rawson
- 30 – Mary Jane Beiniarz



Wedding Anniversaries...

Congratulations to all celebrating the joining of their lives together in marriage in the month of: **June**

- 3 – Jack & Charlotte Landow
- 3 – Edward & Lorraine Warfield
- 4 – Craig & Cynthia Shippee
- 8 – Rodney & Gail Dyer
- 8 – James & Natalie St. Pierre
- 9 – Raymond & Penelope Burke
- 11 – Eric & Deborah Nelson
- 13 – Raymond & Helen Joyal
- 14 – Charles & Karen Kurz
- 15 – David & Jean Frost
- 17 – Mark & Carolyn Carwell
- 17 – Michael & Jennifer Muzzey
- 20 – Donald & Jean Clarke
- 20 – Alan & Martha Turner-Lord
- 21 – Timothy & Chandra Hazelton
- 22 – Michael & Lisa Marshall
- 24 – Roger & Tina Levasseur
- 25 – Warren & Brenda Bouton
- 28 – Michael & Tara Shore
- 28 – David & Patricia Williams

Summer Camp Opportunities

The theme for this summer is "Branching Out, Connecting Through Christ". Please consider sending your children or grandchildren to camp for a week this summer.

Half week camp for younger campers
Deans: Jennie Valentine and Nancy Rottman

When:

July 5th-8th, Wed to Sat

Who Can Go:

Campers Entering Grades 3-5

Event Fee:

\$225.00 - \$310.00

Tiered pricing available

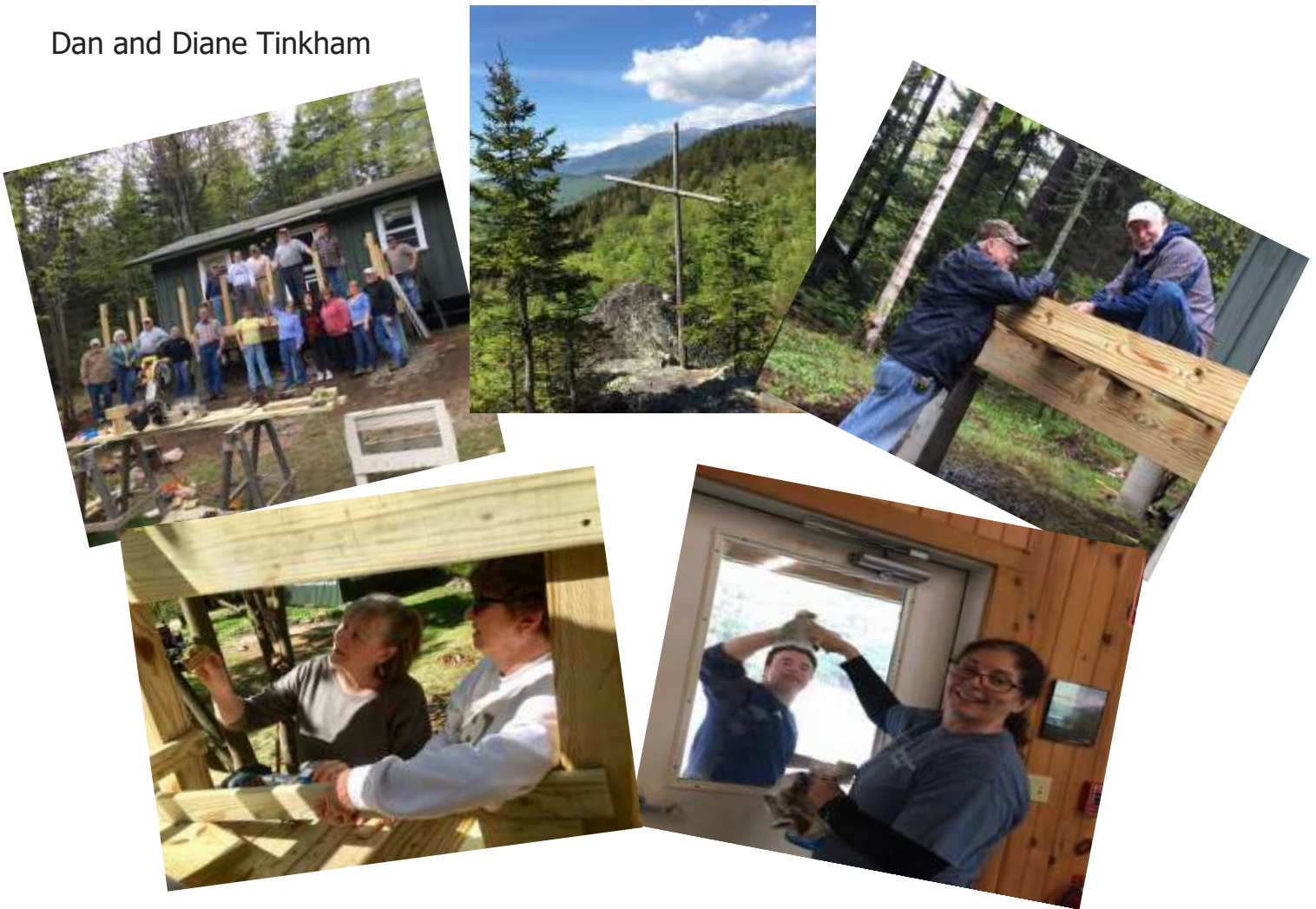
For more information and to register go to hortoncenter.org.

Shalom from Horton Center!

We shivered together, slipped in the mud together, swatted black flies together, built together, cleaned together, shared fellowship together, shared campfire stories, broke bread together, and had a great time doing all of it! The spirit moved as 24 of us made it to Horton Center last weekend to help them prepare for another season of Ministry. Along the way, we cleared paths, vacuumed cabins, mowed lawns, cleaned screens, puttied windows, fixed wiring, built an 8' X 20" deck on one of the central campus buildings, and so much more. More importantly, all 24 of us found ourselves in the presence of a very special place, where natural beauty and faith formation blend seamlessly and people of all ages find comfort and inspiration.

Thanks to everyone for making the weekend possible! Dave Barth planted the seed for this journey many months ago and the Outreach Committee endorsed it wholeheartedly. In addition to the attendees, 20 different people provided nourishment for the workers and sent us off in good spirits and high hopes. Others provided supplies and tools and offered prayers for our safe travels. What an uplifting experience! This is what it means to be good stewards and an active part of the Wider Church! Both Leslie Chatfield, the Interim Director, and Reuben Rajala, the Maintenance Director, were grateful for our efforts and send heartfelt greetings and appreciation to all of us at the Congregational Church of Laconia, as well as an invitation to visit again. Thank you!

Dan and Diane Tinkham



JUNE 2017

SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

<p>4 9:30 Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Bells 11:00 Confirmation 4:00 ORGAN WKSHP 4pm/9:30pm Worship-Channel 25 LAST DAY SUNDAY SCHOOL.</p>				<p>1 5:15 Stewardship 7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>2 4:00 GLL driver training - Multipurpose room</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>5 4:00 Worship Ch. 25 6:30 Ed Min- MP</p>	<p>6 6:30 Membership 7:00 Stitches of Love Paula Leadership Training</p>	<p>7 6:30 Outreach Paula leadership training</p>	<p>8 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Paula Leadership training</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Paula Off</p>	<p>17 Paula Vacation</p>
<p>11 Paula Off 8:00 Service 9:30 Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Bells 4pm/9:30pm Worship-Channel 25</p>	<p>12 4:00 Worship Ch. 25</p>	<p>13 6:00 Prop/Finance 7:00 Stitches of Love</p>	<p>14 5:30 Search Comm. 6:30 Diaconate 7:00 Worship/music Paula vacation</p>	<p>15 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Paula vacation</p>	<p>16 Paula vacation</p>	<p>23 Paula vacation</p>
<p>18 9:00 SER- VICE??? 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Bells 4pm/9:30pm Worship-Channel 25 Paula vacation</p>	<p>19 4:00 Worship Ch. 25 Paula vacation</p>	<p>20 6:30 Council 7:00 Stitches of Love Paula vacation</p>	<p>21 5:30 Search Comm. Paula vacation</p>	<p>22 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Paula vacation</p>	<p>24 Paula vacation</p>	<p>30 Paula vacation</p>
<p>25 8:00 Service 9:30 Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Bells 4pm/9:30pm Worship-Channel 25 Paula vacation</p>	<p>26 4:00 Worship Channel 25 Paula vacation</p>	<p>27 7:00 Stitches of Love Paula vacation</p>	<p>28 5:30 Search Comm. Paula vacation</p>	<p>29 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Paula vacation</p>	<p>31 Paula vacation</p>	<p>1 Paula vacation</p>

GOT LUNCH! *LACONIA*

Providing Laconia's Children a summer healthy lunch program Parents of Laconia school-age children: We are ready to begin registration for the 7th year of GOT LUNCH! Laconia, a summer healthy lunch program for Laconia school children. Although our target is the population that qualifies for free or reduced price lunches during the school year, it is NOT a requirement for participation. If you know someone who needs the help this summer, this program is available. Each year we require a new registration form for you to participate. GOT LUNCH! Laconia is a collaboration of community partners coming together to feed the children of Laconia during the summer months. Working together are religious institutions, businesses, non-profits and individuals throughout Laconia, all helping to feed the children in this community. The Congregational Church of Laconia has agreed to again be the staging area of this program. A week's worth of healthy lunch groceries will be delivered to your home mid to late morning every Monday during the school summer vacation. We also provide Dairy Vouchers redeemable at Vista for the purchase of milk, eggs, cheese or yogurt. Once you are registered you will receive a letter describing the details of the dairy voucher program. Register online: <http://www.gotlunchlaconia.org/Laconia/01-online-registration.html>

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

We are also looking for long-term helpers for planning and fundraising. Volunteers already working with us, say that the program feels worthwhile and satisfying. Let us know the best times for you and how to reach you.

Volunteer Opportunities

When - Monday mornings June 19th - August 28th

We have lots of fun building community spirit on Monday mornings while we work!

Type of Volunteers include:

- Pack grocery bags from 8 am to 10 am
- Deliver grocery bags from 8:30 am to 12 noon

Driver Training: June 9th at 5pm. Please contact John Walker beforehand to register. Email him at jwredlabel@metrocast.net.

Your help will make a difference!

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Upcoming Coffee Hour Hosts

- 4-June Parish Activities
- 11-June Potluck!
- 18-June Ed Min
- 25-June Prop/Finance

**Tower Tidings Publication
 Schedule**

<u>Deadline @ 5 p.m.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
6/25	6/28
7/23	7/26