

July 2007

Volume XX - Issue 7

W CROSS R D

United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 847
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FIRST FOLKS

Get well wishes go to Sharon Hone who underwent surgery on June 1st at Dartmouth Hitchcock.

We also send get well wishes to Stacey Chadwick who is recovering from foot surgery.

Dru Calitri is back home now recuperating from knee surgery. We wish you a speedy recovery, Dru!

Barbara Calabro underwent back surgery on June 18th at Elliot Hospital in Manchester. We hope you will be up and about soon, Barbara!

We send our condolences to the Whiting Family on the death of Shirley's mother.

BAPTISMS: On June 3rd we celebrated the baptism of Alyssa Lee Abbott, daughter of Michelle and Jason Abbott; baptized on June 10th were Ava Rose and Chad Jason Sidlowski, Jr, twins of Beth and Chad Sidlowski, and their mother, Beth; June 17th was the baptism of Kameron Michael McNamara, son of Kacee and Daniel McNamara, grandson of Joe and Debbie Calabro, great grandson of Barbara Calabro. Congratulations to these families!

Congratulations to all our recent high school graduates - Christos Ambargis, Kenny Andrews, Kristie Boucher, Ryan Koehler, Tim Mallard, Bethany Murphy, Sean Redmond, Emily Standish, and Angela Ziogas.

Judy Boucher graduated from Granite State College on Sunday, June 10th, with a BS in Math Education. She is continuing on at Granite State for graduate studies. Congratulations, Judy!

July 2007

OLD HOME DAY NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

OHD PENNY SALE —

FROM OUR SEARCH COMMITTEE

**The First Congregational Church
Of Pelham, NH Announces
Calling of**

New Pastor, Rev. William Ferguson

The Reverend William (Bill) Ferguson has been called as the new Pastor at The First Congregational Church of Pelham. Currently serving as Associate Pastor at the Hampstead Congregational Church, Rev. Bill graduated from Boston State College in 1979, received his Masters Degree from Bridgewater State College in 1984 and graduated from the Andover Newton Theological School in 1999.

Rev. Ferguson, his wife Maureen, and their three sons will be moving to the church's parsonage in August as he will begin conducting services on August 26th.

LOOKING FOR RECIPES..

Our pot luck supper on June 23rd when we met and welcomed the Ferguson Family was a great success! Wonderful conversation, great food.

We heard lots of folks asking, "Do you know who made this? I'd love the recipe." So, if you made something for the pot luck and would be willing to share your recipe, please send it to Peggy Murphy in the Church Office - peggy@pelhamucc.org. If you are looking for a recipe, contact Peggy. If she has it, she will see that you get a copy.

The First Congregational Church

Just how creative can your family/group be?

Are you and your family/group looking for a special way to help out with Old Home Day? Let your imagination run wild and help OHD at the same time!

How about putting together a gift basket that reflects your family or group's unique interests? Possible themes for the gift baskets are: movie basket (movie w/candy), candle basket, Girl Scout cookies, basket in honor of our troops, bird lover's basket (bird food, bird feeder, etc.), game night basket (board game & snacks), scrap booking basket, Red Sox/Patriots theme basket, fishing basket or gardening basket.

Your family/group's name will be displayed with the basket or new item at the Penny Sale. **Show everyone just how creative you can be!!!!** You can drop donations at the church office beginning on August 1st. Thanks in advance for making the Penny Sale a hit!!!!

The Blanchard Family

An invitation to join us in celebrating and providing support for Old Home Day

In 1898 New Hampshire Governor, Frank West Rollins, suggested every New Hampshire community set aside a specific time each summer to honor it's past and to invite it's sons and daughters back home. Pelham, under the sponsorship of the First Congregational Church has celebrated Old Home Day since 1906. It is truly a community affair, a chance to meet friends and renew old acquaintances, a celebration of community, friends and family. Each year a team of volunteers makes our Old Home Day celebration possible with hours of dedicated effort culminating in a parade, other entertainment, events, raffles, dinner, etc. To commemorate each Old Home Day we prepare a souvenir book that is sent to each home in Pelham. This past year we mailed more than **5,200** books.

We invite you to be a part of the **2007 Old Home Day** by joining us on **Saturday, September 8th, 2007 as we celebrate our 101st anniversary.** We also want to offer you an opportunity to support our efforts by listing your name and/or those of loved ones in our souvenir book under one of the categories below:

Sponsor - \$5 to 24, **Benefactor** - \$25 to 99

Patron - \$100 or more

All proceeds are used to offset the costs of Old Home Day and provide support to the community and charitable causes through the First Congregational Church of Pelham (this includes support to many groups and organizations providing support for those in need such as the Nashua soup kitchen, Lazarus House,

Pelham Good Neighbors Fund, Food Pantry, Nobody's Children, Habitat for Humanity, etc.).

If you would like to help us with a contribution, please fill out the form below, make your check payable to "The First Congregational Church" and mail both to:

***First Congregational Church, Attn Old Home Day
PO Box 847
Pelham, NH 03076***

Yes, I would like to help support our 101st Old Home Day Ad Book.

Please list me as a:

_____ Sponsor (donation of \$5-\$24)

_____ Benefactor (donation of \$25-\$99)

_____ Patron (donation of \$100 or more)

Name(s) as you would like it to appear in the Ad Book:

Forms, with payment, may also be put in the collection box or turned in at the church office.

HELP WANTED

Thank you, and welcome, to Judy Reid who has stepped up to be in charge of the OHD Raffle!

We are still looking for someone to coordinate the Entertainment schedule. We also need volunteers to help set up and work on Old Home Day. Please let our Chairs - Wally Cibulski and Brenda Senoiw - know that they can count on you!

July 2007

OHD contd.

AUCTION & WHITE ELEPHANT GOODS

We are now accepting donations for the auction and White Elephant table. So start cleaning out your closets and attics! Items may be left in Fellowship Hall.

There will be NO regular Old Home Day Meeting in July. Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 2nd, at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall.

CHURCH/OHD "WISH LIST"

The church is currently looking to acquire up to 20 more plastic folding tables like we currently have in Fellowship Hall to be used for Old Home Day. If you would like to donate a table or funds to be used towards the purchase of a table, please speak to Wally Cibulski.

BY-LAWS UPDATE

The Congregational By-Laws meeting that was scheduled for July 1st **has been moved to July 15th**, following 10 AM worship. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. We would like everyone to have the opportunity to review the new by-laws prior to this meeting. Because of the size of this document, we are offering three ways that you may obtain a copy:

1. Stop by the church at your convenience and pick up a copy.
2. Access a copy on our official web site - www.PelhamUCC.org.
3. Call the church office and ask Peggy to mail a copy to you - 603 635-7025.

FROM THE DIACONATE

Happy summer!!!

As we all scatter for summer vacations and barbecues, please do not forget your obligations to our church. The electronic giving site for the church is <http://pelhamucc.org/giving.html>.

Thank you for your prayers for the men and women who serve and who have given their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. With the escalation in violence, our soldiers and the innocent civilians who are caught in the war need our prayers. Please say a prayer every day

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for the swift end to the hostilities and safe return for **July 2007**

Diaconate Responsibilities

Just a reminder - The Diaconate is responsible for the worship and spiritual life of our church, the mission budget, care of ill or hospitalized members and a regular review of the church membership. If you have

those who serve our country. Please say a prayer for the leaders of our country and other countries involved that The Holy Spirit may touch them and provide the wisdom and courage to resolve our differences.

Charities

Summer is a time for vacations. However, please don't forget others who need your help!

Our Church's electronic giving site:

<http://pelhamucc.org/giving.html>

Nashua Soup Kitchen -

<http://www.charityadvantage.com/nsks/Home.asp>

Lazarus House — see below.

Pelham Food Pantry

Pelham Good Neighbors

Nobody's Children - <http://www.nobodyschildren.org/>

Mercy Corp - <http://www.mercycorps.org/>

Habitat for Humanity - <http://www.nashabitat.org>

Oxfam America - <http://www.oxfamamerica.org/>

The Fix-it Program for Seniors: <http://www.bm-cap.org/fixit.htm>

The Fix-it Program for Seniors

The Fix-it Program for Seniors is a wonderful program of volunteers who assist seniors (60 yrs and older) or disabled homeowners with minor home repairs and maintenance. Several of our members have had very positive experiences with this program both as volunteers and clients. The program goal is to help seniors to remain in their homes as long as possible. Please call 1-800-322-1073 ext. 6168 or 603-881-3805 for help or to volunteer as a Mr or Ms Fix-it.

This is a local program that works! Please consider giving your time to help seniors!

Lazarus House

Frank Holden continues to coordinate a group to visit and serve dinner at Lazarus House every second Friday of the month. Anyone interested in helping out can contact Frank (Frank.Holden@analog.com and/or his cell phone 490-8681). Find out more at <http://www.lazarushouse.org>

Acolyte and Greeter Sign-up

Please sign up to be an Greeter or Acolyte. Sign up sheets will be available following service and on the bulletin board between the church and Fellowship Hall. Here is an activity the whole family can participate in!!!!

any comments, concerns, questions or compliments about the worship service or the church spiritual life, please let us know. Jane Ambargis and Doug Hjorth are the co-chairs. Please free to reach out to them or any member of the Diaconate at services or send email to deacons@pelhamucc.org. If you have any comments,

concerns, questions or compliments, please let us know.

Other Information

Deacons on Duty for July: Jane Ambargis and Christos Ambargis

Reverend Jarvis

Reverend Jarvis' last service will be on July 1. I just wanted to take a moment to thank Jarv for all of his contributions to our church and community. I appreciate all of your efforts and contributions. I wish you all of the best in your future endeavors. I hope you understand that you have touched a number of hearts with your smiles, kindness and love and that many of us will always be grateful for your time with us. May God bless you and bring you to another congregation who needs your love and support as much as we did.

**Yours in Christ,
Steve Blanchard**

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting is **Thursday, August 2nd** at 7 PM (Please note Thursday, not Tuesday!). We will finalize details for our tables at Old Home Day at this meeting. Please continue working on your craft projects for our OHD table. All of the money we make goes to our mission projects, and the church building is one of those projects, too!

PLEASE HELP! Women's Fellowship would like to help the Nashua Soup Kitchen with an item on their Wish List. They need new backpacks for school supplies for children in families trying to live on minimum wage, staying at the shelter or coming to the Soup Kitchen for food. We know it is too soon to think about school next year, but the kids rely on these

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donations. Please give your new backpacks to Jean Robarge (603 635-3363) or Cheryl Koch (603 635-2505) or leave them in the donation box marked **"BACKPACKS"** in Fellowship Hall before July 31st. We thank you, and the kids thank you!

PRAYER SHAWLS: No meeting during the summer. Please continue your knitting/crocheting during the summer for this project that "gives a hug" to our church members experiencing health and other problems. See you in September!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

It's hard to believe that Sunday School classes are done for another year! We had a great year, and want to thank all the Children for the terrific job they did on the Children's Sunday program. It was a great service! Congratulations to all the 3rd grade students who received their Bibles.

We'd also like to express our gratitude, again, to all our wonderful teachers. Your time, effort and dedication to our children's Christian Education is truly appreciated. And, if anyone is interested in joining this terrific group and becoming a Sunday School teacher/ co —teacher, please contact Nancy Webster or any CE board member.

We also are continuing to look for two new CE Board members. We'll be happy to speak with anyone interested in participating in oversight of our Christian Education program! . It's a great way to get involved! We will have two gatherings in fellowship hall this summer for the children in grades K-4, which includes a craft and snack for the kids. Gatherings will be held during the regular church services; one in **July, and one in August**. Please watch for the dates! We hope that all the children and their families have a wonderful summer, and we'll see you all again in the fall. Sunday School registration information will be in the September CROSSWORD.

**Sincerely,
Karen Dorman and the CE Board: Nancy Webster,
Karen Rutherford, Rebecca Cummings, Missy Mikutel**

July 2007

TRUSTEES' CORNER

Here we go again. I am sure that if you were around you remember the summer of 2005. It was a summer of very mixed emotions, however regardless of individual feelings or state of confusion we, the members of this Church, turned all that into one of the best summers we as a Church have had since I have been around. We worked our tails off, fixed up the Parsonage, fixed up the Church, and had great attendance on Sundays and by the end of the summer we were together, feeling upbeat and ready to forge ahead. Here two years later we are again facing a transition period. The excitement

of having a new spiritual leader to lead us was very evident at the potluck supper and the Sunday Service on June 24. Very pleased to welcome Rev. Bill to our town and our House of Worship.

Now we have the challenges of getting ready for a new family, the Ferguson Family, to live in the parsonage. There are a number of major projects scheduled for this summer. They include a new furnace, new air duct work, and a new kitchen floor. These projects will be contracted out. But there are a whole bunch of projects, which we will have to do ourselves. We would like to see as much activity this summer in and around the parsonage as we did during the summer of 2005. We had more than 50 different people working at various times during that summer. Pick a project, talk to a Trustee, and get involved. Check out the list of projects posted in the Hall. We expect to have access to the parsonage beginning July 8th and it is expected that Rev Bill will be moving some of his stuff into the building sometime in August. Not as much time as we had in 2005.

Donn Clark

You can also E-mail information to us at office@pelhamucc.org.

If you would like to donate flowers in memory or in honor of someone special on any Sunday, you can sign up for a specific date on the 2007 sign up sheet in the rear hall. The cost is \$25, and Peggy will order them for you from either For Someone Special or Exquisite Flowers. If you have any special request as to the color or style of arrangement, or if you would prefer to order them yourself, please let Peggy know ahead of time. Your payment may be included with your weekly offering. Checks should be made out to the First Congregational Church. Be sure to mark it for "flowers." You may also mail it directly to the church office at PO Box 847, Pelham, NH 03076. A member of our Care Givers Group will try to deliver them to a "shut in" following Sunday's worship.

OFFICE NOTES...

CHURCH MAIL

Please remember - when mailing correspondence to the Church, send it to:
PO Box 847
Pelham, New Hampshire 03076

**Do not mail it to 2 Nashua Road or 2 Main Street.
The Post office may not deliver it!**

If you have something that you would like to have put in CROSSWORD, or if you know of someone who should be mentioned in our First Church People column, please get the information to Peggy Murphy in the church office (603 635-7025) by the 20th of the month.