



JUNE 2006 5 Year Goals (As Printed in Crosswords)

GOAL	STATUS
<i>75% Financial Commitment from all members</i>	<u>Completed</u>
<i>Financial Stability</i> Balanced Budget in 2010	<u>Completed</u>
<i>Missions Active</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Food Pantry, Mission Trips, Lowell Wish Project, Sunshine Kitchen in Derry, Quarterly Free Meal, Fund various missions through Budget, Clothing Drives, Mission Possible Program and more etc.	
<i>More Social/Family Programs</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Monthly Family Fellowship events, Talent Shows, Pot Luck Suppers, Programming	
<i>Community Spirit</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Church open for Scouts, Girl and Boy Scout Sundays, AA and AI Anon, Garden Club meetings, Steepletop Programs, Old Home Day, RB reads at Pelham Memorial School, serves as Chaplain for Fire Department, Ecumenical Events.	
<i>Well maintained buildings</i>	<u>Completed</u>
Regular schedule for maintenance on both parsonage and church building, new front doors being installed, etc	
<i>More "marketing" of church to current and New Members</i>	<u>Completed</u>
New Members seek via website, Facebook, Newspapers and word of mouth Website maintained, Video Ministry, Newsletter on-line and by mail. Letters of welcome go out to visitors every Monday after RB reviews Sunday Attendance logs.	
<i>Minister with strong sense of direction</i>	<u>Completed</u>
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<i>Greeters making folks feel Welcome</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Deacons schedule different Committees to help staff Greeters, Deacons active in identifying visitors and greeting them.	
<i>Adult Sunday School Education</i>	<u>1/2 Completed</u>

- Programs offered, attendance very light, new schedule being tried now	
<i>Spiritual Growth</i>	<u>ON GOING</u>
<i>Better Finances/ Decreased Use of Invested Funds</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Budget balanced, had to be realistic in our spending and Mission giving, repaying past borrowing, Formal Endowment Fund established in 2011	
<i>Pastoral Stability</i>	<u>Completed</u>
<i>Increase in membership by 10 %</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Since 2007. We have welcomed 83 New Members to our church membership roles, including Confirmation Classes	
<i>Increase outreach to members and encourage participation</i>	<u>Completed</u>
- Nominating Committee has been active in reaching out to new members to join Committees	
<i>Pastor responsibility at Parsonage</i>	<u>Completed</u>

GOALS NOT COMPLETED

We will be serving a broader base?

- Not sure what this meant?
- Adult Social Club?



FIRST FOLKS

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS!

As you wind down your High School studies, we would like to honor you with special recognition in our Newsletter. Please e-mail us at office@pelhamucc.org and let us know your plans for next year, what college you are attending, what profession you may be going into, what High School you graduated from and your parent's names!
OUR SPECIAL SUNDAY FOR OUR SENIORS WILL BE HELD ON MAY 22ND!

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to:

The **Ferguson family** on the death of Maureen's Aunt **Helen**.

The **Nickerson Family** on the death of **Cecilia's** mother, **Maria Piai**.

The family of **Bob Edwards, Sr.**
Evelyn McKinney on the death of her daughter in law, **Rebecca McKinney.**
Scott & Kathy Neskey and their family on the death of Scott's uncle, **Anthony Neskey.**

JOYS

Baptisms:

On April 10th, **Frederick Czarnecki**, son of **Cindy & Gregg Czarnecki.**

On April 17th, **Jack Douglas Smith**, son of **Jason & Jennifer Smith.**

Births:

Margaret Kirsten Lind, born March 26th to **Amanda (Coleman) and Frank Lind.**

Aaliya Ava Pultar, born on April 7th to **Felicia Pultar.**

Keegan David Murphy, born on April 20th to **Adam & Katie Murphy.**

GET WELL SOON!

To **Donna Clark**, who is recovering from shoulder surgery.



FROM THE DIACONATE

Before reading this, we ask you to think about what you have done in the past month for the church, not just financially, but as a member of the congregation. What, if anything, have you done that was good? What haven't you done or taken part in that you wish you could have?

At the April meeting we went over many topics and here are the main points from the meeting:

- We are prepared for the Easter week (which by the time you read this would have already passed.) If you have any comments or concerns about the way the services went this year and the lay

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out please feel free to tell a deacon so we can bring it up at our next meeting.

- We are hoping to find a time and day for the children to be able to see a baptism, without taking time out of Sunday school.

- We are in talks about expanding the church parking lot.
- Our meeting with the question of "where, as a church, do we want to be in 5 years?" We will think about it and come back to our next meeting with some answers.
- Reminder: Please continue to wear name tags so everyone can learn each other's names.

Prayer List

Please help us keep the prayer list current. You may contact Rev Bill or Peggy to let them know when someone needs to be added or removed from the list or needs a visit or call from Rev Bill.

Worship Coordinators & Greeters

The Worship Coordinators for May are Bob Frey and Gene Boucher. Our greeters are the confirmands and the youth group members.

Our next Diaconate meeting is Tuesday, May 10th at 7PM. Please feel free to drop by if you are interested in attending and would like to learn more about the Diaconate. As always, please contact a member of the Diaconate with any questions, comments, or suggestions. Diaconate Co-Chairs Judy Boucher and Bob Diack can be reached at ja_boucher@comcast.net and bdiack@cio.com.



MISSION COMMITTEE



"MISSION POSSIBLE"

A joy of the Mission Committee this past year has been identifying "hands-on" mission opportunities that emphasize the giving of our time and talents. Our latest program, "Mission Possible," where individuals, families, and small groups of people can provide help to those who may need it on a schedule that works for them, is off to a great start!

Types of help that participants may offer range from doing yard work, baking cookies, providing a hot meal during difficult times, driving to appointments if they are unable to drive, providing a sympathetic ear when someone is going through a difficult time, providing relief for persons caring for

family members, and making minor home repairs for those who may not be able to do so on their own.

On March 27, we had an incredibly successful "Mission Possible" Sunday, with about 30 folks signing up to offer their talents to those who may need them. We have already matched some of these volunteers with those who could use a hand!

NOW, we'd like to know who in our congregation may be in need of the many talents we have to offer. If you have someone in mind, please talk to anyone on the Mission Committee (listed below) or leave a note in the Mission Committee mailbox, tell us what the need is, and we will take it from there. And, it's not too late to sign up to be a volunteer; the more volunteers we have, the more we can spread the joy of Mission!



I Will Help! Where do I sign up?

Hard copies of the volunteer form are available from Mission Committee members and you can sign up on line at the following website to complete the form for us online!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Mission_Possible.



[www.Surveymonkey.com /s/Mission_Possible](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Mission_Possible)

On Friday, April 15, we had yet another successful Community Spaghetti Supper. We'd like to thank Women's Fellowship for sponsoring this supper, as well as the many helpers that served and worked in the kitchen. Our next free Community Supper will be Friday, July 15. Like last year, it will be a good old fashioned barbecue with hot dogs and burgers, so mark your calendars. We offer these suppers to the community who may be in need of a free meal, served with dignity and respect. We do not accept any donations on the night of the supper

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from our guests. However, if anyone would like to donate supplies or monetary contributions for perishable food purchases, we would be more than happy to accept them. Please let anyone on the Mission Committee know if you would like to make such a donation or place monetary donations in a separate envelope marked "free

supper" and place it in the offering plate or the Mission Committee mailbox. There is a method to our madness as to when we schedule these suppers; it is always on the third Friday of the third month and we serve from 5:45 to 7 PM.

Our Women's Fellowship will again be sponsoring a special offering for Church World Service on Mother's Day, May 8th. The offering provides blankets and tools for hope, and we urge you all to be as generous as you can to support this worthy mission.

The needs at the Pelham Food Pantry remain exceedingly strong. Canned fruits, vegetables (except pumpkin), meat, fish, toiletries, and toilet paper remain in constant demand.

Doug Hjorth

on behalf of the Mission Committee
(Deb Calabro, Deb Schneider, Ed Yourtee, Maureen Ferguson, Alma Healey)



MAY 15th ~ CHURCH CLEANUP DAY

We need help cleaning up the church grounds, including both interior and exterior work! We need to clean the windows, sweep the parking lot, do some paint work on the handicapped ramp, paint trim in the offices, plant flowers, etc.

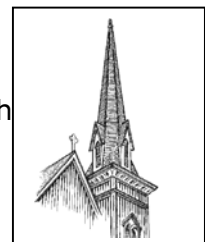
**WE NEED YOUR HELP!
AND WE WILL FEED YOU!**

Sign up in Fellowship Hall if you can join us on May 15th!

KIDS AND ADULTS ARE WELCOMED!

TRUSTEES' CORNER

On April 13 the Trustees, along with Phil Currier met with a NH DOT Appraiser with the Bureau of Right-of-Way, Jessie Tichko . We did a



walk-through of the portions of the Church and Parsonage properties that the State will seize during the construction of the new rotary. The new rotary is scheduled to begin construction in 2012. Anyone with questions about how this rotary will impact the church should contact any member of the Trustees. Construction is planned to take 2 years.

Parking will be more difficult during construction. The Trustees are working on evaluating the parking situation well before construction on the new rotary starts.



FUNCERT & TALENT EXTRAVAGANZA!

Do you find yourself sitting "idle" when watching American "Idle" and want to release that song bottled up inside you? Are you the great, great grandson of a master magician possessing some secret family magic acts you've been wanting to bring out into the public? Can you dance...without the stars? Do you perform in a musical ensemble that is ready to escape from the practice basement? Have you wanted to be a stand-up comic, but never had a captive audience with a Christian base that most likely would not throw objects if the jokes are bad? Well, this is your chance!

We are looking for singles, pairs, or group acts that would like to perform at the Funcert Talent Extravaganza after the Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, May 14. All acts should be 5 minutes or less to accommodate all of our incredible talent. If you are looking for a piano accompanist, Sue Howard has graciously volunteered to play. You are responsible for providing her with a hard copy of the full

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accompaniment and setting up a practice time before the event (hint, bring a tape/digital recorder with you so you'll have it for practice at home). Alternatively, you may use a voiceless soundtrack. Please no lip-syncing. If interested, contact Ken and Wendy Henderson or sign up in Fellowship Hall. We will get your act details the

night of the funcert. E-mail us at kenandwendyhenderson@comcast.net.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Outstanding Women Award

On April 13 some of us travelled to Laconia Congregational Church for a statewide Women's Fellowship meeting.



At that time our own Jean Robarge and Alma Healey were honored as Outstanding Women. You'll be interested to read about all that these two special women have done for our church.

How do we separate Jean and Alma? They both are the backbone of our church. Pelham Congregational and our Women's Fellowship are proud of all they have done so lovingly for us. They serve funeral luncheons - which involves setup, cleanup and providing food, a major fundraiser for our women's group. They help collate the church newsletter, and help the church secretary where needed. Jean has worked on Pelham Good Neighbors and at the local food pantry for 20 years, for which she just received a recognition plaque. She has been a Trustee, and head of the Trustees, acting as liaison to Steepletop Kindergarten also. She has served on the Diaconate, and as chair of the Women's Fellowship at various times, leading all our activities, which are many. Alma has led the Women's Fellowship also, a 9-year-long devotion of her time, and is now on the new Missions Committee. She has also served on Trustees, and as its chair. They both sing in the Choir, and help in countless ways. They have been involved in so many ways that this list could not include them all. Both have been Vice President and President of the New Hampshire State Women's Fellowship, in addition to their local church activities. Their faith and devotion to the church are something we all look up to, wonderful role models and dear friends.

Bake Sale

Women's Fellowship will hold a Bake Sale on Sunday, May 1, to benefit our missions projects. Please come - Stock up on goodies for yourself and your family. Don't forget Mothers Day! See you there!

**Blankets & Tools Offering
Sunday, May 8th – Mothers' Day**

Every year Women's Fellowship and our church support this Church World Service project. CWS brings blankets and tools to people who have suffered from disasters. This year Japan is a prime focus after all the devastation there. There will be one collection only this year on Mother's Day, May 8. You may use the special envelopes in the bulletin to donate. There will be greeting cards available to give to a loved one, telling them of your gift in their honor. Please consider supporting this worthwhile project that helps so many people.

Regular Meeting ~ Tuesday, May 24

Our topic is "A Case for Heaven". Come participate in the discussion, and enjoy the fellowship. Coffee, tea and dessert will be served. See you there!



FROM OUR CE BOARD

May Calendar

May 1	Teaching Sunday Communion Sunday
May 8	No Sunday School
May 15	Teaching Sunday
May 22	Teaching Sunday
May 29	Memorial Day weekend One Room Schoolhouse

Welcome, May! The children of our Sunday School are excited and energized by the beautiful weather, and we hope you are too.

May will be a busy month for our Sunday School as we prepare for the end of the school year. Please note that there will be no



school on Sunday May 8, Mother's Day. Please attend services as a family. Kids, be nice to Mom!

Reverend Bill has asked each committee to develop 5 and 10 year goals. The CE Board will be working on this over the next couple of meetings. We have a tentative list of goals that need more detail:

1. Identify more Teachers and an assigned substitute for each class
2. Articulate goals for each grade level leading to Confirmation Class
3. Add more Adult Ed programs
4. More mission work for younger children

If you have any input or opinion on these topics please see any member of the CE Board.

The end of the Sunday School year is Children's Sunday, on June 12. In addition to the Children's service we will also host the Heifer Fair that day. The Junior High Youth Group will host a table to teach the community about the Heifer mission. This will be excellent preparation for their trip this summer to Heifer Farm. Please plan to attend as Reverend Bill has also arranged for a few zoological surprises!

Respectfully submitted,
Maryanne Masterson



STEEPLETOPICS

Spring is finally in the air. We are now able to get outside more to soak up the fresh air and hopefully some sunshine. In May we are going to Charmingfare Farm in Candia, NH for our field trip. Along with seeing some animals, children will be going on a hayride or tractor pull. We are keeping our fingers crossed for a warm sunny day.

Our themes for this month includes Mother's Day and making special treats for all the mothers. Children also take part in many activities which review our alphabet and numbers. One topic that we have fun with is transportation which includes trucks, cars,

buses , airplanes and trains.

Happy Spring!



COMMUNITY NOTES...

The 15th Annual Spring Concert featuring the New Greeley Singers will be held here on Saturday, May 7th, at 7 PM. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 5 to 12 years old.

Please call Judy Reid (603 635-7438) with any questions or to purchase tickets. Great Mom's Day Treat!



The Star Island Conference Center, located off the New Hampshire Seacoast, is open to all-singles with or without children- with all ages invited and included! Each year there is a Program Leader and a Minister of the Week who provides leadership on a topic and during the morning chapel services. There is children's programming for infants through 8th grade in the morning, with lots of activities available in the afternoons and evenings for all. Your time on Star Island can be as filled as you would like it to be or it can be completely unscheduled.

Day visit: take a morning cruise out of Portsmouth or Rye, explore the Islands rich history, enjoy the view of Gosport Island and the Atlantic Ocean from a rocking chair on the porch of the Oceanic Hotel and have lunch in the snack bar or dining hall.

Enroll in a week long, mid-week or weekend conference. Give yourself time to study art, religion, music, world affairs, science, photography, dance or yoga – to name a few of the many themes offered.

Personal Retreats – your get-away to Star Island for one, two or many nights of retreat and personal time. Plan a family reunion, gather up a group of friends or come on your own

For more information visit the website of Star Island at www.starisland.org or call 603-430-6272 (Information in Fellowship Hall)

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UCC NEWS

STAR ISLAND – UCC Affiliated Conferences