



**Waterford
Congregational Church UCC**
Minister: Rev. Doretta Colburn

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We are now gathering inside our church for 9:30 am services on Sundays. Masks and social distancing are optional. These services are also filmed and are available on our website.



Newsletter - June 2022



THOUGHTS FROM THE PULPIT...

Dear Friends,

What a summer it has been! I have to admit that I'm not quite ready to see the longer and warmer days of summer slip into fall, then winter. In some ways I feel I was just getting started, though even our garden reminds me that indeed harvest time has arrived. Stacking our wood delivery into our woodshed was a clear recognition that cooler/colder days are not that far off. Yet, there is something, perhaps an innate feeling, that brings warmth to my soul this time of year as I look back on the fading memories of the warmer, active days that define summer and turn my gaze to the possibilities that lie ahead as the year moves forward.



Doretta, leading Moments with the Children...(of all ages)

This past summer has been a wonderful time in the ministry of our church. We have gone from indoor services to celebrating outdoors once a month through the summer, most recently by our church's Meditation Garden. Each time has held its own unique moment of celebration and joy as we listened, shared, prayed, and sang along with Jane's guitar or George's new antique traveling pump organ! These times together surrounded by the beauty of our natural world have been meaningful moments that have touched our spirits and grown our appreciation for one another and the wonder of creation. As

much as our sanctuary is beautiful in its own way, being outdoors invites an openness to our worship and a reminder that our faith calls us to serve beyond the walls of our church building. In each of these services we witnessed the delight of welcoming individuals whom we have not seen for some time and new faces we had the joy of meeting.



Ralph Sylvester, Owen Raymond, and his dad, Will. Ralph's 98th birthday was celebrated in church that day. Owen is 5. they are walking forward to join the Moments with the Children.

While I am not proposing regular monthly outdoor services through the cold months that lie ahead of us, I am inviting you to imagine with me ways in which we can hold on to the beauty and richness we experienced in those moments that will continue to enhance and deepen our faith and fellowship.

Rob Hopkins in his book from What Is to What If writes, "space is like the soil of imagination. The more we cultivate the soil, the better the imagination grows." What he is referring to is a mental and emotional *space* that expands our capacity to imagine – the freedom to be ourselves and to feel supported in doing so. Imagine that we can create such a *space* in our faith community, a *space* that fosters spiritual growth, as well as a *space* that encourages creative imaginations of God's presence in and among us. That is essentially what being the church means – creating the *space* and a *place* where we can grow together and work for the common good of all.

Blessings,

Doretta

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I share with you the passing of our dear friend Henry Plate on Tuesday, August 30th surrounded by his family. Words cannot say enough about how much he will be missed among us, yet his spirit remains a constant presence. His smile, the twinkle in his eye, his sense of humor, and his genuine goodness are a small part of what we will hold dear in our memories. How grateful we are to have known Henry and walked a portion of our lives with him.

Please hold Joy, Bob and Karen, their families, and the dedicated health care team, who have become like family, in your thoughts and prayers in the days ahead.

There are no plans for a service at this time.

LETTER FROM THE MODERATOR...

Dear Friends,

First, thank you, Kay, for holding a slot open in the newsletter for me. Next, thanks to Brenda Hambleton for being my muse for this letter.

Brenda's testimonial this Sunday said everything we who live and go to church in Waterford feel daily all year round. It is a magical place. People wave, stop and chat, and smile... a lot! We care about each other and our extended families. It is a place to share joys and sorrows in unabashed openness. Losing a friend means one of us is hurting and needs support. It's not a maudlin kind of response. It is heartfelt and real. Food appears, cards sent, emails arrive with positive messages: in other words efforts that are helpful and upliftings.

This flows through everything we do in our church. We sing and play music to lift our spirits. We have dinners to get donations in order to help our neighbors through rough patches. We fill pails with cleaning stuff to be ready to for the unseen event and to make it just that little bit easier to get through it, by having the right tools and knowing that someone cared enough to put these together. We care about the environment and look for ways to help push back the tide of uncaring by example, not just words.

Why do we do all this? The answer is simple. We are following an example that started 2000 years ago. Loving others as we love ourselves. Doing for others as they would do for you. We are the little church with the big heart. It feels good to be part of it any way we can.

Enjoy the journey into fall. Savor the daylight and the change of the season. Be well my friends,

Al Struck

MUSIC NOTES...

Our choir has been singing whenever possible for the Sunday services, and we have welcomed Tom and Kay Murphy for the summer. Thanks! For our outside services, I have done guitar numbers, as those are better than a full choir in the open air.

We had a *Sharps on the Flat* concert in July, which was fabulous! Members of the Sebago-Long Lake Music Festival shared some wonderful pieces for guitar, cello, and flute. Our church is a perfect setting for live music! I hope we can hold more concerts next year.

George Wiese, our wonderful organist, continues to choose hymns and pieces that fit Doretta's scripture themes each Sunday. His knowledge of music is a true gift for us all. Thank you, George. Denny Raymond, Kay Leslie, Al Struck, and Waltie Rasulala have shared music on Sundays when I have not been able to be in Waterford. Thanks for sharing your gifts!



After knee surgery, I will not be able to be in church for the first few weeks of September, but George will fill in with some great music during that time! See you all soon!

Yours in Music, *Jane Morse*

MISSION NEWS...

The Mission Committee met on August 18th to review the rest of summer/fall 2022 and to decide where to focus our mission work for the coming year.

As times continue to feel uncertain, our church's participation in the Church World Service (CWS) Kits ministry is a blessing to so many. While neighbors around the world struggle to provide for their families, our kindness fills their hearts. As communities face natural disasters more frequently, our compassion lifts them as they clean up and begin to rebuild. Starting Sunday the 21st of August we will kick off our CWS Cleanup Bucket Challenge. We are challenging our "Little Church with a Big Heart" to fill at least 10 buckets with cleaning supplies by Sunday the 25th of September. (see more information below) We will display all our buckets on the 25th as we dedicate them and get them ready to deliver to a depot site in Meriden, CT. From there, CWS will forward them to a site world wide that is cleaning up after a natural disaster.

In addition, we will continue to strive to be a "5 for 5" church. (Dodi and John, our church treasurers, have already sent in financial support from our church for 2 of the 5 missions for 2022 - Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) and One Great Hour of Sharing.) • The next focus will be Neighbors in Need. Offering envelopes will be available the 1st Sunday in October. The project ends on October 30. These gifts will be used for local, national and global disaster relief.

We agreed to follow our church's CALENDAR OF GIVING and review other needs as they arise.

** indicates a 5 for 5 mission project*

January	* Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) - supports international, national, state, and local needs
February	* One Great Hour of Sharing
March	Church World Service (CWS) - international needs
May	* Strengthen the Church
July	Church World Service (CWS) - international needs
October	* Neighbors in Need
November	Thanksgiving Baskets - supports our local community
December	* Christmas Fund - supports retired clergy and staff in UCC churches in Maine Heifer International Living Gifts Christmas Eve - supports local needs

We believe that each person is unique and valuable. It is the will of God that every person belongs to a family of faith where they have a strong sense of being valued and loved.

CLEANUP BUCKET CHALLENGE...Families may choose to fill a basket on their own. Or...they may combine with another person/family to fill a bucket. Each bucket will contain about \$75. worth of cleaning supplies as listed here:

- One 4-8oz. pump spray air freshener
- Five scouring pads (No stainless steel or pads with soap in them (Remove from packaging)
- Seven sponges, including one large
- One scrub brush (with or without handle)
- 18 reusable lightweight multipurpose dry cleaning towels (No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels. (Remove from packaging)
- One 32-64oz. or two 25oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-34oz. bottle if liquid disinfectant dish soap
- One 12-40oz, bottle of liquid concentrate household cleanser that can be mixed with water (No spray bottles)
- One package of 36-50 clothespins
- One 50-100ft. clothesline(Cotton or plastic)
- One pair of work gloves (Cotton with leather palm)
- Five dust masks (N95 particulate respirator dust masks preferred. (No surgical masks)
- Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free, non-surgical. Durable for multiple-use. (Remove from packaging)
- 20-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll (Remove from packaging)
- One 6-9oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent (Pump-spray bottles must have protective covers. Packs of 10-20 insect repellent wipes are also acceptable.)

All cleaning items must be new and all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened.

Questions? Contact Pam at 207-743-5925

Please let us know if you would like to join the Mission Committee, we are really a fun group!
Shalom, *Pam Williams*(Global), *Nancy Engdahl*(Local)

CHURCH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE (CAC)...

The CAC is excited that we have been able to start sponsoring events again. The field trip to the Hazel and Owen Currier Doll Museum in Fryeburg was enjoyed with 16 women taking advantage of the private showing. Docent Sally Whitaker gave a brief history and overview of the museum. Everyone was pleasantly surprised by the thousands of dolls on display. Many of the dolls wear clothes hand made by Hazel Currier.



After the tour, a delicious lunch was enjoyed on the porch at Ebenezer's. Thank you Dodi for organizing the trip.

41 people attended the outside service on July 17th and were treated to an ice cream social.

Everyone seemed happy to make sundaes *en plein air*.



Museum docents: Sally & Terri



Mark your calendars for Saturday night, **September 17th**, for our first fund raiser in quite some time. (See below:) We are in the "can we do it" stage for filling cannoli shells. If you would like to fill cannoli shells contact...nengdahl@roadrunner.com.

Fundraiser Dinner

For

Waterford Emergency Fuel Fund

Lasagna/Salad/Homemade Bread/
Cannoli's

With Entertainment

Wilkins Community House

Sept 17th

6:00 PM

Seating starts @5:45

\$15 per person suggested Donation

Children under 6 yrs are free

Limited seating – 72 max – first come first served



If you have any ideas for further programs or field trips, please let one of us know.
Nancy, Myra, Dodi, Doretta, Denny, and Sally

SUMMER NEWS FROM THE DEACONS...

Since starting in-person services in March, we have seen more people returning. We welcome our summer residents and visitors. We are so happy to see everyone, and our closing circle at the end of the service is a joy, joining friends, old and new. Coffee hour after church spills out onto the front steps so everyone has plenty of space to chat and have their coffee and goodies.

Tabitha and Dianne have run Facebook Live this summer, with varied results. Apparently, the increase in population during the summer makes a higher demand on cellular data, causing times that the service has been dropped from FB and then needs to be started up again. We hope you will be patient with us. And...you can watch the service later in the week with the sermon recorded on the church website.

On Father's Day, we celebrated the men in our midst, giving them each a chocolate bar decorated with varied Father's Day greetings, which they seemed to really enjoy!

We held three outside services this summer, one each month. We finally found the ideal location, near the Meditation Garden. It is a beautiful backdrop for Doretta's sermon and Jane's singing (and not too hot in the summer sun.) We have thoroughly enjoyed the portable foot-pump organ that George uses for these services! Thanks to the trustees and others who have helped set up the chairs and audio for outside services. Stay tuned...we hope to have at least one or two more outside services before it gets too cold.



Once again, the deacons give a hearty thank you to everyone who has helped out with coffee hour, greeting people, bringing flowers for the altar and presenting a peace prayer. We also greatly appreciate people who volunteer for scripture readings (see Dianne.) Sign-ups for flowers, greeting and peace prayer are on the bulletin board in the narthex.

PEACE PRAYER – *What is this and how do I do it?*

The moment in the service when we have the Peace Prayer started soon after the events of Sept. 11, 2001. It was suggested that we do something in response to this terrible event, so we decided to make a time to pray for peace. It has been part of the service continually since then.

If you want to try your hand at it, we would love to have you! There is no one way to do this part of the service. We welcome everyone's ideas of what makes peace, from peace inside oneself to global peace, or anything in between. You can write it yourself, or read a poem or quote from a book. The back of the hymn book has pieces that would work as well. It can even be a spur of the moment thought, just let the minister know. It can be short or longer (but not so long as to be a second sermon).

You can do it yourself or have someone else light the candle for you (we have had couples do it this way). After you are done with your thoughts, you light the candle as the congregation sings a response. Give it a try! It is the nicest "audience" you can imagine and it gives you a chance to think about what peace means to you as you prepare for it.

Any questions? Talk to Doretta or Dianne.

If you know anyone who needs the deacons or minister to contact them, please let us know. Deacons are: Dianne, Ted Nixon and Myra Maltby. Hope to see you soon.

Dianne Morse-Leonard, Head Deacon



**Active Hope: How to Face the Mess
We're in with Unexpected Resilience and
Creative Power**

From the *work that reconnects* by Joanna Macy

Six-week_book study

WHEN: Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 beginning
September 29th through November 3rd. (We encourage
attendance, but understand if you need to miss one or two evenings)

WHERE: Gatherings will be at the Wilkins House, 15
Plummer Hill Road, with the exception of October 13th
and 20th when we will meet in the Waterford Church.

Register with Doretta Colburn at colburndoretta@gmail.com
or call 860.235.2711 or text for signup or questions.

Deadline September 15th.

Order your book today via our local bookstores or online.

NEWS FROM THE MAINE SCHOOL OF MINISTRY (MESOM)



**Ministry & Mental Health
& the Church - Part 2**
Instructors
Rev. Shelly Snow & Rev. Dr. Ron Beard

9am-3pm on Zoom
Sept 10, Oct 8
Nov 5, Dec 3

Registration is now OPEN

(Psst: you can take Part 2
without having taken Part 1)



Join the Maine School of Ministry this Fall for
Ministry & Mental Health Part 2!
(Note: You can take Part 2 without having
taken Part 1)
Click [HERE](#) to register
Click [HERE](#) for dates and syllabus



**Christian Ethics
for the 21st Century**

Dr. Phil Devenish
Instructor

9am-Noon on Zoom
Sept 10 & 24
Oct 8 & 22
Nov 5 & 19
Dec 3 & 17



Registration is now OPEN

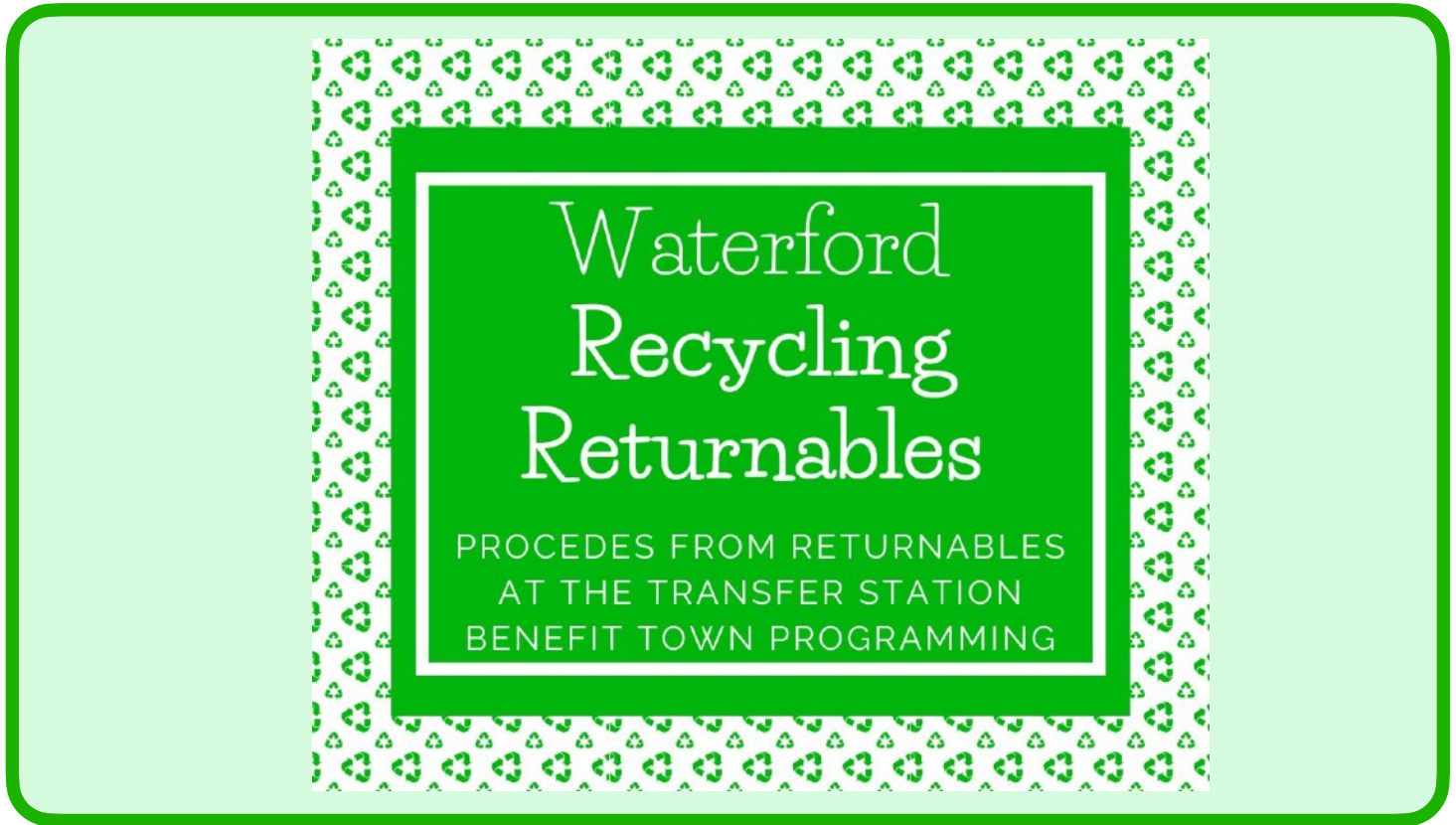
Join the Maine School of Ministry this Fall for
Christian Ethics for the 21st Century!
Click [HERE](#) to register
Click [HERE](#) for dates and syllabus

Maine Conference UCC - MESOM Covenant of Care

The Rev. Dr. Ron Beard, Dean
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***A commitment of the Maine Conference
Board of Directors and commended to
the congregations and ministry
settings of the Maine Conference.***

***"We covenant to care for one another and offer
compassion in thought, word, and deed. We will
listen to learn, inquire to understand, and speak
for hope and not harm. In both similarities and
differences, we will ask for God's grace and offer
it freely to one another. Above all else, we will
love and respect one another."***



Potluck Dinners Return!
Coming in October...

Be part of the planning group on
Mon., Sept. 12 at 9am

Hosts for the evening set up, make coffee, and provide beverages. Everyone brings something to share: entrees, desserts, salads, bread, etc. In addition, each attendee donates \$2. to cover cleaning/ heat/ plowing. Then everyone helps to clean up afterwards.



News from the Pews



We hope you enjoy receiving the Waterford Church Newsletter. If you know someone who would like to be added to our newsletter list; or if you would like your name added to our birthday list; or should you choose to unsubscribe...please email ksleslie@me.com.

The Hambleton's Enjoy Visits from Friends and Family...

Brenda reports: We were fortunate to spend most of our summer here on the lake. We were joined by family and friends. Our grandson, Stevie, already loves Keoka and spent hours splashing around and riding on the boat.



The Moulton's Family News...

Mary Lou and Herb are excited to announce that their daughter, Pamela Moulton, an

accomplished artist, has moved her residence and studio to North Bridgton (where they have their home also.) Several of her other new neighbors include members of her high school swim team! In the summers you will find Pamela in Lovell at Hewnoaks Artist Residency on Kezar Lake. Currently, Payson Park in Portland is alive with her fanciful sculptures, many with an environmental focus. (Ed. Note:)The internet has much more fascinating information about Pamela's background and her art work!

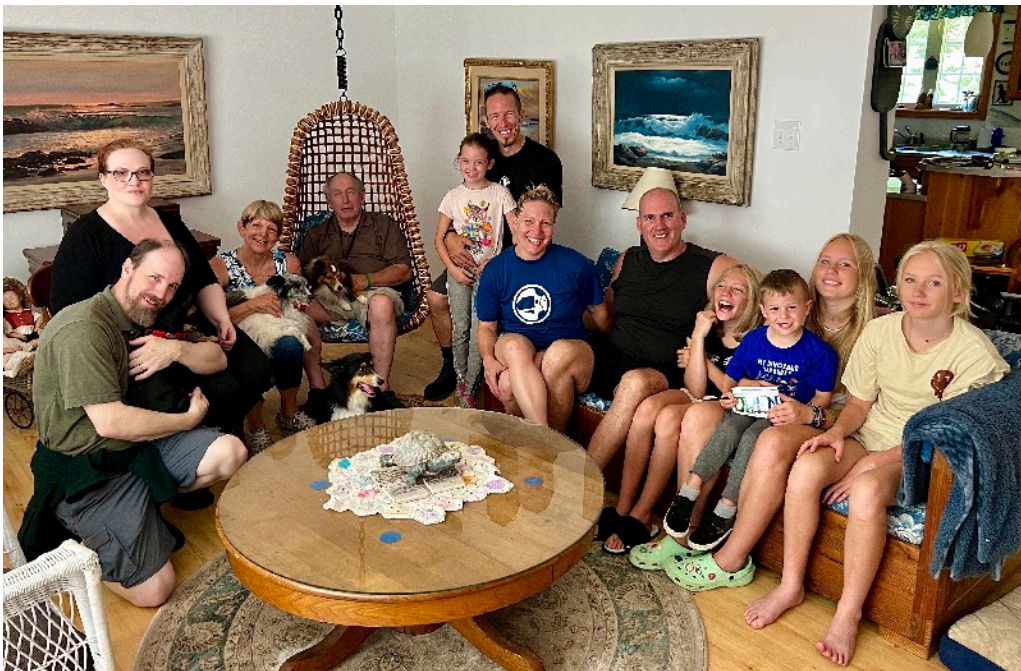


The Raymond's Super-Spectacular Family Gathering...

We have had a super, spectacular time with our family all together the first week in August. We all live so far apart (Seattle, Ft. Worth, Boston and here) getting time together is a blessing. Our son, Will, put a list of the week's highlights together. Here it is:

- Kids digging a huge sand gully in our beach and playing in it all week
- Kids riding Bruce the large inflatable rideable bull floating in our cove (gift from my brother Chapin & his wife Deborah)
- Corn roast dinners on the beach (twice!) - complete with chocolate peanut butter ice cream pies
- Glassy Keoka Lake mornings and gorgeous sunsets over Mt. Tire'm
- Community breakfast at the Wilkins House (Fun for us to enjoy Denny's great pancakes!)
- Swimming/ Kayaking as a group to Keoka's rock island, playing on the rocks, ignoring the gull-poop and swimming/kayaking back
- Playing Rummy and Dominoes after the kids went to bed
- Family hike to Emerald Pool (Brrrr...cold water!)
- Enjoying the Sheltie dogs and the visiting Manchester Terrier from Seattle(!), ...Periali
- Lobster & Steak dinner on the beach
- Visiting Camps Owatonna & Newfound (lots of friends there) to pick up our grandgirls, Eva & Ella (end of camp session)
- Friends and family coming north from Boston for overnight visits
- Family picture before we all travel back to our respective homes

Ginny & Denny



L to R: Son, Tyler & wife Morgan with dog Periali, Ginny, Denny (with our 3 dogs), son Will with his daughter, Olivia, Ginia' & husband Matt, Emmi next to Will's son, Owen, Eva and Ella. (The three girls are 'Ginia' and Matt's children).

Kay Lyman's New Residence...

My big news is that: "Instead of being a snow bird, I will be a coastal bird." I now have an apartment at Thornton Oaks in Brunswick where I will go after election day in November until the end of March. I will keep my house in Sweden and do some back and forth during the winter, weather permitting, but probably not on Sundays. I will be back in the Waterford church after mid-September. I feel very lucky that Doretta and George have been coming to the Sweden Community Church this summer."



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Pam and Lloyd William's Trip of a Lifetime...



What an amazing summer Lloyd and I have had...a trip of a lifetime through 28 states, camping in 22 of these states. Visiting with family and friends along the way. Beautiful landscapes of this wonderful world that God created. We have thousands of pictures to go through and stories to share. Here are a few pictures:



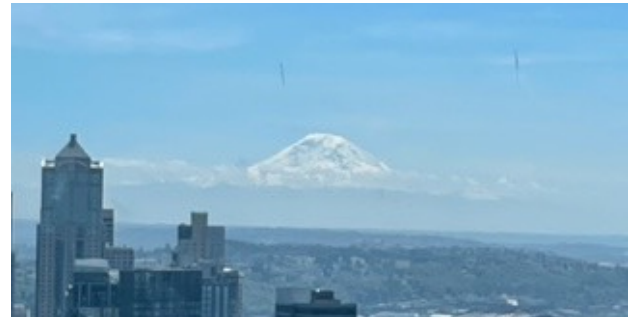
Niagara Falls State Park



Fargo, ND



The Badlands South Dakota



Mt. Rainier from the Space Needle in Seattle



Leaving Seattle, heading to Salt Lake City - end of June



Lizard Sculpture outside an authentic Mexican restaurant in Salt Lake City



Columbus, OH Zoo

A Fabulous Fourth for the Leslie's...

Peter and Kay enjoyed the Fourth of July starting with the Waterford breakfast, then the parade, then the rubber duckie race, fun in the pond, the McWain boat parade, the traditional salmon dinner, and ending with the spectacular fireworks across the pond that Jared has been organizing each year! Family was visiting from WA, MN and NH and it was loads of fun!



L. Reese & Johnna love the parade

R. It's fun collecting the candy

Below...Rubber duckies... maybe next year...



L. Afternoon swim with Daddy, Grammy and Grampy

R. Men of McWain! Peter & Pat



L. Poached salmon, red, white, & blue potato salad, watermelon salad, strawberry shortcake.

R. Grand finale - watching the fireworks from our dock.





SEPTEMBER

27 Ginny Raymond
29 Bruce Whichard
29 Ted Nixon

OCTOBER

1 Bill Colbath
3 Issac Sylvester
4 Joseph Sylvester
5 Colleen Winslow
6 Chyanna Cordwell
7 Bobbi Whichard
10 Peter Leslie
12 Henry Plate
18 Bruce Bedard
24 Hanna Thibodeau

NOVEMBER

6 Eli Ross
7 Jeff Winslow
8 Rev Doretta Colburn
11 Shelia Durgin
14 Gabe Gabrielsen
15 Arlene Whichard
25 Brian Sylvester
26 Sally Holm

Church Leadership



Moderator: *Al Struck*

Clerk: *Larry Griffin*

Trustees: *John Wait, Kerry Johnson, Larry Griffin*

Treasurers: *John & Dodi Wait*

Assistant Treasurer: *Ralph MacKinnon*

Stewardship: *Kerry Johnson*

Deacons: *Myra Maltby, Ted Nixon, Dianne Morse Leonard*

Church School: *Myra Maltby*

Missions: *Nancy Engdahl (Local)*

Church Activities Committee: *Nancy Engdahl*

Communications Coordinator: *Sally Holm*

Webmaster: *Ginny Raymond*

Church Historian: *Dianne Morse Leonard*

WE PLOW THE FIELDS

words by Matthias Claudius, 1782

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the
land.

But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand.
He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the
grain,

The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

We thank thee, then, O Father, For all things bright and good,
The seedtime and the harvest, Our life, our health, our food;
Accept the gifts we offer, For all that love imparts,
And, what thou most desires, Our humble, thankful hearts.

