



Greensboro Gleanings

July 2016

From the pastor's desk ...

Dear Friends,

In the May, 2016, issue of "Gleanings," Moderator Jeff Pierpont and I wrote about church governance and the problems of trying to continue with an out-moded structure, in these times of declining church attendance and membership. (If you no longer have this issue of Gleanings, it can be found under "News and Events" on the church website— gucvvt.org.) Jeff has counted over seventy positions, called for by the current Greensboro UCC bylaws, for a church whose attendance, outside of the summer months, numbers around thirty. This is a sure-fire recipe for fatigue and burn-out. It also keeps energies focused on sustaining the institution rather than on ministry to those both inside and outside our walls.

With this in mind, I have presented two workshops on governance, based on the book, *Governance and Ministry: Rethinking Board Leadership*, by Dan Hotchkiss, and on previous experience helping a church successfully streamline its governance. An email was sent to the church list inviting anyone who was interested to take part in the workshop. (Throughout this process, it has been our intention to have participation be as wide as possible.) Twelve church members attended the first workshop, where we analyzed the GUCC Mission Statement, broke into small groups to create (to the best of our ability!) diagrams of how the church is currently organized, and discussed what is and isn't working in the current structure. I briefly outlined several different models of governance, drawn from the work of Hotchkiss, and then explained his view of the difference between governance and ministry. In our final exercise, we again divided up to write each of the responsibilities and tasks, listed in the bylaws, of the current four church boards (Deacons, Trustees, Mission and Christian Education) on sticky notes and apply them to one of two large sheets of paper, labeled either "Governance" or "Ministry." We were surprised to discover that almost all of the tasks and responsibilities fell under governance!

Eight members, including one associate member, attended the second workshop. I once again talked about the difference between governance and ministry. As David Hooke, a member of the First Congregational Church in Thetford, summed it up, after reading the Hotchkiss book:

Ministry is what the church actually does to and for the congregation and the wider community—the work of changing and enriching lives. Governance is where and how we determine and refine our church's mission, and then oversee the plan for implementing the mission through ministry. Hence: Governance is the "What" and Ministry is the "How."

See Governance cont'd on Page 3

THANK YOU



July Ushers and Greeters

- July 3 — Anne Parke & Mary Hewes
- July 10 — Rick & Jackie Lovett
- July 17 — Rick & Jackie Lovett
- July 24 — ?
- July 31 — John & Lisa Hewett



July Coffee Hour Hosts

- July 3 — Trish Alley
- July 10 — Connie & Trink Dornseifer
- July 17 — Jackie & Rick Lovett
- July 24 — John & Jill O'Brien
- July 31 — Rick & Jackie Lovett

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July 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sundays 8:30am Choir Rehearsal Fellowship Hall 10:00am Worship Service Sanctuary	Mondays and Wednesdays 10-11am Growing Stronger Fellowship Hall				1 7:30 p.m. Village Harmony Concert Sanctuary	2 11 a.m.-1:00 pm Chicken BBQ GUCC
3	4	5	6 11:00 p.m. Mission Board Parsonage	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 1:00 p.m. Deacons Parsonage	14	15	16
17 Strengthen the Church Offering Received	18	19 8:00 p.m. SMFG Concert GUCC	20 1:30 p.m. Trustees/Pars. 7:30 p.m. Lecture Series FH	21	22	23
24 11:00am Search Comm. Fellowship Hall	25 7:00 p.m. Greensboro Land Trust Annual Meeting	26 8:00 p.m. SMFG Concert GUCC	27	28 7:30 p.m. Summer Lecture Series Fellowship Hall	29	30
31						

MILESTONES

Happy July Birthday to

Dan Beresford, Thomas Collier, Zachary Collier, Ethne Gray Eli Hill, Ken Johnston, Brent Kinsley, Fenton Meyer, Bill Nieme, John Redfern, John Rohnert, Corey Whitten, and Joot Wright. *Also...a Happy Anniversary to* Mike and Susan Coffey

Is your birthday listed this month when it shouldn't be? Have we missed you in our celebrations? Contact the church office and let us know if your birthday is listed incorrectly or has been missed.



Governance, Cont'd from Page 1

Using large easel pads, we listed the important tasks—the things that need to get done in and by the church— under either governance or ministry. I then shared Hotchkiss’s strong recommendation that churches move toward single-board governance, a recommendation seconded by Associate Conference Minister for Stewardship, Church Vitality and Finance, Jim Thomas, who has helped many Vermont Conference churches move in this direction. We then divided into two groups of four (I “floated” between groups), each charged with the task of designing the “leanest” governance structure they could imagine while still accomplishing the important tasks we had outlined. Although they went about it in different ways, the two groups came up with very similar designs. A subgroup has been charged with putting these designs together and bringing them back for a third workshop, where we will have the chance to raise questions, refine the proposed model, and discuss how to implement the changes we envision.

Please don’t hesitate to bring your questions to me or to Jeff. We hope that everyone will take an interest as we seek to design a structure that minimizes meetings and frees us for ministry.

Rona

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Search Committee thanks everyone who completed a survey to provide information for our church profile. Your input has been reviewed and compiled into the document that will be used in the national search for our next pastor.

Our next big step will take the form of small social gatherings. Their purpose is to get information in conversational format. Gatherings are being scheduled to allow us to hear every voice as we define the pastor who will lead our church.

These groups will also give everyone an opportunity to have their voices heard. The groups will be no larger than eight to ten people so all will have an adequate opportunity to participate. Four tentative times are planned: Two will be after church and two will be at committee members’ homes.

After church:

July 24

August 7

In homes

July 21, 10:00 AM

August 16, 10:00 AM.

We expect these meetings to last about an hour. If needed, other dates will be offered to accommodate people who prefer evenings or other times. Sign up sheets will be in the church from now until August.

Please feel free to contact any of the Search Committee members with questions or suggestions.

The committee members are Susan Coffey, Nancy Hill, Shelly Jungwirth, Jeff Pierpont, Janet Travers, Roger Waible, and John Hewett.

Roger Waible
Chair, Search Committee

NEWS FROM
THE GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
PO BOX 176
Greensboro, VT 05841
802-533-2223
gucc@guccvt.org

Upcoming Lectionary Readings

- July 3 ~2 Kings 5:1-14 • Psalm 30 or • Isaiah 66:10-14 •
Psalm 66:1-9 ~Galations 6:(1-6), 7-16 ~Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
- July 10 ~Amos 7:7-17 • Psalm 82 or Deuteronomy 30:9-14 •
Psalm 25:1-10 ~Colossians 1:1-14 ~Luke 10:25-37
- July 17 ~Amos 8:1-12 • Psalm 52 or Genesis 18:1-10a • Psalm 15
~Colossians 1:15-28 ~Luke 10:38-42
- July 24 ~Hosea 1:2-10 • Psalm 85 or Genesis 18:20-32 •
Psalm 138 ~Colossians 2:6-15, (16-19) ~Luke 11:1-13
- July 31 ~Hosea 11:1-11 • Psalm 107:1-9, 43 or Ecclesiastes 1:2,12-14; 2:18-23 • Psalms 49:1-12 ~Colossians 3:1-11
~Luke 12:13-21



THE MUSIC CORNER

Our sacred music this month is a nice variety of classical, contemporary and even some Renaissance and Baroque. Here is how we will *Serve God through Music* this month:

- July 3rd: our patriotic yet sacred anthem was ***Blessed is the Nation***...with full organ and choir.
- July 10th: W.A. Mozart(1756-91) composed a beautiful motet for four-part mixed choir entitled ***Adoramus te, Christe***. It has long, lush lines in all parts that will be sung in Latin that we will float across the sanctuary in a legato style.
- July 17th: ***We Who Are Called*** is a contemporary anthem written in 1997 by Carolyn Hamlin. We will present it prayerfully with a soloist and the message of “forgive our sins” and “Thy will be done.”
- July 24th: ***All Things Bright and Beautiful*** is this Sunday’s anthem that was commissioned by Westminster Choir College for Helen Kemp who was one of my professors. John Rutter (b. 1945) is one of the most prolific English composers today and continues to write sacred music in a light, lyrical, lush style that is performed the world over.
- July 31st: We received requests to reprise our anthem from May entitled ***Sanctus and Benedictus*** from Antonio Lotti’s (1667-1740) *Mass in D minor*. Written in an early fugal style, in Latin, it is a challenge to sing and we are delighted to return it to this Sunday’s service. The Consort will offer the ***Trio Sonata in G Major*** by Johann Joachim Quantz, with recorder, viola da gamba and harpsichord where each part has its own line.

Hal Parker, Music Director

FROM THE MISSION BOARD

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Church World Service Blanket Offering on Father’s Day. We collected \$1,060.00 to send to CWS for this worthy cause.

The display for the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program’s (VRRP) Household Welcome “Kit and Kaboodle” program for Vermont refugee resettlement has been set up in Fellowship Hall. During the remainder of the summer individuals, families, and other groups can take leaves from the tree and donate the items needed for this program. Our goal is to provide two complete household welcome kits.

Our next special offering will be the “Strengthen The Church” offering on July 17th. This offering is to support church growth, pastoral and lay leadership development, and youth and young adult ministries. Thank you for your donations.

Cathy Pollard, Chair