

Birthday Greetings to the following who will celebrate during the months of July & August:

July

- 2 Lauren Russo, Tom Taylor
- 5 Andrzej Dutkanicz, Kyle Heiden, Dan Schmitt,
Luke Moseley, Kimberly Witiak
- 6 Jeanette Shearin, Dymitri Dutkanicz
- 7 Gail Schoennagel, Erik Keirstead, Patrick Boland
- 8 Henriette Wilson, Robert Reeves, Norma Mandulak
- 12 Rob Boroski
- 13 Mary Jane Liddel
- 14 Danny Mesaros, Michael Yachymczyk
- 16 Richard Russo
- 18 Laura Ann Frolish
- 19 Laurel Bailey, Amy Mesaros
- 20 Meredith Dawley, Soren Ibsen, Marie Russo,
Caroline Wells
- 21 Craig Heyse, Barbara Parrelli, Katelyn Roberts
- 22 Dylan Krystopowicz
- 23 Faye Fair
- 24 Caitlin Boland, Cheryl Frolish, Marissa Brighindi
- 25 Ethan Long
- 27 Samantha Adler, Don Russell
- 28 Sue Carlson, Barbara Connery, Harry Roscoe
- 30 Evelyn Steinis, Royal Wells, Tom Rogers



August

- 1 Bill Simics, Bob Boroski
- 3 Jameson Boroski, Daniel Parrelli,
Annice Harris, Gregory Fitol
- 5 James Ricker
- 6 Rachel Krystopowicz
- 7 Matthew Tucker
- 8 Fred Rottjer, Soren Ibsen, III, Peter Witiak
- 10 Linda Harris
- 11 Allison Russell

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- 12 Sarah Bordas, John Kozlowski
- 13 Frank Keegan
- 14 Patti Leung, Rebecca Verdicchio
- 16 Ed Brighindi, John Wilmot, Sheila Moseley
- 17 Chris Schoennagel
- 20 John Crowley, Kristen Ferris
- 21 Ryan Brighindi, Anita Bennett
- 22 H. Tom Nickse, Sheri Hatfield
- 23 Stephanie Rogers
- 24 Nancy Faber, Joseph Wannagot, Win Oppel
- 25 Bruce Hartel, Angela Toth
- 28 Arlene Wells
- 29 Maria Maffe, Arlene Grey
- 30 Spencer Keith
- 31 Rachel Skinner

*Congratulations to the following couples who will celebrate
wedding anniversaries in July & August:*



July

- 2 Pat & Lyman Wells
- 6 Robin & Bruce Hartel
- 7 Laura & Carl Salvio
- 8 Arlene & Royal Wells
- 17 Margie & Bob Mingrone
- 20 Jan & John Brewster
- 25 Laurie & Steve Ronning Patti & Leon Leung
- 28 Barbara & Kevin Glynn

August

- 1 Barbara & Don Henschel
- 15 Carolyn & Walter Hempel
- 16 Marie & Jason Mitchell
- 17 Susanne & Mike Keirstead
- 22 Thelma & Gordon Bauer, Donna & Jim Bacchiocchi
- 23 Julia & Arthur Markarian
- 25 Marie & Richard Russo
- 29 Scarlett & Tom Taylor

- 30 Diane & Roger Friend
- 31 Barbara & Mario Parrelli



Many thanks to the Belfry workers who faithfully prepare your issue for the mail. Last month's workers were: **Fran DeLand, Joe & Joan Bloemen, Tom & Peg Nickse, Karin Hongo, Don Henschel.** Thank you for your generous gift of time.

The next Belfry issue will be mailed on **Thursday, August 28th**. We will be happy to see you at 9 a.m. to lend a hand.

FOUND

- ❖ Woman's brown leather gloves
- ❖ Lilac winter jacket



Karen Boroski, our church
Office Manager, will be on vacation
from July 28th – August 1st.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Utility poles are not for posting. Cardboard signs advertising tag sales and other public & private business ventures are violating CT State Statute Section 23-65 and are subject to a \$50 fine for each violation. This is a reminder that nails and staples from illegally posted signs can create dangerous situations for utility employees who have to climb the poles to perform electrical line work.

The State of CT is appealing for your cooperation.

RECOGNITION OF 2008 GRADUATES

Colleges & Universities

- John Crowley* – University of Bridgeport – Arts & Science
Soren Ibsen III – University of Rhode Island – BS Accounting
Meagan Mulford – Smith College (Lin Mulford’s granddaughter)
 – Masters in Education of the Deaf
Ryan Koenig – Springfield College, MA
 – BS in Exercise Science
Vicky Schoennagel – University of Southern California – Master of Science in
 Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering
Rachel Skinner – Fairfield University
 – MBA

High School

- Brian Crowley* – Shelton High School
 - CT School of Aviation
William DiRienzo – Shelton High School
 - University of Hartford - English
Heather Grisgraber – Shelton High School
 - Bryant College, RI - Business
James Liddel – Shelton High School
 - Plymouth State University, New Hampshire - Environmental Science
James Margolies – Shelton High School
 - Naugatuck Valley Community College - Physical Therapy
Amy Ricker – Shelton High School
 - Housatonic Community College - Business Management
Kaitlin Ronning – Shelton High School
 - Western CT State University - Nursing
Steven Salvio – Shelton High School – Housatonic Community
 College - Graphic Design

From Our Parish Nurse...

During the busy season we sometimes feel there are not enough hours in our days.

It is important to remember there are enough hours in each day for us to fulfill God’s perfect and particular plan for our lives. We never need more time than we have to do the whole will of God. “It’s not the days of your life, but the life in your days that counts.”

- ❖ Take time to work – it is the price of success.
- ❖ Take time to think – it is the source of power.
- ❖ Take time to play – it is the secret of perpetual youth.
- ❖ Take time to read – it is the fountain of wisdom.
- ❖ Take time to be friendly – it is the road to happiness.
- ❖ Take time to dream – it is hitching your way on to a star.
- ❖ Take time to love and be loved – it is the privilege of redeemed people.

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- ❖ Take time to look around – it is so short a day to be selfish.
- ❖ Take time to laugh – it is the music of the soul.
- ❖ Take time for God – It is life's only lasting investment.

Have a great summer!
Barbara Grisgraber, P.N.



Shelton Food Bank

ITEMS NEEDED:

soups of all kinds
instant potatoes
cookies

pudding
spam
tuna fish

Jello
crackers
canned fruit

Please leave items in the "well" in the alcove.



NORWALK OYSTER FESTIVAL

Come join the fun!!

and help us Celebrate our 16th year
at the Festival!!

Friday, September 5th
Saturday, September 6th
Sunday, September 7th

The Norwalk Oyster Festival will be here before we know it! Sign up sheets are located in the alcove and much help is needed at our German food booth. All proceeds from the Oyster Festival go to support the Church General Budget and Missions Outreach. Everyone of high school age on up is encouraged to participate.

This is a very enjoyable event that's not to be missed!

Free admission to the Festival for all volunteers.

If you have any questions, you may contact Mike Keirstead at 926-1618.

Lots of help is needed to make it a success!!

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

ALL CHURCH BBQ

July 1, 2008

[HUNTINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BELFRY –
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On Rally Sunday, **September 14th** the Christian Education Committee will hold an all-church BBQ to be held on church grounds and kick off the new church year. our summer worship bulletins and Belfry.

Keep an eye out for more information in



The theme for this year's Summer Sunday School program is *Fruits of the Spirit*. Class will be held in the Library every Sunday from June 15th - August 24th, with the exception of July 6th, and is open to 4 year olds through 4th grade with older children always welcome as helpers.

We are looking for teacher(s) for August 10th. Please see the sign up in the alcove and/or speak to Kirsten Keith at 929-4225.

2008-2009 Sunday School

We are in need of 1 teacher for the 5th grade. Please sign up on the Christian Ed bulletin board in the alcove or see Kirsten Keith for more information.



TEACHER MEETING & FAMILY POOL PARTY

Calling all teachers and their families to come for our annual teacher's meeting. We'll start it off with our usual brief meeting, while Andy plays life guard with the kids, and then join in the fun. This will be held on Wednesday, September 3 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Keith's house. Please look for your invitation sometime in August.



RALLY WEEK IS COMING!!

Save these dates

Sunday, Sept. 9th - Rally Sunday - Sunday School begins
followed by All-church BBQ in church parking lot

Friday, Sept. 19th - Family Outdoor Movie Night

HCC SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Huntington Congregational Church present scholarships to our church members who are pursuing a higher education and also the youth who will be attending the UCC Silver Lake youth camp during the summer months.

Individuals receiving college scholarships are: *William DiRienzo, Laura Frolish, Heather Grisgraber, Alex Harris, Chelsea Ibsen, Erik Keirstead, Sarah Keirstead, Sarah Koenig, James Liddel, Nikole Lindley, Caroline Margolies, James Margolies, Benjamin Melsenti, Luke Melsenti, Ryan Oppel, Amy Ricker, Kaitlin Ronning, Steven Salvio, Justin Toth, Kim Witiak*

SILVER LAKE SCHOLARSHIPS:

Youth receiving scholarships for Silver Lake camp are:

Heidi Keirstead

Mykala Heiden

Lauren Kane

Congratulations!



Those who have completed communion training and will join the congregation in a celebration of the Lord's Supper during the July 6th Sunday Worship Service are:

Melissa Dawley

Sara Frolish

Angela Simics William Simics

Julia Simics

Richard

Simics Joseph Wannagot Matthew Zelanin

MISSION CORNER...



We had a great turnout for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, May 31st as 12 HCC volunteers helped restore a beautiful historic landmark building in Bridgeport. Thank you to: *AJ & Sarah Bordas, Edwina Corner, Deborah Margolies, Allison Oppel, Nancy Passaro, Linda Rogers, Greg Rottjer, Tom Ryder, Bob Sember, Rich Steinis, and Henriette Wilson* who gave of their time.

Our next volunteer day is October 25th. Watch for the sign up sheet in the alcove and join us!

† REMINDER †

OUR CONGREGATION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR

THE SPOONER HOUSE MEAL ON
THE SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH.
LET US NOT FORGET THE SUMMER MONTHS.
WATCH FOR THE SIGN-UP SHEET ON THE
BULLETIN BOARD IN THE ALCOVE.



CLEAN-UP UPDATE

The Business Committee would like to give a huge thank you to everyone who helped in OUR church's annual Spring Clean-up. It was a small turnout, but everyone worked so very hard, had a few laughs and, of course, some goodies to keep us all going.

Almost all of the jobs were completed – and maybe next year some new faces from the congregation could help.

Again a Huge Thank You to the mighty small crew from All the members of OUR congregation.

Jim Bacchiocchi, Business Committee - Grounds

CAN YOU HELP?

We are asking for volunteers who can help out by watering the outside plants during the summer. If you can donate some time, please contact Donna Bacchiocchi at 922-8135.



Our Condolences to ...

...the family of Olga Gainer, mother of Diane Friend, who entered into rest on June 15, 2008.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time of bereavement.

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

JUNE, 2008

Sue Lindley for Barbara Parrelli, Clerk

BUSINESS: Spring clean-up went well. Car wash & bake sale 6/21. Dehumidifier quote for entire downstairs/basement area.. Engineer to come & give estimate.

CHRISTIAN ED: Children's Sunday & Robert Wilson Sunday-children made ice cream sundaes. 2nd and 5th grades need teachers. Vacation Bible School: 6/23 – Monday thru Thursday - 5:30 to 7:30pm for church members & friends. Cost \$15/child – Kindergarten thru 4th grade. Rally Sunday 9/14 with intergenerational picnic to be held at church.

NOMINATING: Need one person on Nominating; one person for Christian Ed.

MISSIONS: Rainbow of Sharing/Olive Odell Blanket Fund: \$255.75 –. Habitat for Humanity – May 31st - 12 people from HCC attended. Next build in October. Tom Ryder to organizing.

MUSIC: Will be cleaning and painting the music room over the summer.

NURSERY: Registration: Numbers low for next year, but received some promising phone calls. Additional week of preschool with 12 children signed up. Raises for Lori and Gail were discussed and approved.

TREASURER: 20 scholarship applications received.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: April 26 - Church Women United's annual meeting. Barbara Henschel recognized as Person of Honor for Material Aids. Quarterly meeting held with program on flower arrangements. Linda Sember needs additional person to co-chair Fair committee – Pat Tober has volunteered to be one of the 3.

STEWARDSHIP: New envelopes arrived for next year.

SEARCH: Listening to sermons and have profile out. Making progress.

DIACONATE: Sub-committee is forming on membership.

PASTOR: Graduate Sunday -- 6/22. Thank you to Kirsten Keith for taking on Vacation Bible School. Doing his pastoral visits – Phil Jones had gall bladder surgery and doing well. Had to miss the Scouting recognition ceremony in his honor.

Next committee meetings will be on Monday, August 18th. Council will meet on Monday, August 25th.

Sue Lindley,

Substituted for Clerk

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JUNE 15, 2008

A **motion** was made by Jim Bacchiocchi to spend the \$8,075 from the Capital Improvement Fund to complete the items noted:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Reuman House Landscaping | \$1650 |
| 2. Asphalt Curbs | n/c |
| 3. Pruning | \$550 |
| 4. Recap Sidewalks | \$675 |
| 5. Parking Lot Drainage | \$3000 |
| 6. Sanctuary Structural Survey | \$2200 |
| 7. Fill pothole at driveway entrance | \$175 |

Total dollar amount requested is \$8,250.00

A **motion** to increase the original amount of \$8,250 by \$5,000 (not to exceed) to \$13,250 to include pavers instead of asphalt was made by Mike Keirstead and seconded by Jim Bacchiocchi. **Motion passed.**

Stewardship Report

May

Pledged Income: \$13,827
Collected Income: \$14,038

YTD

Pledged Income: \$72,563
Collected Income: \$67,047



School is out and vacation time begins. People are away relaxing. May this note serve as a friendly reminder that during the months of July and August the missions and ministries of HCC do not stop – nor do they slowdown. Please make every effort to keep your pledge current. HCC still has bills to pay: utilities, lawn care, building maintenance, staff salaries, insurance, etc.

If you plan to be away for most Sundays, simply slip your offering into an envelope and mail to the church office.

If you are up to date on your pledges, THANK YOU!

While on vacation, don't forget God; He promises not to forget you.

From Our Interim Minister...

Dear Friends,

Ah summer! What could be better than to find ourselves in a season that invites us, almost forces us to relax. Warm, humid days make it nearly impossible to keep up the usual frenetic pace, and when I have cut the grass or washed the car in the hot sun, a shade tree, my cushioned wicker lounge chair and a glass of ice cold lemonade seem like a direct gift from God. In fact, the heat of this season may be God's way of telling us that letting go of the "to do" list and simply relaxing is very healthy for the spirit.

At my old house in Stratford I used to have a wonderful spot under a large red maple tree that was my relaxing place. I would drag my lawn chair out there, get a cup of coffee and simply spend time with myself, reading, sometimes writing, but often just sitting there soaking up the world. If I stayed there long enough I would always begin to feel calmer, and the stress of the day would recede. But most importantly, I would regain the perspective of what a gift life is and I would remember just how fortunate I was to be given that gift.

When Jesus said that the Kingdom Of God is within us, I believe this was the experience he was speaking from. I love the passage from Mark's gospel when Jesus just disappears one morning to his relaxing place and the disciples have to search for him.

If Jesus needed stillness, certainly we do too! When your mind is filled with the concerns of the day, when you are running from one thing to the next, it is very difficult to feel the wonder of being alive. But that wonder is there and you deserve to experience it. So I suggest that you let the heat of July and August lead you to your own relaxing place, a cool, quiet place that refreshes your soul.

JOHN

Prayer List

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
8 am – 3 pm
Friday
8 am – 12:30 pm
Interim Minister
Rev. John W. Collins
C. E. Associate
Kirsten E. Keith
Organist/Choir Director
Bruce E. Hartel
Office Manager
Karen S. Boroski
Moderator
Win Oppel
Deacon Co-Chairs
Royal Wells/Sue Lindley
Business Chair

Roger Friend	Barbara Parrelli
Joe Sampias	Franklyn Dormer
Shirley Brisch	Emil Bleston
Jesse Clemons	Ruth Kneen
Philip Jones	Essie Moseley
Virginia Burroughs	Bill Chandler
Barbara Newlan	Eugene Martin
Gary Lund	Evelyn Timko
Tom Marrison	Joe Caputo
Mary Glynn	Jim Goodman

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Doug Henry	Lois Hall
Karen Coté	Ann Verrilli
Julius Morosko	Linda Watson
George Higgins	Ken Potter
Laina Perna	Gail DeFeo
Jacquie Mari	Earl Lawson
Dan Lynch	Mr. Feeney
Gail Bishop	Tim Leonard
Jimmy Melsenti	Robert Nicodemus
Bob & Ruth Johnston	
SFC Edward Bernas – Iraq	
LCPL David S. Lee, III - Iraq	
SSG Peter R. Walls - Iraq	

GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Grounds Committee has hired Natural Lawn of America, the leader in organic based lawn care. We feel this is an environmentally responsible decision by our church.

By next Spring/Summer, our church and Reuman House lawn areas will have received five (5) treatments, along with new seed planting in the Fall. We're hoping it will look beautiful.

If any church member is interested in the services of Natural Lawn of America, you will receive a \$50.00 credit AND the church will also receive a \$50.00 credit when you become a customer.

If you have any questions, please see Jim Bacchiocchi

“NURTURING GENEROSITY”

141st Annual Meeting Part II

Connecticut Conference

United Church of Christ

October 17 & 18, 2008

Central High School

Bridgeport, CT

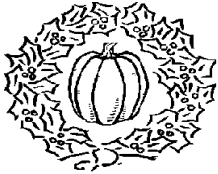
- † Conference Minister's Annual Address
- † Worship
- † Workshops

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- † Plenary Sessions
- † Authorized Minister's Lunch
- † Community and Fellowship

"The more we touch the intimate love of God which creates, sustains, and guides us, the more we recognize the multitude of fruits that come forth from that love. - Henri Nouwen



PUMPKIN & HOLLY FAIR

The Women's Fellowship has already begun planning the Annual Pumpkin & Holly Fair for November 21st and 22nd. If you are new to the church and want to become more involved, this is the perfect opportunity!

Christmas Fantasy will meet on Tuesday evenings beginning June 26th at 7:00 p.m. in Reuman House. We are seeking new people to join us and to gather new and exciting ideas for our area. Can you sew, crochet, knit, bead, paint, etc? We need your help. Even if you have never crafted, but would like to help, please join us. The work is rewarding, the fellowship great and everlasting. We promise you will enjoy helping us create the best fair in the area! Please call Shirley Bleston (929-0350) or Shirley Licursi (203-426-6422) with questions about Christmas Fantasy. Hope to see you on June 26th or any Tuesday evening.

Folk Art – This group is looking for small-scale furniture – tables, chairs, plant stands, chests of drawers, toy boxes, bookcases, etc. that can be painted. Please call Fran Deland (926-9556) if you have one to offer or would like to help paint.

The **Jam and Jelly** group of the Fair is looking for help picking fruit and, in the fall, making Jam and Jelly. Call Linda Sember at 929-5853 if you would like to be a part of this group.

Potpourri is gathering ideas to start working in the fall. Any suggestions would be welcomed! Call Gail Schoennagel at 929-7178 with suggestions or if you would like to help out!

Watch for the more information on the Fair in the September Belfry.

HUNTINGTON CENTER NURSERY SCHOOL

Huntington Center Nursery School has openings for Fall 2008 for 3 and 4-year olds. Are you looking for an affordable nursery school with small class sizes and loving teachers? At Huntington Center Nursery School, we help each young child gain a strong foundation for learning and growth by responding to their individual needs and interests. If you are interested in more information, please call Lori Witiak at 929-7197.



HISTORY

Submitted by Lin Mulford, HCC Historian

The churches were cold, but the theology, especially in the meeting-house, was hot. “Coal-scuttle bonnets” and foot-stoves had not “come in.” The women all wore hoods, thicker or thinner according to season, which were thrown back during the service. In the church the collection was received on pewter plates reserved for the purpose; in the meeting-house the deacons spread their bandanna handkerchiefs over their tall hats and received therein the alms of the faithful.

The Sunday nooning for those who came from far, with generous luncheon baskets always carried on the left arm of paterfamilias as he sat in the saddle, was spent in winter before a fire in the “Sabba-day house,” directly back of the meeting-house, or in summer beneath the primeval oak standing on the green, whose wide branches could shelter threescore or more, or wandering in the churchyard among graves old and new.

From “The Salt-Box House”
by Jane DeForest