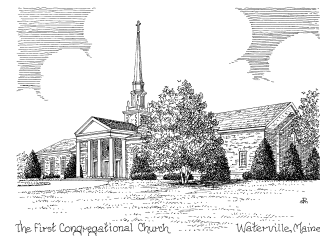


Reflections



Volume XXV Issue IV

April 2012

Inside this issue:

Holy Week Services	2
Women's Fellowship	3
Fifty Plus	
Rummage Sale	
Spring for Lunch	
Dinner Groups	4
Tuesday Bible Study	
Stewardship Message	
Thoughts from Dorisann	5
Recipe of the Month	
Church Family News	6
Calendar	7
Serving Schedules	8

From Our Pastor

Rev. Dr. David Anderman

I've been thinking about relationships and Easter recently - Easter obviously because it is only a few weeks away, relationships because of recent time with family and friends and because the Deacons have been talking about the importance of relationships in the community of faith.

One of the facets of Easter and the resurrection stories in scripture that comes through loud and clear is the importance and continuity of relationships. His disciples and friends were absolutely convinced that their relationships with Jesus did not end with his death. Paul later wrote that nothing, not even death itself, can separate us from the love of God we know through Christ Jesus. When we sing the words "He walks with me and he talks with me," we are affirming our continuing relationship with Jesus. Some Christians have trouble imagining a relationship without a physical body; thus the belief in physical resurrection. Others view the resurrection more symbolically and metaphorically. But they share the affirmation of a relationship with God through Christ. This is what we celebrate on Easter morning, symbolized through the empty tomb.

Easter is not the only time we celebrate and develop relationships with God and Jesus. Every Sunday morning is a mini-celebration of the resurrection. Times of worship and prayer and spiritual discussions can bring us closer to God and to each other. This is why the Deacons have sponsored our Saturday morning discussions, to grow spiritually and to grow closer within our community of faith. This is why we are having a Taizé service Good Friday evening.

And it's not just serious times together. Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." We also gather in Jesus' name for times to enjoy each other's company and to build new relationships. So you will be hearing in the near future about other opportunities such as sharing meals together.

One of the things I have re-learned through KVO and other community organizations is the importance of relationships to an organization. (Maybe they learned it from the church.) But in the church our relationships are two-pronged; they are relationships with each other and our neighbors, but they are also relationships with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

All of this is a part of what I celebrate when I get up early on Easter morning.

I will be on vacation from April 9-18. On April 19 & 20 I will be attending a meeting of the Council on Theological Education in New England at Andover-Newton Theological Seminary.

The Rev. Danielle Bartz will be preaching on April 15. I am so happy to be able to use the title of Reverend now. Danielle's ordination service March 10 was a wonderful, spiritual celebration.

On April 22 Steve Meyerhans and I will report on our trip to Honduras during the morning worship services. We will share pictures, stories, and information about the E&R Synod of Honduras, the CEVER vocational school, and the general situation in Honduras.

David





Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday 8:30 & 10 am

Maundy Thursday 7 pm at Winslow Congregational Church

Good Friday

Chapel open 12-2 pm

Taizé service with communion 7 pm in chapel

Easter Sunrise Service, 6:30 am on the steps of Lorimer Library at Colby College

7:15 Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

Easter services - regular times 8:30 & 10, both in sanctuary, choir will sing at both

(no Church School on Palm Sunday and Easter, nursery will be provided both days)

Special Taizé Service on Good Friday



We invite you to join us in a beautiful Taizé Good Friday Worship Service on **Friday, April 6th, at 7:00 p.m.** A Taizé service is contemplative in nature, and will include candlelight, singing, readings and meditative silence.

What is Taizé? Founded by Brother Roger Schutz, a Protestant, during WWII in Burgundy, France, Taizé is now an ecumenical monastic community of 100 brothers from 30 countries, With its strong devotion to peace and

justice through prayer and meditation, it has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage: for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. Participants are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation.

A Taizé service of prayer and meditation includes of singing—simple one-line or two-line songs, sometimes in several languages (which may be sung simultaneously).

The songs are sung over and over again until they “move past singing and begin to take on a life of their own.” Taizé services include readings, psalms, silent meditation, and prayers of intercession. Ours will include Communion. There is no sermon or offering. The services are very contemplative and offer a time to think, center down, pray, and move out of the rush and stress of life into a space of renewal and healing.

Many Thanks

Women's Fellowship wants to express their sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make the reception following Danielle Bartz's ordination a

very special occasion. Thank you to everyone who provided food and a special thank you to those who also assisted with the preparation,

servicing and clean-up of the event. Danielle and her mother were most appreciative.



Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship will meet on **Wednesday, April 4th, at 1p.m.** in the Fireside Room.

Following the success of the March meeting where members shared their tales of travel* and tips for a more successful and enjoyable experience, this month ladies are invited

to share stories and photos of their wedding day. It should be fun to compare dress and customs with each other and with today's wedding celebrations. Betty Lou Jones and Kath Osbourne will furnish refreshments, and devotions will be led by Pat Lyford.

Rummage Sale posters will be available for distribution along with a sign-up sheet for volunteers to sort, sell, and provide refreshments for the workers.

*Ask Eunice how many cruises she has taken. You will be amazed.



Rummage Sale—April 27 and 28

Donations for the Rummage Sale may be left on the stage in Fellowship Hall. Sorting will be done starting at 9a.m. on Thursday, April 26th so it would be appreciated if all items for the sale are at

the church **before** that date. As always, we want items clean, in good condition, and appropriate for the upcoming season. Clothing and accessories for all ages and sizes is appreciated along with

jewelry, books, linens, household articles and items that can only be classified as white elephants. Pick-up can be arranged by calling the Olivers after April 17th.



Fifty Plus and Friday the 13th

Fifty Plus will gather on **Friday, April 13th, at 6 pm** for a covered dish supper and a timely program.

Diane Bryan, Executive Director of the Waterville Opera House, will talk to us about some supersti-

tions of the theatre, and she will also give us an update on the new renovations and plans at the Opera House.

Anyone interested is invited to attend and is asked to bring a casserole

or salad for the buffet. Please bring your own place setting. Hosts for the evening will be Bob & Nancy Godfrey and Ruth Wood. Please mark your calendars and come and join us for a fine meal and for fun fellowship.



Spring for Lunch! To Benefit the Waterville Area Homeless Shelter Campaign

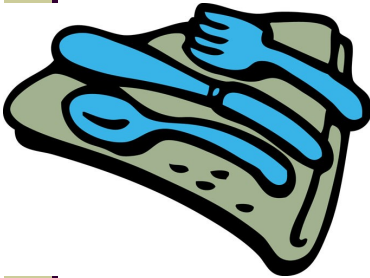
Do you like to go out to eat after Sunday worship? Want to save money, eat wonderful food, AND benefit the Waterville Area Homeless Shelter? Then the Mission Committee has just the thing! Join us on **Sunday, April 29th at 11:15 am** for a

wonderful lunch to benefit the Homeless Shelter Capital Campaign. Marilyn Bretscher will be our chef, and her menu of Grenadian inspired food promises to be wonderful.

Tickets will be sold by members of the Mission

Committee for \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, or \$20 for families. We would love to sell them ahead of time so Marilyn can prepare accordingly, but we will be happy to sell them at the door. If you are unable to attend but would still like

to donate, we are accepting donations of potatoes, chick peas, dried macaroni, and salad fixings. If you have any questions please contact Danielle Bartz.



Dinner Groups

Starting perhaps late summer or early fall, all church members and friends will be asked if they would like to join a dinner group. The purpose of these groups is for us to get to know one another better in a setting outside of church. The groups will then be randomly assigned, with anywhere from 4-8 people.

Families, couples, and individuals are most welcome to sign up. The groups will get in touch with one another and discuss how and when they would like to gather for a meal together. The Deacons suggest groups gather 4 times a year. This is a wonderful way for all of us to get to know each other better and to

share in some wonderful food! Please keep your eyes and ears open for further announcements and information. In the meantime, feel free to share any thoughts, questions, or interest with one of the Deacons.



Our Bible Study!

Tuesday Bible Study

The current Tuesday Bible Study on "Saving Jesus" will end on April 3rd.

The next session will begin on **April 24th, at**

11:30 a.m., and end on May 22nd. The topic will be "The Gospel of John & anti-Semitism."

The beginning of a new

topic is always a good time for new people to join our group for lively and spiritually enlightening study and discussion. Bring your lunch and join

Stewardship Message

Stewards of Our Relationship with One Another

No one can serve two masters... You cannot serve God and wealth. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. – Matthew 6:24, 21

The Rev. Dr. Richard D. Weiss observes that being stewards in the household of God is intensely counter-cultural in significant ways. We live in a society where we are taught explicitly and implicitly that to be truly human is to be self-sufficient, independent, protective, competitive,

acquisitive, accumulative, a consumer. If you pay money, you should get something. There is no limit to the satisfaction of our desires. Our spirit is nourished and our worth is measured by what we possess.

What are the marks of this counter-culture, the Household of God? We are interdependent and collaborative – we need each other, others need us. We share surplus so each has enough. In order for all to live, each limits accumulation. Money is just another resource to be allocated to ensure shalom. Our spirit is

nourished by living up to whom God made us to be. Our worth is given by God. Churches have a unique ministry opportunity to liberate members to order their financial life according to their faith values.

Laura Dunham wisely notes in *Graceful Living*: "Every choice we make to spend, save, or give has an impact, creating a ripple effect. How each of us decides to live matters."

A message from Stewards in the Household of God: a Resource for Holistic Year-round Stewardship available from United Church of Christ Resources.



Thoughts from Dorisann

During one of our LENT discussions, we talked about how Good Friday gets a little lost during the Easter celebration. Without experiencing the darkness, it is harder to appreciate the light of Easter. When I was growing up, we didn't do anything special for Good Friday. I have become interested in hearing about various church offerings on that day.

Some churches offer a Tenebrae Service where there is a gradual extinguishing of candles while scripture is read and somber songs are sung. The Last Seven Words of Christ are read. The First Word is from Luke 23:33-34: "When they came to the place called 'The Skull', they nailed Jesus to the cross there, and the two criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Jesus said 'Forgive them, Father! They do not know what they are doing.'" The broad scope of these words clearly conveys Jesus' compassion. They can be interpreted as asking God to forgive the guards that hung him on the cross, or they can be asking forgiveness for our sins. To me this is powerful because it sums up resurrection. Jesus is sacrificing himself so that we are forgiven.

The last word is from Luke 23:46 where Jesus shared with us the final dedication of his soul. "Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into thy hands I commit my spirit!' And having said this he breathed his last." I found text for a Good Friday service on the Seventh Word that I want to share. "Jesus entrusts his spirit -- his life and all that has given it meaning -- to God in faith; even at the point of his own abandonment, when the good seems so very far away, he proclaims his faith in God; the darkness cannot overcome it." <http://www.spirit-net.ca/sermons/a-gdfr-sn.php>

In addition to our Church Chapel being open for part of Good Friday, there will also be a Taizé service in the chapel at 7pm. This has been described as a meditative worship service with simple somber music.

Recipe of the Month from David Anderman

This is a family recipe from my mother's mother's mother, my Great Grandmother Tyson. It was a staple of my childhood years, comfort food for me. This is transcribed from a handwritten notecard in my grandmother's writing.

Apple Sauce Cake

2/3 cup shortening	3 1/2 cups flour
2 cups sugar	2 tsp. cinnamon
2 cups applesauce	1 tsp. cloves
2 tsp. baking soda	1 tsp. ginger
little salt & nutmeg	2 cups raisins

Cream shortening & sugar

Add sauce & baking soda which has been stirred together

Then add flour & spices & raisins (putting raisins on top of flour helps to mix them through cake batter)

Mix

Put in well-greased & floured 10x13 pan

Bake at 425 degrees for 15 min.

Lower to 350 degrees for about 20 min. till done

We always had the cake sprinkled with powdered sugar rather than icing.

It keeps well but did not last long in my house.



Thank You

First Congregational;

Words cannot express my appreciation for the support and encouragement you have given me.

Thank you for the amazing gift certificate! I will have fun with that!

Peace,
Rev. Danielle



Birthdays

April

- 1 Lydia Dexter
Donna Fischer
Bob Godfrey
- 2 Carl Beck
Stacey Tormollan
- 3 Sarah Berube
- 4 David Folsom
Bill Niehoff
- 8 Carolyn Shea
- 10 Parker Beverage
- 11 Kelly Potter
- 12 Gabriele Elkin
- 13 Alexis Baker
Hannah Dexter
Aimee Ranger
April Ranger
- 16 Keith Fischer
- 17 Jeanne Nason
- 20 Margaret Robjert
Dorisann Wagner
- 22 Phoebe Corwin
- 23 Barbara Anderson
Max Cobb
Bill Fetterman
- 24 Carole Ringer
- 25 Lara Bluhm
Linda McCann
Roger Titus
- 27 Joan Cormier
- 28 Jeanne Davis
Molly Folsom
- 29 Caitlin Putnam



Anniversaries

April

- 1 Dave & Sophie Hedrick
- 3 John & Laurie Spinner
- 8 Joe & Ruth Turano
- 28 David & Alice Anderman
- 30 Sally & William McKeagney



Those on the Prayer List in March

Prayers

Bill & Pat Sleamaker
Gail Kennett and family
Linda Welch
Mary Lee—Martha Phillip's sister
Tim Chaisson
People of Syria
Tornado victims and communities
People who lost jobs

Joy

Danielle Bartz was ordained March 10th.

Newsletter Deadline

For May

Is

Thursday, April 12th

April 2012

Sunday Morning Worship
8:30 Chapel
10:00 Sanctuary
10:00 Sunday School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 Palm Sunday Morning Worship	2 4:00 Weight Watchers 5:30 Weight Watchers	3 9:00 Weight Watchers 11:30 Bible Study 6:45 Finance Comm.	4 9:00 KVA Church & Ministry-CR 1:00 ME Conf Finance Committee—FH 1:00 Women's Fellowship-FS	5 Maundy Thursday 7:00 Service At Winslow Church	6 Good Friday 12—2 Meditation in the Chapel 7:00 Taizé Service in Chapel	7 Holy Saturday	
8 Easter Sunday 6:30 Sunrise Service at Colby Library 7:15 breakfast in FH 8:30 Worship 10:00 Worship	9 4:00 Weight Watchers 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:30 Deacons	10 9:00 weight Watchers 11:30 Bible Study	11 6:30 Building & Grounds	12 Newsletter Deadline 5:30 Music Comm. 6:30 Senior Choir 6:30 OA	13 5:30 NA 6:00 Fifty Plus	14 9:00 Rangers	
15 Morning Worship	16 4:00 Weight Watchers 5:30 Weight Watchers	17 9:00 Weight Watchers 11:30 Bible Study	18	19 6:30 Senior Choir 6:30 OA	20 5:30 NA	21	
22 Morning Worship	23 4:00 Weight Watchers 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:00 PL—CR 6:30 Missions—FS	24 9:00 Weight Watchers 11:30 Bible Study 6:00 Church Council	25	26 9:00 Set-up Rummage Sale 6:00 Rangers 6:30 Senior Choir 6:30 OA 7:00 Brass Rehearsal	27 9:00—1:00 Rummage Sale 5:30 Na	28 9:00—12:00 Rummage Sale	
29 Morning Worship 11:15 Luncheon Fundraiser for Shelter	30 4:00 Weight Watchers 5:30 Weight Watchers	<div style="border: 3px double black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Nancy, the church secretary, will be on vacation April 1—6. Rev. David will be on vacation April 9—18, and will be attending the Council on Theological Education at Andover-Newton on April 19-20.</p> </div>					

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Deacon of the Week

April 1 Carole Ringer
Deacons Serving Communion
Pat Lyford, Lora Downing,
Carole Ringer, Elsa Apetz
8 Easter
8:30 Lora Downing
10:00 Dorisann Wagner
15 Pat Lyford
22 Alice Eaddy
29 Martha Phillips

8:30 Lay Reader

April 1 Steve Meyerhans
Easter 8 Ryan Turano
15 Parker Beverage
22 Norman Cole
29 Lora Downing

Usher Schedule

April 1 Ruth Engle
Laurie Spinner
Easter 8 John & Laurie Spinner
15 Tom & Linda Kahl
22 Tom & Linda Kahl
29 Tom & Linda Kahl

10:00 Lay Reader

April 1 Tammy Ranger
Easter 8 Betty Lou Jones
15 Alice Eaddy
22 Herb Oliver
29 Tom Kahl