



CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH THE GOOD NEWS

September 2023



Volume 12, Issue 9

A Good and Faithful Servant



*“His master replied,
‘Well done, good and faithful servant!
You have been faithful with a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things.
Come and share your master’s happiness!’”
Matthew 25:23*

Dale Hamilton behind commemorative bench which reads,
“Dedicated to Dale W. Hamilton, for 60 years of service,
August 5, 1963 – August 7, 2023, North Conway Fire Department,
15M21 [Dale’s Call number for the fire department]”

Congratulations to Dale Hamilton as the longest-serving member of the North Conway Fire Department, who was recognized for 60 years of service on Monday, August 7, 2023. Dale arrived at the recognition and celebration service in a 1937 antique fire truck - - (Dale was 1 year old when the truck was put in service!)

As part of the celebration, a Commendation from the State of New Hampshire, by his Excellency, Chirstopher T. Sununu, Governor, was presented to Dale, which read in part:

“Whereas, during his service, he has seen the growth of the North Conway Fire Department, being there to help along the way with whatever was needed of him to support the department, his fellow firefighters, and the community, and

Whereas, in more recent years, Dale has been the dispatcher and clerk for the department service, as the first voice of the department over the airways, directing the teams where to go and providing reassuring presence on line, and signing every application for the future fire fighters hoping to join the department; and

Whereas, Dale will be greatly missed around the firehouse and by his fellow firefighters, who have all looked to him as a mentor during their careers...”

For his dedication to the firefighting community, Dale’s service is recognized and is greatly appreciated. “Well done, good and faithful servant”!

John G. Hughes <{}><<<

Back row left to right: Ryan McDonald (grandson) & wife, Meagan McDonald, Ben McPherson & wife, Caitlin McPherson (daughter), Jean Hamilton (Dean’s wife), Heather Tower (daughter) & husband, Mac Tower.

Front row left to right: Cora McPherson (great granddaughter), Dale Hamilton, Ledger McPherson (great grandson)



TRUSTEES' MESSAGE

Well, it seems we managed to get through this rainy Summer without the need to build an ark. Have you ever noticed that the structure of our sanctuary ceiling resembles the hull of a ship? This is not by chance. The Nave is the central part of the church building, intended to accommodate most of the congregation. Nave (like navy) derived from the Latin "navis" for ship. The ship symbolizes the church as a whole, on our earthly pilgrimage, making safe passage through the stormy waters of the world, with her experienced pilot Christ at the helm, she transports the faithful safely to their heavenly home.

We are grateful for the donations we received thus far for the Trustee Appeal. As of August 18th, we had received \$10,050. We were able to purchase the new cooler/refrigerator for our Fryeburg Fair booth. Those who work the booth will appreciate not having to try to slide the doors on the old beverage cooler we had been using for many years. We were also able to have the church roof repaired, it is a temporary repair, which will at the very least get us through the winter. Our last temporary roof repair has lasted about ten years. Thanks be to God. There are still several items on the list that require funds to purchase or repair. We hope you will prayerfully consider a donation.

Thank you to Curt Reynolds and Carl Vitters for leading us in worship as lay leaders during John's much needed vacation. John may now need to come back to take a break from the grandchildren. A lot of preparation goes into leading worship and delivering a sermon. Curt and Carl's messages were well presented and well received by the congregants. We would also like to mention the joy that filled the sanctuary with live music on July 30th. Katherine Rhoda accompanied hymns on the keyboard, lifted her voice in song and raised the wonderful notes of the Dulcimer and Marxophone. Thank you to the Diaconate and Music Committee for scheduling Katherine. We look forward to her visiting us again in the October.

Thank you to our tech team, Steve Graustein, Dawn Vitters and Nancy Irving for keeping our church connected via email updates and zoom worship services. We will be adding new sound equipment to the sanctuary to enhance the worship experience both in the sanctuary and on zoom.

As Trustees, we are entrusted with keeping the church solvent and structurally sound. Our congregation is not financially capable of supporting the building and the Church's operating expenses solely by our tithes and donations. In order for us to keep the doors of the church open and able to serve our community we depend heavily on fundraising events.

Our biggest annual fundraiser is the sale of our famous Apple Crisp at the Fryeburg Fair. This takes well over one hundred volunteer time slots. We will start processing the apples on Tuesday, September 26th. Baking will commence the next day, both will continue with morning and evening shifts every weekday through Thursday, October 5th. We would greatly appreciate your help. Here is the link to the online sign-up form (<https://volunteersignup.org/JMQLL>) or you can sign up at the church. If you are not able to commit to a full time slot as they are listed that is fine, even a couple of hours is very helpful. We also need coverage at the booth at the fairgrounds. These slots are a commitment to a full shift. There are two shifts daily, October 1st through 8th, the early shift 11AM to 4PM and the late shift from 4PM to 9PM. Thank you to those who have already signed up.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for our December 2nd Christmas Fair and Tree Lighting event. We are hoping to make this a village-wide event this year, with other local Conway Village shops holding special Christmas events that day or weekend also. If you own, or have a connection with a business that would be able to donate a prize for our pick-a-prize auction, or if you would like to donate or sponsor a gift basket, please contact Dawn Vitters or Nancy Irving via email to cvccwebteam@gmail.com.

TRUSTEE'S MEETING

Tuesday, September 5, 4PM

Nancy Irving

Trustee Board ~ Anne Getchell, John Edgerton,
Duddie Andrews, Nancy Irving, Nancy Divine,
Tom Workman, ex officio member, Treasurer

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK

9/3	Nancy Divine
9/10	Duddie Andrews
9/17	Anne Getchell
9/24	Duddie Andrews



Katherine Rhoda, Guest Musician

The Brown Church was so blessed to have Katherine Rhoda be our guest musician at our Worship Service, Sunday, July 31st. Katherine grew up in the small town of Milo, Maine. She began playing on her Great Aunt's piano as a very young girl until her parents bought one for her at a Lion's Club auction for \$1. She began her career in 1st grade when she started piano lessons. Shortly after, Katherine taught herself to play the guitar that had been purchased with S&H Green Stamps. She sang at every opportunity accompanying herself! She studied music at Oberlin College. She continued a very interesting and diverse musical career:

- ♪ Singing in the Paris subway & elsewhere
- ♪ Recording film music
- ♪ Boston's Lithuanian Ethnographic Ensemble Sodauto
- ♪ Joining the People's Music Network
- ♪ Performing at New England Folk Festival and more
- ♪ Being a folk/world music DJ
- ♪ Serving as a church musician and leading musical activities in nursing homes
- ♪ Sings, plays a variety of stringed instruments: Marxophone, violin-guitar, hammered dulcimer, accordion, flute, ukulele and many more



The Brown Church is happy to announce that Katherine will also be the guest musician for the October 8th Worship Service 10AM. We hope that you will be able to join us and enjoy the lovely, unique instrumentation that Katherine Rhoda brings to the worship experience.

A Healed Leg Bone – The Sign of a Civilized Society Margaret Mead, National Museum of American History

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that another person has taken time to stay with the fallen, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended them through recovery.

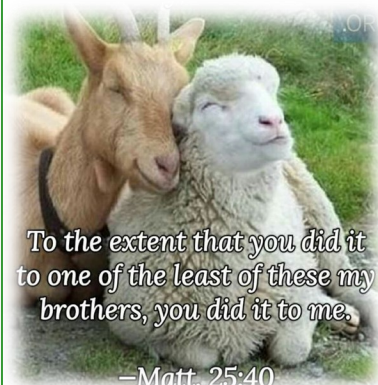
Years ago, the anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked by a student what she considered to be the first sign of civilization in a culture. The student expected Mead to talk about clay pots, tools for hunting, grinding-stones, or religious artifacts.

But no. Mead said that the first evidence of civilization was a 15,000 year old fractured femur found in an archaeological site. A femur is the longest bone in the body, linking hip to knee. In societies without the benefits of modern medicine, it takes about six weeks of rest for a fractured femur to heal. This particular bone had been broken and had healed.

Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die. You cannot run from danger, you cannot drink or hunt for food. Wounded in this way, you are meat for your predators. No creature survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal. You are eaten first.

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that another person has taken time to stay with the fallen, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended them through recovery. A healed femur indicates that someone has helped a fellow human, rather than abandoning them to save their own life.

"Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts," Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; for, indeed, that's all who ever have."



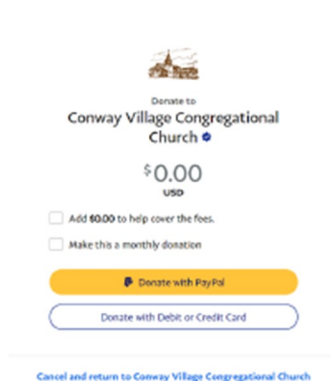
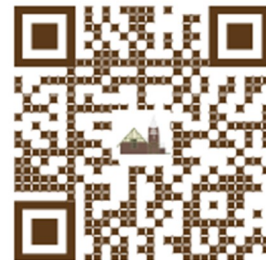
To the extent that you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

—Matt. 25:40

Please visit our website
or email us at
info@thebrownchurch.org
to sign up for our email
mailing list. Let us know
which types of emails you
are interested in, weekly
worship, monthly newslet-
ters, special events & volun-
teer opportunities,
website:
thebrownchurch.org

To contact the web/tech
team email
cvccwebteam@gmail.com

You will soon see Quick Response (QR) codes on church print materials including our bulletins, pew cards, newsletters, and event flyers. QR codes are a type of barcode that is typically linked to a website or an application. A QR code provides easy access to our website when scanned with a mobile device (phone) camera. The two QR codes below are different they both have a small image of our church in the center. The QR code on the left when scanned takes the user to our donation page. The QR code on the right goes to the home page of our website. There are many potential designs and uses for QR codes but these are two that we will be using for now.



The primary reason we have decided to begin using these QR codes is to provide an easy way for people to make donations and to learn more about our church. A lot of people no longer carry much cash with them. This has been evident in our plate donations when we have visitors who would have gladly made a donation, or perhaps given a larger donation but were not carrying cash.

In the future we will likely use QR codes for the Capital Campaign or other specifically targeted donations such as to the Food Pantry.

Church Humor

(Messages from Other Churches)

The Pastor will preach his farewell message after which, the choir will sing "Break Forth Into Joy".

Announcement in a church bulletin for a national PRAYER & FASTING Conference: "The cost for attending the Fasting and Prayer conference includes meals."

"Salvation" There's an app for that, it's downloading Jesus into your heart!



The Dinner Bell
Fresh Homestyle Meal
Everyone is Welcome!!

SUMMER HOURS!
Mondays 5 - 6 pm

Call the Church office on Mondays
for that days menu!
603-447-3851

Free Community Dinner



Take Out Only!

These services continue to operate while taking recommended safety precautions and practicing social distancing.



From the Deacon's Bench

I Want A 'Better Walk' with My Friend!

As summer is winding down and we're wondering where it went, we enter September. Teachers and students head back to school. Tour buses, bringing tourists to enjoy our beautiful fall weather and the equally beautiful autumn leaves, become a more common sight in the valley. As I stroll through forest paths and smell the drying colorful leaves in the crisp autumn air, it is easy to think about the Creator God. I say easy because for me to be alone in his beautiful creation and solitude, away from the distractions of my all too often, busy life, I feel closer to God. I meditate and pray as I walk and on occasion, I've even broken into a chorus or two of a praise melody in my private sanctuary.

If you've not tried this, I highly recommend it to you. Just spending time in a peaceful place with God is a wonderful way to talk to and spend time with Him. And isn't that what we need to do to grow our relationship with a friend and with God? The more we know a person, the more likely it is that a friendship develops and the more we get to know them, the more time we want to spend with them. And so it goes. We share each other's joys and challenges. The longer the friendship lasts; the deeper the relationship becomes. However, if we don't invest interest or effort into a friendship, over time the friendship most likely will weaken and fade. Lucky for us, God Does Not let us down or give up on us. He is faithful! He doesn't break his promises. He knows our strengths and our weaknesses. He knows our hearts; the good and the ugly. Yet He loves us perfectly!

He is called Almighty God, our Savior, Our Father, the Great Physician and our Friend!

As we think about answering the question: How am I doing in being a friend (disciple) to Christ? How can I improve MY walk with Him? We really need to be INTENTIONAL about this.

So, 1) We answer: PRAYER, of course. How can we be close to Our Father if we don't talk to Him on a regular basis.

2) We answer: READ / STUDY the Bible! Perfect answer! We can't get to know him if we don't.

3) We also answer: Attend WORSHIP and make friends with other Christ followers. Correct, again! Support church activities & mission opportunities to work with others and grow those friendships until you have created a church family to love and support and develop accountability partners. Great Job!! Guess What?

*Deaconess
of the Month
Judy Workman*

I have a Gift for you! I know that all of you want to have a Closer Walk with Jesus, so, let me tell you about another way you can do this. Would you like to SEE Jesus through the eyes of his followers? The Bible comes to life! You will want to read your Bible more! Let me tell you about "THE CHOSEN". It is a TV show (that will have 7 seasons when complete) about the birth and ministry of Christ. It is on CW-channel 12-Spectrum Sunday at 8pm. Download The Chosen App. to any device including Roku TVs. Any questions, just ask me.

*Diaconate Meeting
September 6, 4PM*

See you in church!
God Bless, Judy

*Diaconate
Co-Chairs - Louise Saxby & Judy
Workman; Treasurer - Dawn
Vitters; Secretary - Beth Campbell,
and Nancy Divine*



Join Us For Coffee Fellowship Following Sunday Morning Worship Services

Fellowship time is a great support time. It is wonderful to be able to chat with each other and keep up with what is happening in our busy lives. Coffee fellowship consists of light snacks, such as pastries or cookies and coffee and juice. There is a sign up sheet available if you would like to provide the light snacks for any given Sunday. Thank you.

August Worship Service

Date	In Church	On Zoom	Children	Special Day/Sermon Title
8/6	27	n/a	1	<i>"Do You Wrestle with God?"</i>
8/13	32	7	1	<i>"Does Faith Come from Seeing or Believing?"</i>
8/20	26	15	2	<i>"Our Mission Has No Boundaries"</i>
8/27				<i>"A King Who Doesn't Remember"</i>

To add someone to the Prayer List

Please call 603-447-3851 or email us at info@thebrownchurch.org
Also, please provide the person's mailing address so we may send cards. Thank you

Prayer Requests



- † Cathy Currier
- † Colleen Albert
- † Elise Keeney Edgerton
- † Linda Frechette
- † Alice Spear
- † Jill & Curt Reynolds
- † Tom Steele
- † Nicole Rabideau & Family
- † Carol Baribeau
- † Sandy Stowell, Lisa Horne & Family
- † Cory Smith
- † Mark Weld
- † Debbie Kelly
- † Sanphy Family
- † Greg Turgeon
- † Lori Dorey
- † Russ Hunter & Family
- † Charlie
- † Ruth Proctor
- † Paula Burgess
- † Sarah Weber
- † Family of Alice Clapp
- † Charlyne Gray
- † Anthony
- † Alexandra Tiresta
- † The Philippines People
- † Suzanne Rancourt

Happy Birthday !!



- 🕯️ Nancy Irving
- 🕯️ Russell Hunter
- 🕯️ Margaret Marshall
- 🕯️ Brian Wiggin
- 🕯️ Ruth Proctor

- 🕯️ Louise Saxby
- 🕯️ John Edgerton
- 🕯️ Sheila Pickard
- 🕯️ Mary Russo

Council Connections

Summer is beginning to come to an end. School will be back in session soon. Quite a few things have happened this past month. Pastor has been away on vacation and off on a witch hysteria weekend down in Massachusetts. Curt Reynolds and I have filled the pulpit on those four Sundays. Thank you, Curt for covering the two Sunday's.

Income was strong this past month, but not enough to cover all the bills. Another \$5,000 was drawn from the endowment account. To date that makes \$27,000 that has been withdrawn from the endowment account. Hopefully, we can make it to the Fryeburg Fair income without drawing out any more funds. The Trustee Appeal has done remarkably well. It has drawn in \$10,050 to date. If we can raise another \$3,000, we will have covered all the pressing repairs and purchases that were unbudgeted.

The good news that came this past month was that Rodd Roofing was able to go up on the roof and repair the repair, all for only \$750. We have purchased the new two door cooler for the fair. The council chose the type of carpeting for the classroom and are awaiting the estimate from J&J Flooring. We will see what the cost of the carpeting is compared to vinyl plank flooring, and will weigh the pros and cons of each product and see which will be the best surface to put down. The trees that need to be removed at the parsonage are scheduled for September and the electrical work will proceed once we get the money. Thank you to everyone that was able to scrape together some funds to be able to contribute to the Appeal.

Fryeburg Fair is coming up very soon and the sign-up sheets to volunteer both at the church and out in the booth are up in Fellowship Hall waiting for your eager signing. I can't express how important it is for the fair to be very successful this year. We need your help. We can't do the fair without your help. If the fair doesn't happen, then we could ultimately use up all the endowment funds this year. So PLEASE, sign-up! Sign-up as soon as you can because if it comes down to the week or so before the fair, and slots aren't filled, the stress level on those organizing the event, as well as the few volunteers that have signed up, is truly unfair. You have plenty of time to set the fair dates aside and be available to assist the church in this most important fundraiser of the year. Thanks in advance for your participation.

The deacons are looking for some help as well. The Council unfortunately cannot provide all the help that they need. They are looking for some people that would be willing to read the one Bible scripture on a given Sunday. Right now, there are only four deacons and one is part of the tech team that assists in the zoom platform. Another thing that would take some of the work load off of the Deacons would be someone who likes to send cards to people. You know, that old fashioned tradition of writing on a card and sending it out to the person who is having a birthday, anniversary or is in need of comfort. If you are interested and would be willing to help, contact Louise Saxby, Judy Workman or Dawn Vitters. You do not have to be a deacon to fill this position.

Blessings to all,

Carl F. Vitters, Moderator

Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 13
4:30 PM



Conway Village Congregational Church Mission Statement

"We are a community of faith in Jesus Christ, open to all, and by following His teachings we willingly serve God, our neighbors and each other, through worship, fellowship and ministry."

~Women's Bible Study ~
Thursdays, 9:30am

~ Men's Bible Study ~
Fridays, 9:00am

BIBLE STUDY FOR MEN & WOMEN

Conference Room &/or Sanctuary, Also available on Zoom
If you would like to join a group, please contact the Church office
at 603-447-3851 or email info@thebrowchurch.org

Conway Village Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
PO Box 333,
132 Main Street
Conway, NH 03818

Email
info@thebrowchurch.org

Website
www.thebrowchurch.org

Phone: 603-447-3851

Rev. John G. Hughes
Minister

Moderator
Carl Vitters

Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper
Melody Bergman

Women's Bible Study Resumes

We will start Women's Bible Study on Thursday, September 7 @ 9:30AM in the Conference Room. We will continue with The Chosen, Season 2, Episode 7. We will hold a make-up viewing session Tuesday, the 5th @ 9:30, in case you missed # 5 (John the Baptist visits, Mary Magdalene is traumatized by a visitor, etc.). Also, Wednesday, the 6th @ 9:30 we will continue with # 6 (Peter & Matthew search for Mary, group struggles with lack of food and bad news about John the Baptist, Jesus continues to upset the Pharisees.).

Everyone is Welcome!

Any questions, call the church office to let me know. Judy

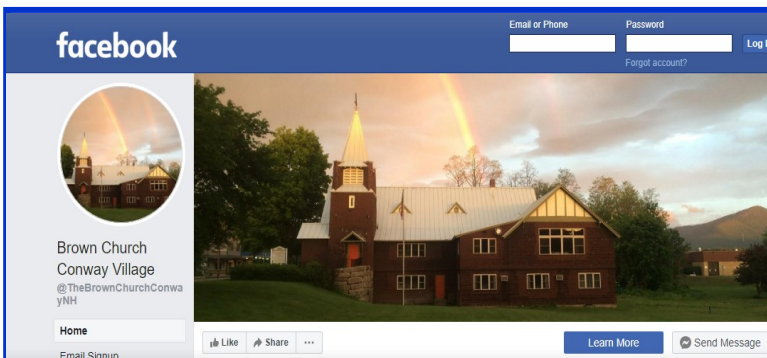


October
Newsletter
Articles
Due By



CVCC Office Hours

Monday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
CLOSED FRIDAYS	




Our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/TheBrownChurchConwayNH/> You can find it by searching in Facebook for the "Brown Church Conway NH" If you use Facebook please "LIKE" our Facebook Page by clicking the "Like" button at the top of the page. By liking our page people will see our church know that we are well liked within the community. You will be notified on your Facebook notifications when we post something new. You in turn, if you choose to, can share



that post on your page, which is very helpful in promoting the church, particularly for promoting our events. Thank you & God Bless



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9 am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	2 9 am AA Good Morning Group
3 10 AM Worship 11 AM Trustees Meeting	4 No Dinner Bell  <u>Office Closed</u>	5 Food Pantry 8:30-12 pm By Appt	6 4PM Diaconate	7 7 pm AA Big Book	8 9 am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	9 9 am AA Good Morning Group
10 10 AM Worship	11 Dinner Bell 5-6 pm Take out Only	12 Food Pantry 8:30-12 pm By Appt	13 4:30 Council	14 7 pm AA Big Book	15 9 am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	16 9 am AA Good Morning Group
17 10 AM Worship Pulpit Supply Carl Vitters	18 Dinner Bell 5-6 pm Take out Only	19 Food Pantry 8:30-12 pm By Appt	20  <u>Deadline Today!</u>	21 7 pm AA Big Book	22 9 am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	23 9 am AA Good Morning Group
24 10 AM Worship	25 Dinner Bell 5-6 pm Take out Only	26 Food Pantry 8:30-12 pm By Appt	27	28 7 pm AA Big Book	29 9 am Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	30 9 am AA Good Morning Group



September Worship Schedule 2023

Sunday, September 3rd – Communion

Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15

Matthew 16:21-28

Meditation: "*Going over to See*"

Psalm 105:1-6

Sunday, September 10th

Scripture: Exodus 12:8-11

Romans 13:8-14

Sermon: "*Eat in Haste*"

Psalm 149

Sunday, September 17th – *Guest preacher Carl Vitters*

Scripture: Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon: "*'Forgiveness' The Hard Truth!*"

Psalm 103:1-13

Sunday, September 24th

Scripture: Jonah 4:1-11

Matthew 20:1-16

Sermon: "*The Injustice of It All!*"

Psalm 145:1-8



Sundays 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship via Zoom
To access Zoom meeting by Phone

Phone Number: **1 646 558 8656**

(for audio only)

Meeting ID: **832 6656 0783**

Password: **074610**

Join us in person!

