

# **T**HE SPIRIT IS MOVING AND GOD IS STILL SPEAKING! The United Church Of Northfield Mid APRIL 2010, Newsletter

## **A LETTER FROM INTERIM PASTOR Reverend Roger Brown:**

Dear Members and Friends of the United Church,

We at the United Church have just come through a rich and meaningful Easter Season. On Maundy Thursday evening we shared a Seder meal with members of the United Methodist Church. On Easter morning, we shared a multi-media sunrise service also with the Methodist, held in front of the United Church. The United Church Brass Band and Rev. Paul Hoffman on the guitar provided music, and the 4 members of the United Church did a short drama. Communion was also celebrated. And just as we concluded the service at 7:30 am, the sun peaked over the hill to our East! Then we went inside for the traditional Easter Breakfast prepared by the men of the United Church. Many thanks to all who participated and helped with these events. As we move through the calendar to arrive at Pentecost Sunday on May 23rd, we journey in the Easter Season of the Liturgical Year. Let us remember the essential and re-assuring promise of the Easter resurrection event is made clear in the scripture which says, "whoever believes in me shall have eternal life." Let us give thanks to God, as new life blooms all about us here in Northfield!

Grace and Peace,  
Roger

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## **REPORT FROM THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE:**

The pastoral search committee is currently meeting on a weekly schedule, and has met three times, the first time with Reverend Pamela Lucas, the UCC staff person assisting our church. The committee represents a good cross section of the congregation and consists of the following individuals: Barbara Barrows, Roy Butler, Peter Evans, Lauren Howard (chair), John Knox, Ginny Kunkel, Billie Porter (in charge of getting us faithfully focused before each meeting), and Laura Ranker.

The overall process has three parts: 1) developing a church profile, 2) reviewing profiles from applicants, and 3) making a selection. We are currently working on page 8 of the church profile, a comprehensive 20 page document focusing on church membership, finances, financial support of previous ministers, community characteristics, congregational life, worship, mission, leadership expectations, as well as accomplishments in the past and goals for the future.

As we work through this document, we will be developing an opinion questionnaire dealing with challenges to, strengths of, conflicts within, and future goals of our church to send to all of our members and friends, so that everyone will be able to express an opinion in an anonymous fashion. The most important part of the questionnaire will be to determine the 12 major leadership characteristics we are searching for in a new pastor.

As we progress we will try to keep everyone informed by means of short in-church updates, after church summaries at special coffee hours, and through the newsletter. Please pray in support of the Pastoral Search Committee and for a good outcome in our search process. Everyone has an equal stake in the outcome, so don't be afraid to speak up if you have questions, suggestions or constructive criticism.

Yours in faith, Lauren Howard, Chair



**THE MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY**  
**For April 25, 2010 - May 30, 2010**

Please mark your calendars now *as this is your only notification*. If the date does not work for you, please call Judy Plumley at 485-6117 and she will locate a substitute. This works well with your help.

**USHERS AND GREETERS**

Liz Butler, Coordinator

**Ushers**

**Greeters**

**April 25**

Liz and Roy Butler

**May 2**

Judy and Lauren Howard

**May 9**

Kevin and Kate Beal

**May 16**

Max Greene and Dean Howe

**May 23**

Judy Knapp and Leah Knapp

**May 30**

Barbara and Kayla Barrows

**April 25**

Annalill and Anita Crain

**May 2**

Esther and Philo Hardie

**May 9**

Judy and Frank Plumley

**May 16**

Bev and Lorinda Dezotell

**May 23**

Brenda Cruickshank and Harriet Hirst

**May 30**

Annalill and Anita Crain

**COMMUNION STEWARDS:**

**Please call ahead if you cannot be present on your Sunday. Thank you.**

May 2: Laura Ranker, Chelsea Knapp, Liz Butler, Roy Butler

June 6: John Knox, Bev Knox, Barbara Barrows, Bev Dezotell

July 4: Debra Maloney-Evans, Peter Evans, Billie Porter, Kayla Barrows

**PLEASE SIGN UP IN HOWE'S HALL TO HELP WITH A COFFEE HOUR.**

Fellowship Hour Coordinators:

April: Judy Howard

May: Bev Knox

June: Billie Porter

**NURSERY CARE PROVIDERS:**

May 2nd, May 16th & May 30th: Julia Hatch

June 13th & 27th: Julia Hatch

May 9th & May 23rd: Chelsea Knapp

June 6th & 20th: Chelsea Knapp

**DEACONS IN CHARGE:**

April 11 John Knox May 2 Billie Porter

April 18 Chris Southworth May 9 Butlers

April 25 Chris Southworth

**Thank You for Serving in These Ways. We Appreciate Your Help!**

## LECTIONARY READINGS

### EASTER

**April 25, 2010**

**Acts 9:36–43**

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9–17

John 10:22–30

**May 2, 2010**

**Revelation 21:1–6**

Acts 11:1–18

Psalm 148

John 13:31–35

**May 9, 2010**

**Acts 16:9–15**

Psalm 67

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5

John 14:23–29 or

John 5:1–9

**May 16, 2010**

**Acts 16:16–34**

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17,  
20–21

John 17:20–26

**May 23, 2010**

**Acts 2:1–21**

Genesis 11:1–9

Psalm 104: 24–34, 35b

Romans 8:14–17

or Acts 2:1–21

John 14:8–17, (25–27)

### PENTECOST

**May 30, 2010**

**Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31**

Psalm 8

John 16:12–15

Romans 5:1–5



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

Jamie Sanders 1<sup>st</sup>, Anita Crain  
1<sup>st</sup>, Sarah Skinner 4<sup>th</sup>, Caitlyn  
Knapp 9<sup>th</sup>, Sally Kirn 14<sup>th</sup>, Dale  
Kunkel 24<sup>th</sup>, Roy Butler 27<sup>th</sup>.

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### CHURCH MEETINGS and HAPPENINGS:

|                                        |                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Church Council:</b>                 | Tuesday, April 20th<br>at 7:00 p.m. @<br>Church Office                                                                                          |
| <b>Vacation Bible School:</b>          | Thursday, April 22nd<br>at 4:30 p.m. @ United<br>Methodist Parish                                                                               |
| <b>Movie Night:</b>                    | Film <i>Food, Inc.</i> ,<br>April 22nd @ 7 PM at the<br>United Church of Northfield                                                             |
| <b>Search Committee:</b>               | Tuesday, April 27th<br>6:00 - 7:30 p.m.<br>@ Howe's Hall                                                                                        |
| <b>Deacons Meeting:</b>                | Wednesday, April 28th<br>4:45 p.m. @ home of<br>Billie Porter.                                                                                  |
| <b>Early Bird Bible Study:</b>         | Thursday, April 22nd<br>7:15 a.m. at the home of<br>Bev Knox <i>and on</i><br>Thursday, April 29th<br>7:15 a.m. at the home of<br>Billie Porter |
| <b>All Church Spring Cleaning Day:</b> | Sunday, May 2nd<br>following worship, light<br>lunch provided,<br>Dress Down Sunday.                                                            |
| <b>Mothers Day:</b>                    | Sunday, May 9th<br>Special Coffee Hour<br>hosted by the Discovery<br>Hour Children                                                              |

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Rev. Roger Brown email: roglb@yahoo.com

### SUMMER CAMPS

\*\*\*SAVE THE DATES\*\*\*

- COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - ***PRAISE PARTY***  
JULY 19<sup>th</sup> - JULY 23<sup>rd</sup>, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to Noon at the United Church of Northfield.  
Free and open to all children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade with a limited sized preschool group. Learn the Bible Stories and Praise God with your mind, body, and soul. This promises to be an active, lively and moving week. Registration is limited to 25 children. Plan to join us and have some fun this summer. Sponsored by the United Church of Northfield and the United Methodist Parish.
- ❖ COVENANT HILLS SUMMER CAMP - week long overnight camps in beautiful Cabot, Vermont.  
June 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> Family Camp; July 4<sup>th</sup> - August 7<sup>th</sup> week long camps; Contact Richard Klofach for registration forms and questions at (802) 988-9965 or rjkusa@myfairpoint.net
- ❖ UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CAMP - Work and Play week at Ferry Beach, Maine  
June 20<sup>th</sup> - June 26<sup>th</sup>. Contact Rev. Fayre Stephenson register at fbregs@maine.rr.com or (207) 282-4489  
UU Camp and Conference Center.

## Movie Night



The First Universalist Society of the United Church will host the showing of the film, **Food, Inc.** on Earth Day, **April 22, 2010 at 7 PM at the United Church of Northfield.** In addition to the film there will be local food producers on hand with displays and samples of their products. It is our hope to raise awareness regarding the foods we eat and the healthy local offerings. Come and join us!!!

In "*Food, Inc.*", filmmaker Robert Kenner lifts the veil on our nation's food industry, exposing the highly mechanized underbelly that has been hidden from the American consumer with the consent of our government's regulatory agencies, USDA and FDA. Our nation's food supply is now controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the American farmer, the safety of workers and our own environment. We have bigger-breasted chickens, the perfect pork chop, herbicide-resistant soybean seeds, even tomatoes that won't go bad, but we also have new strains of E. coli—the harmful bacteria that causes illness for an estimated 73,000 Americans annually. We are riddled with widespread obesity, particularly among children, and an epidemic level of diabetes among adults.

Featuring interviews with such experts as Eric Schlosser (*Fast Food Nation*), Michael Pollan (*The Omnivore's Dilemma, In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*) along with forward thinking social entrepreneurs like Stonyfield's Gary Hirshberg and Polyface Farms' Joel Salatin, *Food, Inc.* reveals surprising—and often shocking truths—about what we eat, how it's produced, who we have become as a nation and where we are going from here.” From: [www.foodincmovie.com/about-the-film](http://www.foodincmovie.com/about-the-film)

### **Local Food Producers:**

- ❖ Pebble Brook Farm, Chip Allen- CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)
- ❖ Field Stone Farm and CSA, Ian and Chandra Blackmer
- ❖ The Green Mountain Girls, organic and sustainable animals and vegetables
- ❖ Flavors From the Field, Missy Doe-Burrows
- ❖ The Bread Lady, Crystal Peterson

**Hope to see you there!**