

The Cornerstone-October 2020

Publisher: 2CCWM

Volume: No 10

Issue: No 10

A monthly publication compiled by the Second Congregational Church of Warren, Maine.
PO Box 206, 252 Main St., Warren, Maine 04864 phone: (207) 273-2338 E-mail: office.sccw@tds.net



Can it really be October already? Some of us can't believe how fast the year has flown by, and others are happy to see the backside of this very challenging, unsettling and difficult year. The best way out of a tough place is THROUGH it! (to paraphrase Sir Winston Churchill).

I have completed two months of service as your pastor, and THAT certainly has gone by quickly. We are getting to know each other, learning about ourselves and who we are as God's people, as the Church. I am amazed to find something new in each day and that makes my job one of the best! I've been able to share in the joyous and tender moments that make up the life of a congregation: Receiving new members into the church, sending our college students off with blessings, recognition/remembrance of a choir member, and being allowed to officiate

at a memorial service with loving friends and family. Many people think of a pastor's life as just "working one hour on Sunday!" 😊 It's a joke among clergy, but we also know that it's much more than that, and hope our flock realizes it, too. It's an honor and a privilege for me to be with people at their most joyous, happiest and blessed moments, and also to share in their sorrow and difficult times, as well.

I've shared with some colleagues and well-wishers that while all is going well (as well as we can in Covid times), it's a challenge to learn all the new names and faces when we are wearing masks! I have come to know you by your hair and your eyes. I am reminded of the Apostle Paul's words in his first letter to the Corinthians, "Now I see through the glass darkly, but ONE DAY – FACE TO FACE!" I await that day with great anticipation! I also think of the preacher's words in Ecclesiastes, "There is a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing." We are in uncharted waters here, but soon, in God's time, we will be seeing faces, sharing embraces and enjoying God's graces.

Peace & Light ~

Pastor Bette

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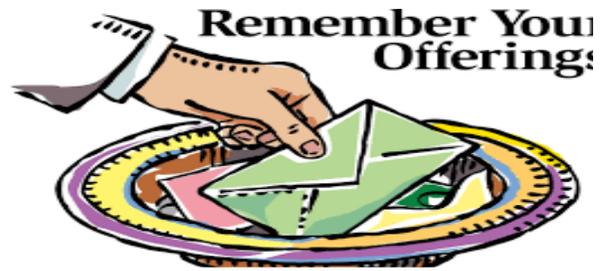
WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE?

Autumn is a great time to begin a class, a study, a book group, and other activities for our spiritual growth. I've asked for some input regarding what day and time might be convenient for the majority to attend such a group. I also would like to know if a *lectio divina*, spiritual Journaling, study of spiritual practice, discovering spiritual gifts, holistic study, half-day workshops, a day retreat, or other ideas appeal to anyone. I've not heard back yet, but am hoping that now summer is over and we are getting into some kind of routine (as best we can in these trying times!), folks will reflect and think about what speaks to them at this time. **CALL ME - EMAIL ME - GRAB ME AFTER CHURCH!!** I'm here to serve!!



BIRTHDAYS

- 10/15 David Landry
- 10/18 Nola Metcalf
- 10/31 Lexi Doak



<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
9/06	\$1,333.25	42
9/13	\$1,928.00	52
9/20	\$1,435.00	42
9/27	\$1,754.00	52

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ANNIVERSARIES



10/10 Neil & Pearl Stetson
10/18 Albert & Janice Overlock
10/23 Walter & Linda Kaler



Passings....

Elaine – Sharon Landry's sister
Charles Vannah
Ed Barrett
Philip Cohen – Sophie and Sadie's dad



Prayers...

Evelyn Anderson
Sandra Anderson
Grace Anderson

Richard and Barbara – Brenda King's siblings
Mary Dearborn – Sherry Ladd's mom
Ronnie Miller and Joel by Janice O
Karen Welsch
Larry Philbrook
Nola by Melody
Charlie York
Faye - Pat W's sister
Pam Pitcher – Becky R's friend
Harlean Jordan
Sonja Wyllie
Carolyn Overlock
Amanda Gardner
Sue Burnell
Stubby Burnell
Javonte by Robin
Elmer by Cindy G
Christine Landes
Marge and David Grant's daughter
Bret – nephew of Marcia Cifaldo
Sally Edwards



Thanks to everyone who brings their bottles in. Starting in September the money from the box will go to the maintenance fund. It will help pay for the paint and future projects the trustees have in mind. If you have bottles that need to be picked up don't hesitate to call us at 236-4585. Thanks Ken and Linda

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Hello everyone, As you may know I (Linda L) am the Church Sexton meaning I clean the church. I have been very busy keeping the WHOLE church clean. To do this we have been using bleach water, bathroom cleaner, and disinfectant wipes. We also make sure that door knobs, light switches, and other common used surfaces are all wiped down.

When the pandemic started and the church closed about two and a half months ago we (Ken, James, and myself) were very busy washing, woodwork, tables, chairs, etc and making sure the church is a safe clean environment for everyone. Thank you Ken, Linda, and James

FOOD BARREL REQUESTS



Thanks to everyone who brings in food for the food pantry. For the past 6 months we have been dealing with a pandemic, now it

is fall which means the leaves are changing and it will be getting colder outside. The list the food pantry provided is for food that's in high demand and the food pantry is aware that everyone's on a budget. So if you find a nonperishable food item that fits your budget it is welcome. Also there are envelopes available for anonymous cash donations to the food pantry. This month there will be two lists to choose from.

List a

Oct 4 ketchup and relish

Oct 11 jam and jelly (apple grape, etc.)

Oct 18 baked beans (no dried or vegetarian)

Oct 25 beef or chicken Ramen Noodles

List b

Oct 4 5lb bag sugar

Oct 11 mayo

Oct 18 pancake syrup

Oct 25 cream soup

As always cake mixes and frostings are welcome with the holidays coming up.

The bread for the journey food pantry is at the old brick school and is open every Thursday 9-11 to ALL WARREN residents. For any questions call or see Janice Overlock or Sterling Robinson and again thanks for supporting your local food pantry.

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GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



SANDRA OVERLOCK

I was born and raised in Thomaston until I moved to the Mountain Road in East Warren after marrying Neil Overlock in 1962. I moved my membership from the Thomaston Federated Church to the Warren Second Congregational Church. I was in the choir with Ginny Woodman at my side keeping me on pitch. My 3 children attended Sunday school and for awhile I was Superintendent of Sunday school. All my carefree days came to a blooming halt when Neil decided we should buy the local hardware store in 1977. The store was called Norwood's, located in the large building beside the present cafe. I was chief cook and bottle washer there for about 5 years. In 1982, Neil built the present Warren True Hardware and we moved up on Route 90. That was our life until 1995, when we sold

to the present owner's in laws. My church attendance suffered during this time. After 1995, I bought and sold antiques. I provided transportation for children who couldn't ride the bus. I traveled some, visited our camp in Moxie Gore, babysat my 6 grand-kids, hiked, cross country skied and pretty much whatever I pleased. A big change came in 2012 when Neil left us. Now with my children's help, I am living with my Labrador retriever and still doing pretty much whatever I please after the chores are done. Well, actually chores are never done so still pretty much doing whatever I please. The chores will still be there when and if I get to them.

-Sandra



If you've ever wanted a physical reminder of who you are, what you value, and how you want to live your life each day, join us to create your own **Vision Board**. On Saturday, October 17th, from 9 am. to noon, we will use our bodies, minds and souls to design a visual representative of our goals, desires, and dreams. Begin to

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prepare by cutting out words, stories, images and designs of objects that reflect you, speak to you, or bring you joy. Gather magazines, catalogs and other resources from which you can draw inspiration. You can also paint, draw, color, use photos, any media that you like, including your own craft/artwork. Be CREATIVE! Be BOLD! Perhaps articulating your vision or your individuality has been difficult, but this can be a way of expressing yourself without words. We will begin with prayer and guided meditation, some Scripture, and will have an opportunity for silent reflection. We ask for guidance from the Spirit to “dove-tail” with our deepest longings – working within God’s will for our lives.

Because of CV19 restrictions, the workshop will be limited to eight people so that we may maintain social distancing as we work. See Pastor Bette for more details and to sign up!

Start your life of abundance (John 10:10b)



Nature’s first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf’s a flower;
But only so an hour.

Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.
~ Robert Frost ~

Rev. Mark Edward Rustin
(former pastor of this church)



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BANGOR - On September 3, 2020, Mark Edward Rustin passed away at age 72 from pancreatic cancer. Mark was born and raised in Old Town, Maine. He attended University of Maine and Bangor Theological Seminary. In his early years, he worked in law enforcement and was a small business owner. As a pastoral minister, he served churches in Veazie, Warren, Hiram, and 26 years at North Deering Congregational Church in Portland. Most recently he served Carmel Union Congregational Church. Mark had a God-given gift in his calling as a pastor and was a wonderful speaker which gave comfort to so many. One of his great joys was being a Little League umpire. He belonged to the Masonic Fraternity for 26 years. He was a member of Seminary Hill Daylight Lodge #220. He served as a Grand Chaplain from 2001-2012, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maine from 2012-2016, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine from 2018-2020.

On May 1, 1976, he married the love of his life, Laverne. They became a family with Laverne's three children. Together, they had a son, John.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Laverne, and their children: John Rustin, his wife Kaitlin, and children Maddison, Jack, James; Richard Ivey, his wife Kim, son Will; Donald Ivey and children Britney

and Taylor; Linda Upham her husband Andy, and children Jennifer, Brandi, Kathryn, CJ; sister Diane Rustin and children Denise and Danielle. He has several beloved great-grandchildren.

PAUL ANDREWS



WARREN - Paul S. Andrews, 87, died peacefully, with his loving family at his side, Friday, August 21, 2020, at Sussman House in Rockport. Born in North Fryeburg, April 8, 1933, he was the son of Langdon, Sr. and Carolyn Baker Andrews. Educated in Fryeburg, he was a 1951 graduate of Fryeburg Academy. Enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1953, Paul served during the Korean Conflict as a Teletype Operator, stationed in Japan. He was honorably discharged in 1955. Returning home to the States, Paul attended the University of Maine, Orono, where he was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture in

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1959.

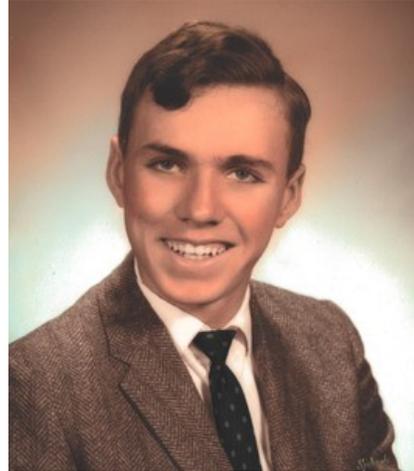
Paul married Janet Philbrook on May 25, 1963, in Warren. Together they have made their home in Warren their entire married life, except for 12 years when they lived in Camden.

Paul began his career in agriculture, starting at Penobscot Poultry in Belfast where he was employed for many years. He later became a supervisor with the USDA Farmers Administration, retiring in 1995.

Active in the Warren community, he was a member of the Second Congregational Church where he served as a trustee for many years and enjoyed singing in the choir. Paul was also a long-time member of the Warren Fire Department. He will be sadly missed by all who loved him.

Predeceased by his siblings, Ruth Porter, Langdon Andrews, Jr. and Albert Andrews, Paul is survived by his wife, Janet Andrews of Warren; his sons, Gregory Andrews and his wife, Saralee of Warren, Timothy Andrews and his wife, Jennifer of Nobleboro; grandsons, Nathan, Joshua and Benjamin Andrews, and Robbie Boggs; his sisters, Wilma Cavanaugh and her husband, James of Hingham, MA, Beverly LaPointe of Brunswick; as well as many nieces and nephews.

CHARLES VANNER



Charles Merle Vanner, 68, of Washington, passed away peacefully from a sudden illness with his loving family at his side on September 22, 2020 at the Sussman House in Rockport, Maine. Charles was born on February 10, 1952 in Gardiner, Maine to Merle E. Vanner and Alberta (Sedgley) Vanner.

Charles was a graduate of Medomak Valley High School in the Class of 1970, a member of the Mount Olivet Lodge No. 203 Masons, former master of the local Grange, former selectman of the Town of Washington, assistant Superintendent of cattle and horse showing and pulling at Windsor Fair.

He was a loving husband, father, brother. He loved animals, was an avid reader and loved working on the fifth generation Vanner family farm. Charles also enjoyed fishing, hunting, tinkering on mechanical

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things and carpentry.

Charles will always be remembered for his gift of gab and his many acts of kindness to others.

He is predeceased by his father Merle E. Vanner and his mother Alberta Vanner.

Charles is survived by his loving wife, Elizabeth C. Vanner, son Merle R. Vanner, daughter Olivia M. Vanner, sister Nancy J. Linscott, brother-in-law Berkley C. Linscott of Washington.

A private graveside service will be held at the Marr Cemetery in Washington. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Mount Olivet Lodge, c/o Don Grinnell, 74 Liberty Road, Washington, ME 04574.

Halls of Waldoboro has care of the arrangements. To extend online condolences visit www.hallfuneralhomes.com.

FROM HEARTBREAK TO HEARTFELT



The Milliken's are now seeing some progress with help for a few Castle Builders victims using the lumber taken from the barn. The Veteran is being helped as I am writing this and a roof has been replaced for another victim. Here are two pictures of our barn boards being used to hold up the roof that was so damaged to the finishing of that roof. These people will now not have to worry this winter. The Milliken's will be starting another roof in a couple of weeks. This will be a work in progress as we are still trying to get help with money and volunteers. If you would like to help, donations are being accepted at Bangor Savings Bank in Rockport for SRB Helping.



The Milliken's will be holding another fundraiser for the victims of Castle Builders on October 3rd @ 12-3 at the Union Masonic Hall. This will be a Boiled Dinner and curbside, as a silent auction. I will announce more info soon.

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Several times a year, I get the question – “What does NACCC do for us?” Hopefully you all read what I put in the newsletter and/or what I mention at Council Meetings. If you still have questions, see me and I will be happy to have a conversation with you.

In addition to my messages this month, there are three pages copied here in the newsletter, from a mailing from NACCC. Lots of Information, so please read!

1. Our NACCC executive director is retiring. Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum has served us for over 5 years. He has been very helpful to our church any time we needed questions answered or concerns brought to NACCC attention. He will be missed. (Please read his letter which is attached.)
2. Our hurting churches fund (which is part of the growth ministry council), has a little more than \$15,000 to be used for church facing an emergency need or a need because of the pandemic, etc. There will be a pamphlet posted on

the bulletin board. (Please read!)

3. The NACCC is looking for nominees for some leadership positions. Any church (in good standing) within NACCC can nominate someone from their church. This is a good way to become involved and learn about our association.
4. There is also attached an information sheet on OGHS (one great hour of sharing.) Our church has supported this with a donation.

There will also be on the bulletin board, a pamphlet on the lay Ministry training program. Is there someone among us who may be interested in this calling?

Lots of information this month, but well worth the read. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Your year round delegate,

Marcia Cifaldo

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



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This is an unprecedented time in our country. From the California wildfires to the derecho that devastated Iowa to the tropical storm/hurricane season already upon us, these natural disasters have affected hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens and continue to threaten many others. The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC) of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches is making an appeal for funds to replenish "One Great Hour of Sharing" financial resources. Rather than focusing on just one of these natural disasters, the appeal is for general funding with MOMC making the decision on where to allocate the donations among these three disasters and what may happen in the next several weeks. Donate online at www.naccc.org or send a donation via check. Please include a note with your donation indicating that the funds are intended for "2020 Natural Disasters".

Send donations to: NACCC-OGHS
PO Box 288 Oak Creek, WI 53154

Finding our Way
in the Future



NACCC 2021
Spokane, WA

September 2020 Dear NACCC Friends: The 67 th Annual Meeting & Conference will be hosted by the Pacific Northwest Association and held at the Centennial Hotel, Spokane, Washington. Dr. David Clark, a professor of Bethel Seminary, will deliver three inspirational Bible Lecturers. The Rev. Dr. Mary Biedron, Senior Minister of North Congregational Church, Farmington Hills, Michigan, will deliver the Congregational Lecture. You will also have a choice of many informational Workshops. Please watch the NACCC's Website: www.naccc.org for new information as it becomes available. Plan to arrive early and/or stay late to experience and enjoy the many attractions in and around Spokane. We look forward to seeing you next June! Carrie Dahm NACCC Meeting Planner (800) 262-1620 ext.1612

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Michael's Retirement Letter

September 2020

To the Member Churches of the NACCC,

On August 6, 2020, I announced my intent to retire from my position as Executive Director of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) and the Congregational Foundation (CF). My last day as Executive Director will be June 4, 2021. It has been my joy and my privilege to serve the NACCC and the CF for the last 5+ years. In my introductory article for The Congregationalist in July 2015, I wrote that I anticipated unexpected things would demand my attention. That has certainly been the case. The NACCC was just beginning to figure out how to function in its new structure of Ministry Councils and with a single Executive. Still, it has been a busy and productive time for the NACCC. Many long-term projects are nearing a point of completion. In times of challenge in the last 5+ years, the good leadership of the NACCC and the CF worked through issues and always tried to make the best possible decisions for the NACCC and our member churches. I would ask that you continue to do the good work of

God's kingdom in your communities, to pray for and cooperate in, as possible, the work of your sister churches in the NACCC, to pray for and support the work of the NACCC, and to be in prayer for the search process that will find the new Executive Director, whoever she or he is.

Rev. Dr. Michael Chittum

THE SIN

Two elderly, excited Southern women were sitting together in the front pew of a church listening to a fiery preacher.

When this preacher condemned the sin of stealing, these two ladies cried out at the top of their lungs, "AMEN, BROTHER!" When the preacher condemned the sin of lust, they yelled again, "PREACH IT, REVEREND!.

And when the preacher condemned the sin of lying, they jumped to their feet and screamed, "RIGHT ON, BROTHER! TELL IT LIKE IT IS...AMEN!

But when the preacher condemned the sin of gossip, the two got very quiet. One turned to the other and said, "He's quit preaching and now he's meddlin'."