



A New Spirit

July 2011

North Kingstown United Methodist Church
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North Kingstown, Rhode Island 02852
401-294-9293
E-mail: church@nkumc.necoxmail.com
Website: <http://nkumcni.com>
Rev. Lorene E. Eldredge, Pastor



Our Apologies
to Aaron Brunelle and
Trevor Kenyon who
were in the NKHS
graduating class of
2011.

We forgot to list you in
our June newsletter.
Best wishes!

WANTED . . . SUMMER TALENT!

SINGERS . . . MUSICIANS . . . DANCERS . . . ARTISTS
SHARE YOUR TALENT WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY
July 3rd - September 4th

Please sign-up in Narthex
or speak with Paul Mancini, Minister of Music.

July Angel Food Ministry

On-site orders are due by 2:00PM on 7/22
Online orders are due by 11:59PM on 7/24
Distribution will be 7:30AM – 9:00AM on 7/30

July Calendar

					1	2 3:00 Wedding
3 8 & 10 Communion 9:00 Choir 9:15 Adult SS 10:15 Summer Church School 1:00 Community Dinner	4 6:45 Shepherding 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 NK Photo Guild	5 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 AA	6 7:00 Trustees	7 12:00 Ladies Fellowship 6:00 NK Land Conservancy	8	9 8:00 Men's Breakfast
10 8 & 10 Worship 9:00 Choir 9:15 Adult SS 10:00 Summer Church School 1:00 Community Dinner	11 6:45 Shepherding 7:00 Bible Study	12 7:00 AA	13 7:00 SPRC	14 12:00 Ladies Fellowship 7:00 Finance	15	16 9:30 UMW
Intergenerational Mission Team serving in Livermore Falls, Maine						
17 8 & 10 Worship 9:00 Choir 9:15 Adult SS 10:15 Summer Church School 1:00 Community Dinner Mission Team Returns	18 6:45 Shepherding 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 NK Photo Guild	19 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 AA	20 7:00 AdMin Newsletter Deadline- All events for for August	21 12:00 Ladies Fellowship	22	23
24 & 31 8 & 10 Worship 9:15 Adult SS 9:00 Choir 10:15 Summer Church School 1:00 Community Dinner	25 6:45 Shepherding 7:00 Bible Study	26 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 AA	27	28 12:00 Ladies Fellowship	29	30 7:30 Angel Food Distribution

Grace Notes.....Vital Churchesby Pastor Lori

“Joy to the World the Lord has come, ...” A Christmas hymn in July? No, if you look carefully at the words to this beautiful hymn you will see they proclaim the arrival of the Lord, not at any particular time of year, but the Lord with us everyday! This is something we can be joy filled about! Vital churches share the joy of Jesus, and they radiate Christ’s love!

Some of the most joy-filled Christians endured some of the world’s greatest persecution. (So why should we expect to be any different?) While some had met Jesus and followed him, many never set eyes on him, yet, were content in the knowledge that Christ had gone before them. They greeted each day with the expectation that Jesus was coming again and soon! Joy may be described as contentment in the knowledge of God or in relationship with Jesus Christ; it also may be described as assurance of the hope we have in Christ Jesus, in the relationship in the body of Christ today, and in Christ’s promises for the future!

When I witness joy in churches, I also witness vitality in their ministries. I see it in the excitement of people as they serve and grow. I see it in the eyes of youth as they reach new milestones – graduations, turning 16 and learning to drive, as they travel in mission with their friends and family. I see it in people’s eyes as they teach Church School or as they serve at community dinners. I see all this at NKUMC! We endure trials and temptations, but we also live in joy when we are functioning as the body of Christ in community with one another, when we walk side-by-side carrying one another’s burdens and when we celebrate one another’s joys.

Being joy-filled does not mean we have to be shouting ‘alleluia’ all the time. It doesn’t mean we can’t quietly assent in our hearts to a good word. How we respond to good news, received from one another or from the word of God, is very personal. That we respond is the important thing! It is in the response that we acknowledge the hope in our hearts! Our response is also a measure of our vitality.

Vital churches have more small groups for all ages, more programs for children, and more programs for youth. Lay leadership increases in effectiveness, demonstrating a vital personal faith with intentional spiritual growth, a personal devotional life, and they give of financial resources. Leadership by the laity rotates so more persons come to be involved and equipped. We are called to be a people of action and a people of the Word. We are called to be a vital church! So let us present ourselves as persons full of expectation, persons ready to meet the challenges of today and of tomorrow! The vision of this church has been / is of growth... to tip the 300 mark in membership and to grow, offering programs for young adults and youth. We can meet this benchmark as we are a vital church. We do have challenges before us: to create dedicated space for our Church School and program, to grow in mission, to increase attendance at small spiritual growth offerings; but, rather than see these as challenges, let’s look at them as opportunities. Opportunities to use our spiritual gifts, opportunities to be in community, opportunities to invest in the kingdom of God.

As we are in this season of summer we, with hope in our hearts, are already planning for fall. We are excited about the possibility of new offerings for study and spiritual growth. We celebrate new learning and insight gained from the word, and we celebrate new growth in our missions and service. All these are reasons for joy!

Come and worship, come and be filled with joy in worshipping Jesus!

July Lectionary

July 3

Text: Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45: 10-17; Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

Sermon: "Dwelling in a Foreign Land"

July 10

Text: Genesis 25: 19-34; Psalm 119: 105-112; Romans 8: 1-11; Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

Sermon: 8AM "The Good Soil" Pastor Lori preaching

10AM "How Can We Keep from Singing" Elaine Roffo, Lay Speaker preaching

July 17

Text: Genesis 28: 10-19a; Psalm 139: 1-12; Romans 8: 12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Sermon: "Heir(s) Apparent" Steve Brooks, Lay Speaker preaching

July 24

Text: Genesis 29: 15-28; Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b; Romans 8: 26-39; Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Sermon: "At What Price?"

July 31

Text: Genesis 32: 22-32; Psalm 17: 1-7, 15; Romans 9: 1-5; Matthew 14: 13-21

Sermon: "The Deserted Place"



INTERGENERATIONAL MISSION TRIP to LIVERMORE FALLS, MAINE

July 10 -17, 2011

Serving on team this year are: Eric, Christine, Emily, and Zach Boettger; Warren, Wendy, Fiona, and Hunter Halstead; Paula and Sami Martasian; Ashley Reese; and Pastor Lori. Please keep the team in your prayers as they travel and work with the people of Livermore Falls.

Welcome Our New Members...

On June 12th, we received four new members into the congregation. We thank God for each one of them. If you have not been able to greet them yet, take time to introduce yourself and welcome them.

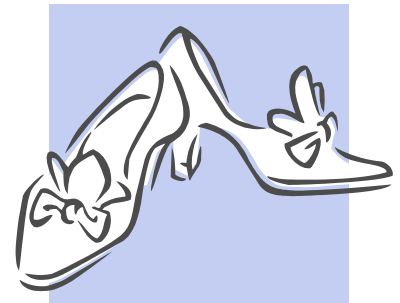
Eric and Christine Boettger – Eric and Chris are the parents of two teenagers, Emily and Zach. They have attended NKUMC at different times and have recently been helping out at the community dinners. The whole family will also be a part of our intergenerational mission team traveling to Maine this month. Emily is an aspiring artist; Zach is busy with Boy Scouts. The family lives in North Kingstown.

Karen Finlan - Karen lives in Warwick and teaches science at North Kingstown High School. She is newly married to Stephen Finlan. Karen has joined in membership here but will be alternating her worship time between here and Matthewson Street UMC as her husband has been appointed supply pastor there by our district superintendent. Karen will be representing us on the Project Outreach Board and keeping us up-to-date on all their needs.

William “Bill” Gannon - Bill is a native Rhode Islander, born in Pawtucket. He spent his early years in North Providence and then, until he was 18, in Nashua, New Hampshire. He was raised Roman Catholic. Bill is a widower raising two young sons, Patrick and Liam. He loves this church, the place and the people! He has jumped in helping out with the community dinners and with our church gardens.

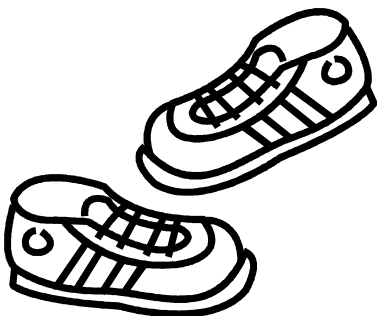
“Walk A Mile in My Shoes”

Sponsored by the United Methodist Women



Project Outreach is in need of shoes . . . big shoes, little shoes, dress shoes, fun shoes! If you have gently used shoes that no longer fit, please bring them to the church between now and the end of August. We especially need children’s shoes. If you are unable to give shoes, we would encourage monetary gifts to buy shoes for those sizes unavailable.

We’ll get the shoes and sneakers to Project Outreach in time for the beginning of school.



THE HIDDEN RESOURCES OF THE SPIRIT

When one stops to think about it, it just really makes no sense that there even is a Christian church. After all, Jesus, whom his followers dared to call the Christ, was born under most questionable circumstances and spent the first seven years of his life as an illegal alien in a foreign land. He grew up in obscurity in a town out of which most people thought nothing good could come. He spent the last three years of his life as an itinerant preacher among the poor and the outcast, teaching, healing and generally stirring things up. Finally, after the authorities had had enough, he was crucified as an example and a warning.

That should have been the end of it. It wasn't. His followers lived as though he were still alive and began to create a new community that started to spread rapidly and eventually would turn the world upside down. What happened was that a spirit had come into their midst - they called it The Holy Spirit - and they began to tap the hidden resources of the Spirit. It is the sign of a healthy community of faith - ordinary people, empowered by God to live their faith in a way that transforms the world.

The sad truth, however, is that many of us live far below our fuller capacities. We are often content to achieve less than, by the grace and power of God, we are able to accomplish. What happens is a self-limitation that becomes a wasted opportunity which is as tragic as it is unnecessary. This often plays out in church communities too. Imagine the witness and the power of a congregation where all of the people actually live up to their fuller capacities!

Part of the reason we often fall short is connected to fear: fear of risking the unknown, fear of failure, fear of discovering who we are. We fear the unknown because we imagine that we ought to be "in charge" of our lives and, because of that, we are unable to trust a larger purpose. We fear failure because we don't want to be embarrassed and thus we pass up the opportunities to learn and grow. And, most subtly, we often fear discovering who we are, lest we become aware that we are claimed by God who desires more of us than we are willing to give.

The way to overcome such fears is to tap the hidden resources of the Spirit which enable a person to live a full and abundant life. One resource is trust: the ability to confidently take the measure of people and events and our own selves and, thereby, collaborate for right and holy purpose. Another resource is perseverance: that ability to persist and try to learn from each experience, be it "success" or "failure." And there is the resource of openness: an ability to accept who we are, and what others are, and what, by the grace of God, can come from faithful and purposeful relationship. These qualities strengthen us, put our faith to work, and make our lives a transforming presence.

These hidden resources of the Spirit are available to every person who would embrace them. At Pentecost ordinary folks became extraordinary witnesses to the power of God in the Risen Christ. The Holy Spirit empowered them and laid the foundation for a dedicated life within the community of faith. Trust, perseverance, and openness are simple graces through which God can raise up a witness of divine love in any person who would be faithful. If you desire to be faithful, embrace these hidden resources of the Spirit and you will find life.



Project Outreach – Men’s jeans sizes 34, 36, & 38 and t-shirts. Polo shirts ok, cotton t-shirts preferred. Leave in box in hallway next to the sanctuary. Charlene Prince will deliver them. If you have any questions, please contact Charlene.

**“INCH BY INCH, ROW BY ROW...
GONNA MAKE THIS GARDEN GROW!”***

You needn't be a Master Gardener to help our Food Pantry garden grow. The plan is to grow greens to share with the Pantry and the Community Dinners. The soil has been turned and crops planted. A variety of tasks are awaiting your attention: weeding, mulching, watering and harvesting, to name a few. This will happen at the garden, which is located behind our parsonage. Many hands will keep the garden growing and help us have a healthy harvest to share with our neighbors in need. All are invited to help, individuals and families; this is a great learning experience. If you can help make our garden grow please contact one of us:



Dave Beutel
884-7854

Paula Martasian
885-3773

Marilyn Moffett
294-2188

*The Garden Song, by John Denver

**2011 New England Assembly of the Laity (NEAL)
August 5-6, 2011
Rolling Ridge - North Andover, MA**

"A Touch of Grace - Nurturing Body, Mind, Spirit"

The 58th gathering of the New England Assembly of the Laity (NEAL) will be held August 5-6, 2011 at The Rolling Ridge Retreat and Conference Center in North Andover, MA. *"A Touch of Grace – Nurturing Body, Mind, Spirit"* will start on Friday evening and end on Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

The NEAL Assembly gathering includes keynote speakers, small group discussions, music, singing, worship, prayer and fellowship. There will be special activities planned for Saturday afternoon to nurture body, mind and spirit.

Registration forms and information are available at NEAL’s website – www.assemblyofthelaity.com. For more information and a registration form to be sent to you or to a friend in the mail, please email laityrus@yahoo.com or contact Kathi Peterson, 2011 Chairperson (860) 928-2530 or David Dunham, Registrar (860) 963-7817.

*The New England Assembly of the Laity (NEAL) is a Spiritual Life Program of the
New England Conference Spiritual Formation Initiative.*

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

If your birthday and/or anniversary date is incorrect or if you would like yours added, please notify the church office.

July Anniversaries

6	Dana and Lorraine Berube
8	Paul Nannig and Susan Fisher Ben and Rachael Johnson Mark and Cheyanne Demers
15	Mark and Eve DerManouelian
25	Mark and Debbie Snow
29	Douglas and Melissa Smith

July Birthdays

2	Daniel Lynch
3	Teddy Coppa Sami Martasian Harrison Bell
4	Cyndi Dewhurst
5	Kevin Koziol Jessica Hartman
6	Dana Berube Douglas Smith
7	Haley Brown Virginia Watson
9	Nancy Laders Lori Brunelle Aaron Brunelle
11	James Berube
14	William Renehan
16	Frances Mackabee Marcie Reese Robert Morrisette
19	Kengy Bell
22	Loren Bowe
23	Donald Reynolds
24	Katie Horan
25	Matt Bourgeois
26	Jacob Duhaime
28	Joan Lisi Jason Sperry
29	Betsy Weller

Harvest Craft Fair - October 1st

It's already time to prepare for our 15th Annual Harvest Fair! This important church fundraiser will be held Saturday, October 1st, from 9 to 2. Everyone in our church family can help in many ways.

Crafters to exhibit are needed

First, please spread the word to crafters you might know who would like to exhibit. Pick up their business cards, or just pass their contact info to Vivian Flade. Interested in a table for yourself or a friend? Contact Vivian at: vaflade@cox.net or 884-2391.

Donate your crafts and special items

Do you have a special craft you enjoy making? Why not work on some this summer, for our church craft table? Crafts made by or donated by our church family and friends are needed and welcome.

At our Re-gift Table, we're looking for **new** items that might have been given or intended as gifts, but are now in need of a new home. What have you?

For more valuable donations, such as antiques, gift certificates, and donations of services, we'll offer a Silent Auction with minimum bids. Gift baskets are another great silent auction item.

Please consider what you might be able to make or donate that would be appropriate for one of these areas.

Committee helpers

Finally, think about how you might be able to help at the fair.

Can you help coordinate the children's activity area? Do you love to bake? We need a coordinator for the pie making, which was a valuable addition to our regular bake sale last year.

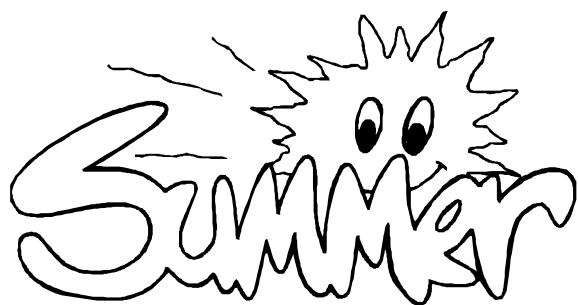
We'll need volunteers to help set up on Friday, and on the day of the fair to cook and serve lunch, and help staff the church tables and bake sale.

If you have other ideas for the Harvest Fair or can volunteer to help, please talk with any member of the committee: Christine Stevens cstevens92@cox.net (Chairperson), Vivian Flade (Crafters/Vendors), Warren Halstead (Food Service).

With everyone's help, this year's Harvest Fair will be another successful day of food, fun, and fellowship.

**North Kingstown United Methodist Church
450 Boston Neck Road
North Kingstown, Rhode Island 02852**

Return Service Requested



Join us for Summer Church School & Worship!

July is here & we may have many things that keep us from our regular schedule of church attendance. The bills the church receives are regular. If you are going away, please do your part to send in your pledge to the church so we can pay our commitments timely. Thanks! Finance Committee