

Moderator's Report – July/August 2009

We are into the summer now with our fantastic sabbatical minister, Pastor Betsey. All the new boards have met at least once and, although it seems far away now, we are on our way in planning for the fall programs. You have a great group of people representing you on the various boards, commissions and on the executive council. I have been trying to get to some of those various meetings to see how they all operate.

We have streamlined our bill payment process to relieve stress in getting all the information into our accounting program, in order to pay our bills in a timely fashion. The summer has traditionally been a difficult time financially for the church, as bills still come in and need to be paid, but pledges and donations are down as much as 50% due to vacations and summer schedules.

The summer is also a time we take a hard look at the budget, as we are reaching the halfway mark of the year. We continue to have a gap between what was budgeted to spend, what we are actually spending and all our sources of income. Dare I say, this has almost become a familiar event for those on the various boards? However, projections put our shortfall on actual payments that we need to make as high as \$20,000 by December and as much as \$40,000 short to our budget of \$227,000. All the Boards do an amazing job of focusing on ways of under spending their budgets and still provide services to our church families. I thank them for all the angst they go through in deciding what NOT to do....and this is all after cleansing their budgets last fall before presenting them to you for approval. They are really cutting things down to the bare minimum possible, and there are some needs that are being delayed or even forgone...Building and grounds maintenance is a major one. There are others.

Please keep up your pledge over the summer months by mailing it in or even by pre-paying in advance if you are not here for services....and if you are not currently pledging, please consider it. It's easy and not binding if your situation changes. Just contact the office or Donna Pierpont on Stewardship.

This church (and others) are needed more now than at any time I can remember and we wish to continue to be an open and receiving church to all, no matter where a person may be on their life's journey. This is one of the things I am most proud of with our church - our willingness to step up and help those in need, simply because they are in need. And right now, our Church is in need. As the warmth of summer washes over us and we enjoy the relaxing summer activities, there are folks in need everywhere. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers and help us as a church to help them. And I look forward to seeing you in church (or at the garden) for Sunday service over the summer. It's just beautiful out there. Come say hi! Peace to all.

Jerry Gay, Moderator
moderator@nfcongregational.org



The Mission Statement of the Christian Education Team

Through an active Christian Education program, we look to encourage all members to grow in faith. We will provide opportunities to learn, teach, and share the Word of God to enable all to use their gifts and talents to more fully serve God in our daily lives.

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to teach, lead and guide our children in our congregation. The rotation schedule can be found below. Take a moment to look over the calendar and see where you might be able to assist us. We are looking for individuals who are interested in sharing their time and experience whether on the PK/K teachers team, as a weekly guide, leading a workshop, teaching our youth, or helping to plan special events. Our sign up board is in Pilgrim Hall with many open spaces. There is a way for everyone to participate. Feel free to contact Liz Yoho at cedirector@nfcongregational.org for more information or to answer your questions.

Rotation Workshop Schedule 2009/10

Sept 13	Rally Day
Sept 20 – Oct 4	Prince of Peace
Oct 11 - 25	Lord's Prayer
Nov 1 – 15	David
Nov 22 – 29	Advent / Christmas (2 weeks)
Dec 6 & 13	Pageant practice & Pageant
Dec 20	Happy Birthday Jesus Activities
Dec 27	No Church School
Jan 3	Epiphany
Jan 10 – 24	Jesus, the Healer
Jan 31 – Feb 21	Good Samaritan
Feb 28 – Mar 14	Zecchaues
Mar 21 - 28	Lent / Easter rotation
April 4	Walk Through Holy Week
April 11	Easter – No Church school
April 18 – May 2	Creation
May 9	Mission Day/Mother's Day
May 16 - 30	Paul's Conversion
June 6 & 13	Children's Sunday service

NEW COMPUTER LAB



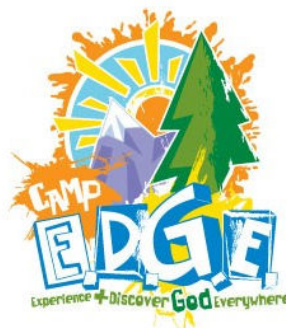
We are moving forward with our plans to create a new computer lab in church school. We have received almost \$2000 to make it a reality.

Thank you to everyone who has been so generous. We know that this will bring a fun and educational element to our Christian education program.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY

We had a wonderful day on June 8th with our children leading us in worship and a fun picnic hosted by the Christian Education team. There were many people who pitched in to make the day such a success. Thank you to those who helped in worship, in song, set up, clean up, cooked hot dogs, brought in food to share, painted faces, led the carnival games, played with the kids and welcomed each other on a wet but fun day.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL EVERY SUNDAY!



Our Christian education programming is continuing each Sunday throughout the summer. We meet downstairs in the Tree Room across from the nursery. We are taking a trek through the Bible with stops in the Promised Land, Bethlehem, the Pharisee's

House, the Upper Room, and Galilee. The class is open to children up to 4th grade and older children are welcome to join us as helpers. **We still are in need of leaders for just a few weeks- July 19th, Aug 2nd & 23rd and Sept 6th.** Materials for the class will be prepared for the leader ahead of time. Bring your children to enjoy Camp E.D.G.E. this summer.

Senior High Youth Mission Team



The SHY Mission Team will be leaving on Sunday, July 5th to travel to Biloxi, MS for our week long mission trip. We are very excited about the families we will meet and the work that we'll do. Thank you to everyone who has contributed through stock sales, our Mardi Gras Madness and flamingoes to help fund our expenses. We greatly appreciate your support and prayers for our mission work.



EAGLE PROJECT in the PEACE GARDEN & PRAYER WALK

Watch for more information from Chris Schretzenmayer about his pending Eagle Project that will benefit our outdoor space.

COMPASSIONATE



CONNECTIONS

"Love one another...as I have loved you"

John 15:12

Our Visitor Volunteers provide cheerful visits to the members of our congregation, who are not able to get out and about.

This month I baked and delivered strawberry rhubarb pies to some of our visitors to celebrate the garden.

We have a rhubarb patch at the farm and I utilized a bumper crop to experiment with some old recipes for pastry and scones. Joanne Moody was telling me about a creamy rhubarb pie with meringue that was a favorite in her family. I'm searching my old cookbooks for a recipe. Happy Birthday to Nelson Secor who turned 94 on June 30th. He was born in 1915.

During Rev Pat's sabbatical and over the summer months, Compassionate Connections will continue to visit the sick and home-bound, provide rides, meals, help with home repairs, and sewing for those in our congregation who are in need. If you have need of our service please give us a call at the numbers below.

Many thanks to the Volunteers and have a great summer.

Linda Heintz-Coordinator

Summer Team Leaders-call directly to numbers:

Visitors Donna Pierpont -845-278-0406-cell-845-406-8978 (vacation June 15th-20th & Aug 1-8)

donnapierpont@me.com

(Irene Howard-546-8072-covering during Donna's vacation). Cell 914- 310-3610 MAZEPPA@aol.com

Meals - Agnes Trimpert -791-2924-(vacation-June 7-14 & Aug 8-15) bill.agnes@att.net

(Loretta Lechner-746-3319-covering during Agnes's vacation).Cell-788-3285 lorlechner@yahoo.com

Rides -Lynn Raymond-746-1883-Cell 606-4638 raymond2l@sbcglobal.net

Home Repairs - Lynn Raymond-746-1883-

Sewing - Jane Seaman-743-0931

Hospital Visits :

June- Jodi Whiting-746-6980

July- Loretta Lechner-746-3319

August- Bob Campbell -746-9659

Linda Yannone-860-354-0265



Worship & Ministry Team

Sunday, July 5th will be our first Outdoor Summer Service in the Martha Fairchild Gardens. Summer Services start at **9:30 a.m.**, weather permitting and services will continue to be held outside until August 30th. In case of bad weather, the service will be moved indoors to the sanctuary. Outdoor Communion Services on July 5th and August 2nd will be performed by intinction. In order to worship in our beautiful garden, we could use extra hands to come early, at 8:45 a.m., to help set up. Please find the sign-up sheet in Pilgrim Hall.

We send warm wishes to Rev. Pat who is away on her well-earned sabbatical leave, and we are excited and thankful for Pastor Betsey Polglase and Carl Anderson for their coverage for these summer services.

We bid thanks and farewell to two Worship & Ministry team members, Laura Baird, our secretary, and Jerry Gay, our Chairman. We will miss their guidance and involvement in W&M and look forward to seeing them in their new capacities at the church.

We are delighted to welcome back, Betsy Shalkham and Ron Webb, both W&M alumni, who have rejoined the ministry.

If you have any questions or should a need arise, please contact the office at 746 2865 or Chairperson Betsy Shalkham (cell: 512-5366 or home 826-9644).



Prayer Shawl

Ministry will not meet in

July/August. But over the summer, please keep knitting, crocheting, or looming. Our prayer shawl ministry is a

blessing to our church. The gift of a prayer shawl is always very much appreciated. If you would like to request a prayer shawl, please phone or e-mail: Sue St. Hilaire at 203-778-1474, or sshilaire@sbcglobal.net, or Dot Bass at 203-746-2855 or debass@sbcglobal.net, or you can see one of us at church.



ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

July orders will be accepted on July 5th and July 12th after worship. Distribution date is Saturday, July 25th from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

August orders will be accepted on August 9th and August 16th after worship. Distribution date is Saturday, August 29th from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

Menu can be viewed online at www.angelfoodministries.com.

Any questions, call Betty Swan (203) 746-2319 or Dot Bass (203) 746-2855.

A BIG THANK YOU!

On Friday, June 5th, 9 wonderful people from our church served close to 100 hungry people at the Dorothy Day Hospitality Center in Danbury. A



delicious dinner of turkey, rice and vegetables was served. The meal won rave reviews! They were greeted and served with a smile and caring.

Thank you:

Liz Yoho, Linda Heintz, Betty Swan, Mary Louise Marion, Lynn Raymond, Jane Seaman, Jackie Hutchings, Mary Carneiro, and Mac Carneiro.

We also want to thank Linda Heintz and Helga Schretzenmayer who prepared much of the meal the day before. Thank you so much to everyone who helped and who donated fresh fruits and vegetables – they are very much appreciated.

DOROTHY DAY HOSPITALITY CENTER Friday, August 7, 2009 Summer Opportunity



We will have our first summer time shift at Dorothy Day on Friday, August 7, 2009. So, if

you have summers off or want to take half of a vacation day, this is your chance to help out! All you will feel is good (OK, and a bit hot, too).

Full shifts (1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.) or partial shifts (1-3 p.m., 3-5:30 p.m.) are available. Sign up sheets are in Pilgrim Hall. Please contact Liz Yoho or Laura Baird at 746-2134 or laura@bairdsplace.com if interested. Thank you!

SERVICE CLUB

The Service Club held their annual dinner on June 8th at Biscotti's Restaurant in New Fairfield. The 16 members in attendance enjoyed a lovely evening of good food and great company. Thank you to Beverly Longo who made the arrangements.

Our annual picnic will be held on Saturday, July 18th, at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Janice Zackeo. This annual picnic promises to be a fun evening of delicious food and games. There's even a refreshing swimming pool to cool off in, so bring your bathing suit. All are invited to join us. Please call Janice at 746-1078 to let her know that you can attend.

There will not be a meeting in August. The next meeting will be held on September 14th, where the September 25th Card Party will be discussed.

Have a wonderful summer!

Pamela Dohan
Secretary



MISSION TEAM MOMENT

On July 16th, we will be having our annual summer picnic at Marcia Semchyshen's home at 6:00 p.m.

As we all are looking forward to summer time, let's not forget those around us in need. Our local food pantry is still in need of

food and personal and paper products. With the economy the way it is, more people are turning to the New Fairfield food bank. Our wicker basket will be in the church office during the summer months, please help us help others.

Have a safe and wonderful summer. We will be looking forward to seeing you at our outside Sunday services.

Peace,
Sue Webb

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop will be open on Saturdays, July 12th, and August 1st from 1 PM to 3 PM.

Contributions of clean, usable clothing for men, women and children will be appreciated. Thanks to those of you who have thought of us when cleaning out your closets.



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Thanks to all who have signed up to host our coffee hour on past Sunday mornings. We've had some delicious repasts.

Please look at the sign-up calendar on the bulletin board to the left of the kitchen door and join with 2 or 3 other families and pick a Sunday to be hosts.



Women's Fellowship

SAVE THE DATE!

For Women's Ministry
FALL RETREAT –
Friday, October 16 –
Saturday, October 17 at
All Saint's Retreat

Center. Watch for details in the September Candlelight, but mark your calendar now, so you don't miss it.



The Senior High Youth Mission Team will be leaving for Biloxi, MS on Sunday, July 5th and returning on the 12th. We are looking forward to sharing our experiences with the congregation during worship on Sunday, July 19th. We hope that you will be able to join us for this special worship service to see how all your support and prayers have paid off for our youth and the families we will service in Biloxi.

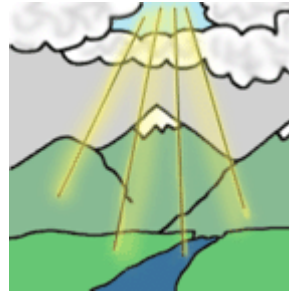
HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Believe it or not the bazaar is only a little over 4 months away. So, please, all you crafters, get busy over the summer.



SNEAKERS and **HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES** are being collected in bins outside of the CE Office for your convenience. **CELL PHONES** and **PRINTER CARTRIDGES** are collected in a

box in Pilgrim Hall. And a reminder – all recyclables for the bin by the dumpster need to be in clear plastic bags. **KEEP ON RECYCLING**



FACING REALITY WITH CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Our financial picture, though currently solvent, is not healthy. This graph represents the **average**

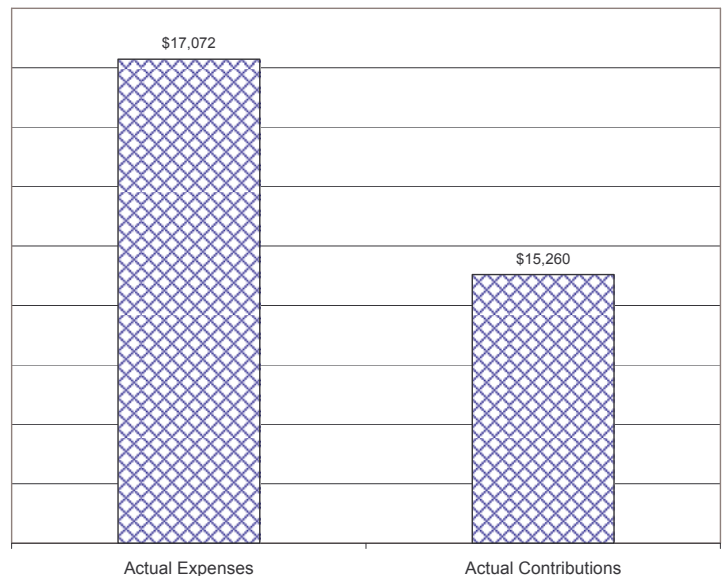
monthly shortfall we experienced from Jan. - April. 2009.

At this rate, by year-end, we'll face the need to scrape together another \$22,000 just to make ends meet. To make matters worse, there are budgeted, unavoidable expenses coming later this year that may make the gap closer to \$30-40,000. Say a prayer, dig deep, think creatively, and say another prayer to help Bridge the Gap.

We all must put God in the center of our giving, and give from a place of faith -- these gifts provide us with a church where we come together in worship and continue our journey of spiritual growth, and these gifts provide the means to continue to bring people closer to God through Jesus Christ.

When the call to Bridge to Gap arrives in your mailbox, please hear the call from God to each of us to be faithful stewards.

AVERAGE MONTHLY FINANCIALS
January through April 2009



July, 2009 Calendar

1	7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal - Principals
2	7:15 p.m. – CE Team Mtg.
3	6:30 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Junior Cast 7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Senior Cast
4	8:45 a.m. – “July 4 th Parade – “Godspell” cast marching
5	SHYG Youth Mission Trip to Biloxi 9:30 a.m. – Worship Service – In the Garden – Weather Permitting 7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Senior Cast
6	7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal Principals
7	
8	7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Senior Cast 7:00 p.m. – Worship & Ministry Team Meeting
9	6:30 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Junior Cast 7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Senior Cast
10	
11	1:00 p.m. – Thrift Shop Open
12	SHYG Youth Mission Trip to Biloxi Returns 9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting 7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Senior Cast
13	
14	1:00 p.m. – Women’s Church Club 7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Senior Cast
15	7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Run Through
16	6:00 p.m.- Mission Team Annual Summer Picnic 7:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal – Run Through
17	
18	5:00 p.m. – Service Club – Annual Picnic
19	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting – “SHYG Youth Mission Trip Reflection” 5:00 p.m. – Play Rehearsal Run Through
20	6:30 p.m. - Play Rehearsal Run Through
21	6:30 p.m. - Play Rehearsal Run Through
22	6:30 p.m. - Play Rehearsal Run Through
23	6:30 p.m. – Play Dress Rehearsal
24	7:30 p.m. – The Play “Godspell
25	7:30 p.m. – The Play “Godspell”
26	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting 3:00 p.m.- The Play “Godspell”
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	7:30 p.m. – The Play “Godspell

August, 2009 Calendar

1	1:00 p.m. – Thrift Shop Open 7:30 p.m. – The Play “Godspell
2	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting 3:00 p.m.- The Play “Godspell”
3	
4	
5	7:00 p.m. – Outdoor Ministry Mtg.
6	
7	
8	
9	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting
10	CCNF Office Closed 7:30 p.m. – Service Club Mtg.
11	CCNF Office Closed 1:00 p.m. – Women’s Church Club Mtg. 7:30 p.m. – Executive Council Mtg.
12	7:00 p.m. – Worship & Ministry Mtg.
13	
14	
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16	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting
17	
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23	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting
24	
25	7:00 p.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	9:30 a.m. – Worship Service - In the Garden – Weather Permitting
31	



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR THE SUMMER



Starting on Sunday July 5th at 9:30 a.m.
Worship will be held in the Martha Fairchild Garden
(Weather Permitting)

Come and Enjoy the Beauty of the Garden and Worship in the midst of
God's Good Creation!

There is childcare every Sunday and a "Summer Fun" Sunday school
program. Begin your week with Worship, and still have time to enjoy
the day!

Congregational Church of New Fairfield
United Church of Christ
20 Gillotti Road
New Fairfield, Connecticut 06812
(203) 746-2865



2009

Congregational Church of New Fairfield
20 Gillotti Road
Presents

Godspell

Conceived and Originally Directed by
John-Michael Tebelak
Music and New Lyrics by
Stephen Schwartz

Directed by Carl Anderson

July 24th and 25th

&

July 31st and August 1st

At 7:30 p.m.

July 26th and August 2rd

At 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: No refunds or exchanges

Rows 1 through 6

\$14 – Adults

\$11 – Seniors, students, and children

Rows 7 through 12

\$13 – Adults

\$10 – Seniors, students, and children

FOR TICKET INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS

CALL DOT BASS 203-746-2855

Godspell is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019

Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684

www.MTIShows.com