

faith matters

The Roxbury Congregational Church
A Congregation of the United Church of Christ



Continuing Testament
Extravagant Welcome
Changing Lives

Vol. 279, Issue 7, July/August 2021
Church Office, 24 Church Street
Roxbury, Connecticut 06783-1703
Church Office: 860-355-1978
e-mail: office@roxburychurch.org

Pastoral Reflections

Rev. David F. Peters, Minister

As I sit down to write this summer column for *Faith Matters*, I have just finished mowing the lawn at our house on North Street. It is HOT and HUMID and uncomfortable. It is one of those days when after getting up early and mowing to beat the heat, you take a shower and you get out and begin sweating all over again. (I know, too much information...) But having said that, it is good to be outside and to be active after a long season of isolation and being inside. A year has passed and it is amazing to me how many days have flown by. We have had the same birthdays, anniversaries, national and religious holidays but they seem like a blur looking back over the pandemic year.



As we move into July and August, I would encourage you to get outside and to enjoy the natural world that we have been placed in.

The words of the writer / poet Wendell Berry seem fitting:

The Peace of Wild Things
When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free."

□ *Wendell Berry, The Selected Poems of Wendell Berry*

As I take vacation and sabbatical during these 2 months, I will be paying attention to those things that are not measured in time or space but in the natural flow of life. I invite you to make some time and join me.

Grace and Peace, *David*

thank you

... to those who have kept current with your pledges. We are healthy financially when all pitch in!

...to everyone who bought Father's Day cards to benefit Church World Service's "tools of Hope" program..

... to those who have been Cantors, readers and Zoom Techs – helping to have Sunday worship go smoothly and insuring that our church community stays fed and connected.

From Sue Stauffacher

2021's Rummage/Bake Sale is our best yet - since I've been keeping track of it in 1998! A grand total of \$3,100.85.

I'm so happy about this, and it is all because of YOU! You are the ones who supported this event with your donations, working at sorting, placing, folding, hanging, pricing during the week, baking, manning the cashier tables and bake table, being a presence at the actual event, making coffee, buying, setting up the hall with tables before and putting everything back to how it was afterwards, packing up, driving boxes to their destination, and more. I cannot name names, because I may miss someone, but YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE! I say a HUGE thank you to each and every one of you. I cannot do this alone, and without all of you, this event could not take place. 😊

See you for 2022's Rummage/Bake Sale. Meanwhile, just rest. You deserve it.
Sue

... to everyone who helped with our Art at the Meetinghouse 14th Annual Juried Art Show June 18-20. The planning team was headed by Charlie Meade. Nearly 130 works of art were shown and sales added to our church budget.

Thanks to our organizers, benefactors, the Art Show team, our Judge, Peter Seltzer, our guests and those who purchased works. A portion of the works sold benefit the ministries of our church and our Mission Partners.

... from the Senior Knitters for our providing a meeting space in Fellowship Hall while the Senior Center has been closed during COVID. They met weekly in Fellowship Hall before re-locating to the Pavilion on Apple Lane at the onset of warmer weather. They sent us this by way of thanks:

"All we like sheep might have gone astray but for the generosity of the Roxbury Congregational Church! -- All of the Grateful Knitters.

From the Parish Register

Baptism

Beverly Belle Price was baptized on June 27, 2021 Beverly, born March 21, 2021, is the daughter of **Steven and Cesira (Farrell) Price** Her Godparents are **Shelia Farrell and Raymond Osborne**.

Death

Rev. M. Sargent "Des" Desmond died on June 1, 2021 at Pomperaug Woods Health Center. A Memorial Service was held on June 27, 2021 at the Congregational Church of Brookfield where he as the Pastor Emeritus. Des was an active part of our congregation and we will miss him. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Nancy, daughters Martha and Rachel and family. 124 Pomperaug Woods, Southbury, CT 06488

Memorial Service

Molly Wright, August 7, 11 a.m.

A Presentation to Sue Stauffacher during worship on June 6, 2021 in gratitude for her MANY years of service as Rummage/Bake Sale and Tag Sale organizer written by Diana deVries and illustrated by Phil deVries.

Ode to Susan

Here's to dear Susan, femme extraordinaire
Organizer of Tag Sales which she does with such flair.
Some one's trash is always another man's treasure,
Who knew that such chachkis could give so much pleasure.
She lovingly lays all the items on tables,
Delegating order to each as they are able.
She prices wit care, not too low, not too high,
With hopes that people will show up and buy.
She is really quite fussy, "That goes to the dump,
Don't wan to clutter us up with a pile of junk!"
So kudos to Susan and crew, who complete so many tasks,
We'll do it again next year, hopefully with out masks.



mission matters

Daily Bread Food Pantry

The Daily Bread Food Pantry team distributes food the second Monday of the month (approx. 9 am - 12 noon). We need more volunteers on the list to draw from.

If you are available or have questions, please speak with Sue Stauffacher at 860-354-1274.

The number of households visiting Daily Bread have more than tripled. It has been enormously challenging to keep their shelves stocked.

You can help!

Next time you go to the grocery store, please pick up an extra bag of basic food items and drop them off in the Church Narthex (front doors always unlocked) and leave on the cart there. Our team will bring them down to the Pantry.

Items needed include:

Non-perishables: canned tuna, peanut butter, black beans, kidney beans, rice, pasta, tomato sauce, canned fruit, canned vegetables

Financial Gifts are much appreciated as well. Checks can be made out to RCC and Daily Bread in the Memo.

Shelter Breakfast Ministry

With the pandemic and the over night shelter in New Milford on a hiatus, the breakfast has been suspended for the foreseeable future. If you are willing to help out when they resume, please speak with Charlie Meade, coordinator. The breakfasts normally are served each Saturday and Sunday by teams from our congregation or affiliated with the Church.

Loaves and Fishes

Serving the Meal at Loaves and Fishes on the fourth Wednesday of each month beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Richmond Town Center in New Milford. It is on the Green just north of the Congregational Church. Parking is behind the building. We need **three** servers each month to prepare the meal and clean up afterward. Usually out by 6:00 p.m at the latest. Please speak with Mike Wilcox at 860-354-1274 if you are interested.

**Next Loaves & Fishes opportunity is
Wednesday, July 28, 2021**

Cash for Causes

Retail Gift Cards

Cash for Causes will be taking the summer off and return in September. We thank Heidi Neff for her dedication to this fundraising program for the church!



Mindful Meditation Continues for Summer

Your host, Charlie Stauffacher, invites you to join with us as we gather on Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m., in the Church Library or via Zoom, online.

These sessions are for anyone interested in meditation, whatever experience or lack of experience. Please speak with Charlie at 860-354-1274 so he can answer your questions or contact you by email with instructions for online access.

summer matters

Music

If you would like to share your music during the months of July and August during worship, please contact Sandy.

Worship & Preachers

While Rev. Peters is on vacation from July 1- August 29, we have lined up some wonderful worship leaders. We hope that you will take advantage of their insights and perspectives.

July 4: Rev. Cheryl Anderson of Portland Maine, retired Pastor, most recently Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Washington. She has been most helpful in getting out Mindfulness Meditation group off the ground here.

July 11, 18, & 25: Rev. Walter “Scooter” Pitman of Sharon, CT, retired Pastor, most recently Pastor of the United Church of Christ, Southbury.

August 1, 8, 15: Rev. James Robertson of Watertown, retired Pastor, most recently Associate Pastor at the First Congregational Church of Watertown. Jim has also been Moderator of the United Church of Christ nationally as well as a Partner in the law firm of Carmody, Torrance, Sandak, & Hennessey based in Waterbury.

August 22: David V.C. Lincicome, all around good guy, Deacon, and ombudsman extraordinaire! former neighbor of the Church, now living in Southbury.

August 29: Rev. David Peters.

Worship will be a combination of in-person and virtual via Zoom starting at 9:30 a.m. Facebook streaming of worship will return in September.

Regular 10:30 a.m. worship time will resume Sunday, September 5, hopefully with a return of our choir and, we hope, without masks being required.

Sunday, September 12 will be Homecoming Sunday with a picnic on the lawn planned.

Fellowship / Coffee Hours

We have resumed fellowship Time after worship. We need volunteers to set up simple ice tea, ice water and lemonade each Sunday. If you are willing, please contact Jeanne Steers – 354-7484

Contacts

For pastoral emergencies, please email Rev. Robyn Gray at the First Congregational Church in Washington.

Her email is pastor.robyn@firstchurchwashingtonct.org

She checks her email often and will get back to you a.s.a.p.

(Rev. Peters will make himself pastorally available for funerals.)

For building concerns, please contact Tom Farrell (203-948-2833) or Chris Steers (203-948-0553)

For worship matters, Mike Wilcox, Deacon Chairperson (860-354-8821).

For office matters, Nancy Glover will be in the office Thursday and Friday mornings from 9:30 - noon. The church phone and messages will be reviewed at that time ONLY.

Tag/Bake Sale Coming Up

We will be hosting our annual Tag/Bake Sale on Saturday, August 14, 9:00 - 2:00. You may rent an 8-foot table for \$25 or rent a space for \$20 and bring your own table. The rental fee goes to the church and you keep your sale profits. It will take place on the front lawn unless it rains, in which case it will be inside Fellowship Hall. Pray for a nice day :)

We will have a church table/s consisting of items you contribute if you don't want to rent a table for yourself. We will have a bake table, so please bake your goodies and bring them labeled either on Friday or very early Saturday. We will serve a light lunch.

You may reserve your table or space by calling Sue Stauffacher at 860-354-1274 prior to 7:00 p.m. We have a limited amount of tables, so reserve early as your money holds your table/space.

I need workers to man the church table/s and the bake table, help with the lunch and people to bake. I also need a crew of strong folks to take the tables out of the shed and set them up very early Saturday morning. Also to bring chairs outside.

Please volunteer as this is a team effort. I will put a signup sheet in Fellowship Hall or you can call me.

Thank you,
Sue Stauffacher

Birthdays & Anniversaries

A=Anniversary

July

4 Bill Steers
6 Vicki Cover
12 Bill & Jan Steers (A)
12 Vail Barrett
17 Sara Jane Bird
19 Colby Kalisher
22 Mike Wilcox
22 Doris Farrell
28 Dick & Nancy Callahan (A)

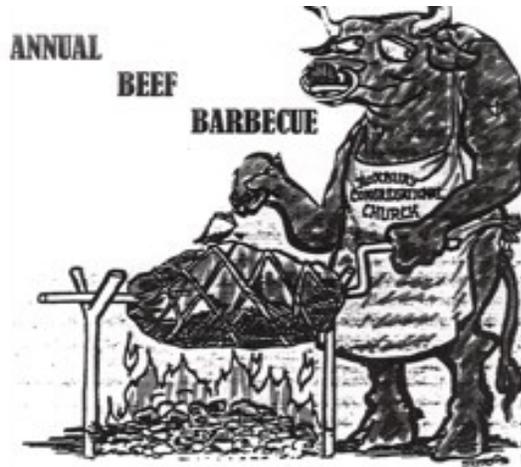
August

5 Diane "Cha Cha" Kansas
12 Henry Neff
17 Andrew Chin
17 Jerry Smith
18 David Peters
20 Chris & Janet Childs (A)
21 Mark Wolmer
26 Kimberly Steers
28 Mark & Beverly Wolmer (A)

church event calendar

ANNUAL BEEF BARBECUE

Roxbury Congregational Church
24 Church St (Rt 317) Roxbury



drawing by Billy Steers

Saturday, August 28, 2021
5:00 to 7:00 PM rain or shine

PRICE: Adults: \$17.00 Sr. Citizens: \$15
10 & under: \$5.00
5 and under: free
Takeout Available

Tickets available at the door

Slow Roasted Local Beef Local Corn Baked Potato ~ Bread
Special Recipe Cole Slaw. Dessert ~ Beverage

Note: We will need helpers to make this another successful event!

Please speak with Chris Childs and let him

know you would like to help. 355-9067

**Roxbury Congregational Church
Welcomes You Back To Join Us For**



on

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH

**Doors open @ 6:30 pm / Trivia starts @ 7:00 pm
at the Roxbury Congregational Church**

Gather your smartest (or just most fun) friends and book a table ASAP!

\$75 per table (Teams of 6 or less)

Checks payable to Roxbury Congregational Church (Payable at the door)

Individual Players are welcome! (You will be on the wildcard teams :)

BYOB (*Bring your own beverages)

** Yes, this means "Adult Beverages" are allowed)*

BYOS (Bring your own snacks*)

**Forget the diet, bring carbs to improve your brain power!)*

For more information or to reserve your table, contact:

Chris Childs @ 860-355-9067

or email: cchilds287@gmail.com

word & sacrament for july/august 2021

Underlined scriptures are for Lay Readers

Worship is now In-person and on Zoom

July- August 9:30 a.m. Worship time

Rev. Peters on Vacation (July) & Sabbatical (August 1- 27)

July Deacons of the Month: Mike Wilcox & Pat Fraley

August Deacons of the Month: David Lincicome & Chris Childs

Sunday, July 4 *Rev. Cheryl Anderson*
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 148; Mark 6: 1-13
Reader: **Sue Stauffacher**
Cantors: **Charlie Stauffacher, Sue Stauffacher,**
Nancy Glover, Barb Cover, Vail Barrett
Zoom Tech: **Charlie Stauffacher**

Sunday, July 11 *Rev. Walter Pitman*
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 24; Mark 6: 14-29
Reader: **Pat Fraley**
Cantor: **Nancy Glover**
Zoom Tech: **Barb Cover**

Sunday, July 18 *Rev. Walter Pitman*
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 89: 20-37; Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56
Reader:
Cantor:
Zoom Tech: **Vail Barrett**
Flowers: **Don Wheeler mem. of his father**

Sunday, July 25 *Rev. Walter Pitman*
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 14; John 6: 1-21
Reader: **Colby Kalisher (Tentative)**
Cantor:
Zoom Tech: **Charlie Stauffacher**

Sunday, August 1 *Rev. James Robertson*
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 51: 1-12; John 6: 24-35
Reader:
Cantor:
Zoom Tech:

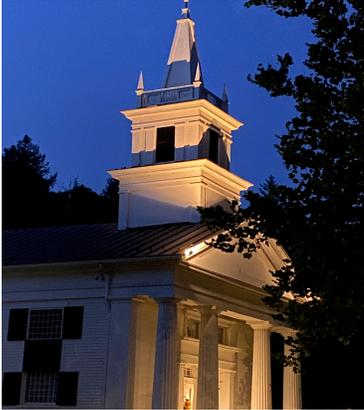
Sunday, August 8 *Rev. James Robertson*
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 130; John 6: 35, 41-51
Reader:
Cantor:
Zoom Tech:

Sunday, August 15 *Rev. James Robertson*
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 111; John 6: 51-58
Reader:
Cantor:
Zoom Tech:
Flowers: **Don Wheeler mem. of his mother**

Sunday, August 22 *David Lincicome*
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 88; John 6: 56-69
Reader:
Cantor:
Zoom Tech:

Sunday, August 29 *Rev. David Peters*
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9; John 6: 56-69
Reader:
Cantor:
Zoom Tech:

Summer 2021 – Silver Lake Camp



Steeple Lighting

The Steeple can be lit in loving memory or someone or in celebration for a month. We ask for a donation of \$25 to the Memorial Fund. Contact Rev. Peters to make arrangements.

During July it will be lighted in loving memory of **Peter Rossiter** by his wife, **Gaila**
August is open – contact the church office.

Scam Alert

Scams are all about in these days. Especially among kind, generous people like you!

Some of these scams have an email being received from the minister or other church official looking for help or donations particularly by buying gift cards. Neither the Roxbury Congregational Church, its officers nor Rev. Peters will seek contributions in this way. If ever in doubt, do not click on any links and if you want, phone Rev. Peters if you have any questions. Sad that we have to even put this warning out there.

Save the Dates

July 24	Trivia Night (tentative)
August 14	Tag Sale
August 28	Beef Barbecue
September 12	Homecoming Sunday
October 16	Chili Dinner

SILVER LAKE
Conference Center

CREATION SPEAKS
Special Curriculum

Silver Lake

2021 SUMMER CAMP

EXPERIENCE
Community • Leadership
Lifelong Friends • Deepening Faith

WWW.SILVERLAKECT.ORG
223 Low Road, Sharon, CT 06069
860-364-5526 • slcc@silverlakect.org

Silver Lake is the Year-Round Outdoor Ministry Site
of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ

CAMP ACCREDITED

There are still openings for this special 2-week residential camp experience.

Go to silverlakect.org for more information.

*(See more Silver Lake
Next page).*

Day Camp

AT SILVER LAKE

Silver Lake's new day camp brings
the magic of the Lake to younger campers!
Children entering grades 1-6

JOIN US FOR DAILY ADVENTURES

Swimming, garden time, arts & crafts, sports, games, and more!
Make new friends and try new things while enjoying our 60-acre lakeside camp.

TWO SPECIAL WEEK-LONG OPPORTUNITIES

August 9-13 • August 16-20

8:45 am - 4:45 pm • Lunch Included

Limited slots available for before and/or after care

Week-Long Tiered Pricing: \$385 • \$340 • \$300

Before care (7:45 am-8:45 am): \$30, cold breakfast included

After care (4:45 pm-5:30 pm): \$30, snack included



Silver Lake Conference Center • 223 Low Road, Sharon, CT
slcc@silverlakect.org • www.silverlakect.org

Scholarships available – contact Rev. David

SILVER LAKE
Conference Center

15th Annual
SILVER LAKE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sponsorship Opportunities Include
lunch sponsor contest sponsor hole sponsor
event underwriter **AND MORE!**

\$220
PER GOLFER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
THE COUNTRY CLUB OF WATERBURY - WATERBURY, CT

Silverlakect.org to register



Become a member of the Thomas Canfield Society by making a planned gift to the Roxbury Congregational Church. Your generosity will live into the future and help ensure that this tradition, this faith community, continues.

For more information, please contact Rev. David Peters at the Church Office or speak with your financial planning specialist. (We have a few within the congregation.)

A Reminder

Our bills don't take a vacation. The only income our church has is you. Please remember the church

when you are paying your monthly bills this summer so we can pay ours! Thank you.

Newsletter

The *Faith Matters* newsletter is published only once during the summer, at the beginning of July. Please have all material for inclusion in the September issue submitted by August 15. Send your contributions to office@roxburychurch.org.

*September Faith Matters Deadline
August 15th*

leadership listing

(All 860- unless noted)

Ministers: The Congregation
Moderator: Brian Neff, 354-3177
Clerk: Patricia Fraley, 868-0051
Treasurer: Dawn Collette, (203) 947-1098
Collector: Cathy Racz, 799-0180
Deacons: Mike Wilcox 354-8821
Trustees: Charlie Meade, 354-1274
Stewardship: TBA
Missions: Barbara Biafore, 799-6501
Fellowship: Jeanne Steers, 354-7484
Pastoral Relations: Colby Kalisher 355-8012

Men's Group: Charlie Stauffacher, 354-1274
Youth Group: Barb Cover, (203) 788-5823
Historian: Dale Pinchbeck, 355-4297
Librarian: Joan Temple, 350-0529
Secretary/Newsletter: Nancy Glover, 355 -1978
Minister of Music: Sandra Kleisner, 868-9040
Custodian: Bruce Rossiter
Pastor: The Rev. David F. Peters,
office: 355-1978 home: 355-8830
david@roxburychurch.org

Roxbury Congregational Church, UCC
24 Church Street
Roxbury, CT 06783

Address Service Requested

faith matters

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NEWSLETTER – JULY/AUGUST 2021

We Are A Community Seeking to Share God's Love!

Worship in-person & on Zoom (link on church website) or Facebook Live (fb.com/RoxburyChurch)

Sundays Worship 9:30 a.m.

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!

