

The Pittsfield Pilgrim

First Congregational Church
24 Main Street
Pittsfield, NH 03263

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The Pittsfield Pilgrim

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The Rev. David Stasiak, Minister
Nella and Mike Hobson, Publishers

Meet Your Church Family

Carolyn Jones

Editor: We asked our friend Carolyn Jones to share a little about herself.



I grew up in Pittsfield and attended local schools, graduating from Pittsfield High School.

Gardening and planting my own live flowers is a joy each spring. I am a florist in Chichester and enjoy it very much. And taking care of my four lively cats at home is one thing that brings me happiness.

I first started coming to First Congregational Church in Pittsfield in 2015, following Rev. Dave's service for my parents.

Coming to Sunday services and continuing to meet friends at fellowship hour allows me to share experiences.

My role models were my parents, instilling in me good values and honest upbringing. I feel that my good work ethics came from them as they were very hard-working.

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"Tip o' the Hat"

A special "Tip o' the Hat" to Jaime Koladish, who handles the flower orders for the church. Thanks, Jaime, for assisting with further beautifying the church with flowers. Thank you! Ω



Church Leaders in Review

Pastor – *Rev. David Stasiak*
Interim Organist & Choir Director – *Nella Hobson*
Assistant Pianist & Choir Director – *Emily Goulet*
Chair, Board of Trustees – *Marilyn Thyng*
Treasurer – *Erica Anthony*
Collector – *George Towle*
Senior Deacon – *John Johnson*
Moderator – *Art Morse*
Clerk – *Maryellen Plante*
Sunday School Sup't – *Maureen McLaughlin*
Dorcas Guild President – *Mary Jo Powelson*
Sexton – *Jaime Koladish*

Ladies – Hat Day is May 14, Mother's Day!



Minister's Minute

This column was so good the first time around several years ago, the editors felt it was worth repeating

Did you know that May is a month of autumn in the Southern Hemisphere and spring in the Northern Hemisphere? Therefore May in the Southern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent of November in the Northern Hemisphere and vice versa. I think that's an absolutely awesome connection — the month that we honor our mothers is tied in a way to the month that we celebrate Thanksgiving. I am sure you've heard it said that God could not be everywhere and therefore he made mothers.

Happy Mother's Day to all of the mothers and women who protect, nourish, and bestow love and care to the children of the world.



Another special mother left us with these words of wisdom: "Life is an opportunity, benefit from it. Life is beauty, admire it. Life is bliss, taste it. Life is a dream, realize it. Life is a challenge, meet it. Life is a duty, complete it. Life is a game, play it. Life is a promise, fulfill it. Life is sorrow, overcome it. Life is a song, sing it. Life is a struggle, accept it. Life is a tragedy, confront it. Life is an adventure, dare it. Life is luck, make it. Life is too precious, do not destroy it. Life is life, fight for it."

— *Mother Teresa*

God's blessings and peace to you all. I love being your minister. Ω

Rev. Dave

For your information...
Rev. Dave's phone numbers:
 Church office: 603 435-7471
 Home: 603 435-0083
 Cell: 603 545-8990
 Email: keysman02@aol.com



From the Board of Trustees



Update

The Board would like to thank Ray Webber for his recent, very generous donation of time, labor and scaffolding. Ray set up an elaborate array of scaffolding in the sanctuary last month for the church so the light illuminating the communion table and pulpit could be replaced. The work included cutting in an access panel above the light so that in the future the light can be accessed from the attic rather than using staging.

As many of you may recall, repair of the pipe organ was a two-step process. The first step, replacement of the blower motor, was completed in March. The second step was to have the organ tuned which was recently completed by Andover Organ Company. As I'm sure everyone agrees, it's great to have the organ back up and running!

The Board is very pleased to let you know that we have reached our fund-raising goal of \$45,000 for the Building Fund. The funds are helping the church cover the cost of several projects including reroofing the back half of the church and replacement of the parsonage roof shingles. Thanks to the many friends and members of the church who donated so generously to this fund-raiser.

The Board is in the very early stages of planning for a "church maintenance day." This will be a day for volunteers to gather to help with a variety of maintenance items as well to enjoy a time of fellowship. More details to follow.

As always, if you have any questions, ideas, or concerns, feel free to let any of the trustees know - Marilyn Thyng, Gloria O'Connor Biron, Sue Bleckmann, Chris Ward or Harry Vogt. Ω

Monthly Update of Income and Expenses

Church income for the month of March:

\$8,627.00

Church expenses for the month of March:

\$11,765.85

Jones — Continued from Page 1

I would like to see younger families with children come and experience the word of God and be brought up in a Christian environment.

I am looking forward to attending FCC for many more years as I enjoy our pastor's sermons so much. Being a part of FCC and having met so many lovely people is a delight. Ω

Thanks from Christian Education

A big thanks to all who contributed, helped, and attended the Sunday School's spaghetti dinner! It was a huge success and tons of fun! Now we can purchase a new table for our little ones and a give a generous donation to Heifer International. This organization is a global nonprofit working to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable and values-based holistic community development.



Heifer International gifts:

Chickens: \$20	Llamas: \$150
Rabbits: \$60	Irrigation: \$150
Tree Seedlings: \$60	Water Buffalo: \$250
Goats: \$120	Fish: \$300
Pigs: \$120	Cows: \$500
Sheep: \$120	

We will keep you posted on which animals the children choose to donate, and we will be doing this within the next week or so. So again we thank you for helping to fund these projects; we couldn't have done it without all the support!

Also keep on your calendar our **"Parents Night Out"** planned for Friday, May 12, from 5-9 p.m. Spread the word if you know anyone who might enjoy this event. We are still looking for a few volunteers to watch the kids here at the church. Please call or email Jaime Koladish if you have any questions or want to help, 435-0544 or bondinality@gmail.com. Ω

**Mark Your Calendar —
Patriotic Concert
Friday, June 2, 7 p.m.**

**Diaper Pantry Update**

The Diaper Pantry is grateful to have received \$500 from the Sanderson Trust Fund for this year. We just placed our order and the diapers will be greatly appreciated by all the young families that need assistance.

At our last opening, on April 18 we helped 108 babies and young children, a record for us. We welcomed five new families into the Pantry. These families have a total of 10 children between them.

The Diaper Pantry so very much appreciates the support everyone gives this mission. Currently, we could really use size 4, 5, and 6 diapers and unscented wipes.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please fill out your check to: "FCC Missions" and note it is for "Diaper Pantry" in the memo line. We thank you so very much. Ω

Dorcas Guild Update: The April 11 meeting of the Dorcas Guild began with a welcome by President Mary Jo Powelson. Gailann Newton provided devotions by reading scripture from Song of Solomon. All joined in "The Lord's Prayer."

Diane Vaughan reported on various pieces of correspondence received and passed around several cards for signing. The February minutes were accepted with one amendment: regarding the Christian camps, the Dorcas Guild is prepared to offer up to three \$200 scholarships.

The treasurer's report was accepted as read. The food basket from Linda Towle was received by Mary Jo and will go to Audrey Moore in May. The mystery package brought by Linda Towle was won by Corine Miller.

Nella Hobson presented a wrap-up on the World Day of Prayer event, March 3. Donations for the Easter Breakfast were reviewed

For our project, "Children's Care Tote Bags" for local police, Carolyn Emerson generously donated 10 bags containing books, crayons, and other items as well as 10 teddy bears. Mary Jo reported on the "Chemo Tote Bags" and responses from the Payson Center and Lakes Region.

The Dorcas banquet will be held June 13, 6 pm.

Lovely refreshments were served by Elaine Coffey and Gailann. Next month's meeting will be held May 9 at 6:30 p.m., with hostesses Kathy Bergeron, Nancy Fogg and Mary Jo Powelson. It is our "White Elephant in a Brown Bag" event. Ω



May 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 May Day 1 “How Jesus Became God” video series 6:30-7:30 pm Pilgrim Room	2 Infant & Toddler Diaper Pantry 9-11 am	3 Dorcas Guild work group 10-2, vestry Bible Study 7-8 pm Pilgrim Room	4 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm <u>NO</u> JuBellation Rehearsal	5	6
7 Worship Service 10 am <i>Holy Communion</i> Sunday School 9:45 am Fellowship Hour 11 am – Potluck	8 “How Jesus Became God” video series 6:30-7:30 pm Pilgrim Room	9 Men’s Breakfast <u>8 am</u> Parker’s Rest. Dorcas Guild Meets – 6:30 pm – vestry	10 Dorcas Guild work group 10-2, vestry <u>NO</u> Bible Study	11 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm JuBellation Rehearsal 7:45 pm, sanctuary	12	13
Mother’s Day 14 Hat Day - Ladies Deacons’ Meeting 8:45 am Worship Service 10 am Sunday School 9:45 am <i>JuBellation plays</i> Fellowship Hour 11 am – <i>Dorcas Guild hosts</i>	15 “How Jesus Became God” video series 6:30-7:30 pm Pilgrim Room	16 Infant & Toddler Diaper Pantry 9-11 am Trustees’ Meeting 6 pm	17 Dorcas Guild work group 10-2, vestry Bible Study 7-8 pm Pilgrim Room	18 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm JuBellation Rehearsal 7:45 pm, vestry	19	20 Armed Forces Day
Children’s Day 21 Worship Service 10 am Sunday School 9:45 am Fellowship Hour 11 am – <i>Sunday School hosts</i>	22 “How Jesus Became God” video series 6:30-7:30 pm Pilgrim Room	23	24 Dorcas Guild work group 10-2, vestry Bible Study 7-8 pm Pilgrim Room	Ascension Day 25 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm JuBellation Rehearsal 7:45 pm, vestry	26 Last day for <i>Pittsfield Pilgrim</i> news -- forward to Nella Hobson	27
28 Worship Service 10 am Fellowship Hour 11 am	Memorial Day 29 	30	31 Dorcas Guild work group 10-2, vestry Bible Study, 7-8 pm	June 1 Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 pm JuBellation Rehearsal 7:45 pm, sanctuary	2 Patriotic Concert 7 pm 	3