



the Copper Hill Connection

September 2015

Pastor's Postings Summer's Abundance

by Rev. Dr. Kelvin S. Jones

As a gardener, I always appreciate the abundance of late summer. Flower blooms are plentiful on petunias and marigolds and rudbeckia. And the vegetable garden yields an abundance of squash, cucumbers, cabbage and, hopefully, tomatoes. This year JoAnne and I are again enjoying the bounty from Oxen Hill CSA to which we subscribe. We prepare a one-pan dish of summer vegetables, greens, and a root vegetable or two, spiced generously with curry, cumin, olive oil, and garlic. It is delicious.

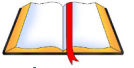
The word abundance brings to mind the spiritual abundance that David poetically described as he reflected on his inspiring experiences in the temple.

*Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,
Your faithfulness to the skies....
How priceless is Your unfailing love, O God!
People take refuge in the shadow of
Your wings.
They feast on the abundance of Your house;
You give them drink from Your river
of delights.
For with You is the fountain of life;
In Your light we see light (Ps 36:5, 7-9 NIV 2011).*

I wonder if we look at our time in church as a source of spiritual abundance, as we should, for it definitely is. In God's house, we experience inspiration in various ways. Perhaps we sense God's love, His forgiveness, guidance in a decisions, or encouragement for daily living.

If we understand the value of time in God's house, we will treasure being there. We will desire to honor God together, to embrace one another with God's love, and to feed upon divine inspiration. "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps 34:8).

"The Lord is good, and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations" (Ps. 100:5).



200th Anniversary of Our Church

What special memories do you have of Copper Hill United Methodist Church? Do you have stories that your grandparents or a relative told you? We'd love to include them in our celebration of the 200th Anniversary of our church.



We've planned special events over a period of 200 days, beginning in April 2016. Activities will include historical displays, dramatizations, children and family events (picnic, baseball, hayride), and two musical concerts. The celebration will conclude with a dinner in October.

The anniversary committee welcomes any ideas you may have. We are especially looking for memorabilia, period clothing, pictures, and anecdotes. If you have anything to share, please contact Carol Griffin, committee chair.

Children's HAYRIDE & Costume Party

Children of the community are invited to share in the fun of a Fall Hayride and Costume Party on Sunday, **October 25**, at 11:30 AM, here at the church. We will begin with costume judging of the most creative, funniest, best animal and Bible costumes, etc. (rather than scary disguises). Following lunch, and a short music time, parents can join the children for a hayride. Last year's was great fun!



United Methodist Women's Potluck

All women of the church are invited to the **UMW's** first meeting of the fall season on Tuesday, **Sept. 8**, at 6:30 PM, at the church. We will have a potluck dinner followed by the business meeting. Please join us as we make plans for upcoming events.

Ministries of Our Church

Copper Hill responds to Nepal Earthquake

In July, the Copper Hill Church council approved two missions gifts to respond to the needs of Nepal after the recent devastating earthquake. We contributed \$400 to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for Nepal. As of June 9, UMCOR had provided about \$625,000 in relief aid to Nepal. According to (<http://www.umcor.org/umcor/resources/news-stories/2015/june/0609nepalrecoveryneeds>) UMCOR granted aid to five diverse institutional partners who do the hands-on work for UMCOR.



We also contributed \$200 for Nepal relief through World Hope International (WHI) (<https://www.worldhope.org/>). WHI is a Christian relief organization founded by Rev. Dr. JoAnne Lyon and led by her son, John Lyon. Pastor Jones knows them personally and has been familiar with the organization for many years. WHI is working directly in Nepal to supply tents, water purification supplies, and hygiene kits. They've also had a child sponsorship program in Nepal since 2000.

One half of each gift came from our regular budget; this amount was then matched from the proceeds of the Ken Seymour Estate gift.

New Bible Study

Pastor Kelvin is teaching a new Bible study, "Understanding God's Work in Your Life," from the book of Romans on Tuesday afternoons, 1:30 PM at Higley Village Clubhouse, and Wednesday evenings, 7 PM at the church. The studies are open to anyone in the community.

Quarterly Prayer

Join us at the church on Wednesday, **September 23** as we pray for the spiritual needs of our church, community, and nation.

Ladies' Prayer & Study Group

meets one Monday afternoon each month to pray for the needs of our church. If you have a prayer concern, please call JoAnne Jones.

"Goings On" at Our Church

SAVE the DATES!

Church Dinners

Roast Pork Dinner, Sat. Oct. 17

Menu: roast pork, gravy, "real" mashed potatoes, carrots, green beans, applesauce, rolls & butter, hot & cold beverages, and for dessert, apple pie with cheese.

Turkey Dinner

Sat. Nov. 7

Menu: roast turkey, gravy, bread stuffing, "real" mashed potatoes, turnips, green peas, cranberries, rolls & butter, hot & cold beverages, and for dessert, apple or pumpkin pie with cheese.



The cost for both dinners will be only \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under 12, and preschoolers will be free.

*Bargains! * * Great Finds! * * Gift Ideas!*

Annual Fall Tag & Bake Sale

Saturday, **September 26**, 9 AM—2 PM.

You can drop off your donations on the previous Saturday, September 19, also from 9 AM until 2 PM.

To arrange for item pick-up, call Susan at (860) 668-1031.

Please bring food items, *wrapped and priced*, prior to start on the morning of the sale. Thanks in advance for your help!



Annual Holiday Bazaar

Friday & Saturday, **November 20 & 21**.

The sale runs from 1 PM until 4 PM On Friday. On Saturday hours will be 10 AM to 3 PM, with a soup & sandwich luncheon served from 11 AM to 2 PM. There will be lots of hand-crafted items from which to choose (decorations, afghans, kitchen towels), as well as a wide variety of baked goods (breads, cakes, cookies, pies, etc.) On Saturday, there will also be casseroles and soups for sale at the food table.



Exciting Upgrades Coming

New Projector

We are enthusiastically anticipating the debut of our new media projection system. The big ticket item, the projector, was contributed by Bob Stewart in memory of his late wife, Sallie. Accessory items, such as the screen will be funded by the Memorial Fund. The system will be used to project video clips, hymn and chorus lyrics, message highlights, etc. Special uses might include screening a special movie, a video report from a short-term missions trip, or showing memorial media during remembrance times at funerals. The projector will be located in the balcony with the sound board, and the screen will be over the door to the fellowship hall. Tech Committee chair, Christian Robison, is overseeing the installation.

New Sound System

Our current sound system was purchased new in the 1980s, according to Robert Loomis. Its limitations are obvious when our choir uses recorded accompaniment, or a guitarist needs to plug into the amp. In addition, its location up front makes it awkward to adjust the sound.



So an upgrade is overdue. Our church council has voted to use the Memorial Fund to purchase a system that will greatly increase our capability. We will install it in the balcony, which will clear sound items from the front of the sanctuary. We will now be able to easily handle inputs like guitars, keyboards, CD's, video sound, etc. As part of the upgrade, the choir will have separate monitor speakers. For future needs, the system includes capabilities for ministries that we do not currently have. It will easily handle recording of services, inputs from computer, and can extend sound output to a future nursery space.

We are very thankful to Christian Robison, an experienced technician, for designing the system. He will also be heading up the installation of it and overseeing its use. This is a big help to our church!

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New Keyboard

Our church organ is also vintage. It came to us from another church years ago. However, lately it has not been functioning well. It is expensive to repair, and we were warned that it would not always be possible. So the council decided it's time to upgrade to a keyboard with a variety of good organ sounds. In addition, while JoAnne is a trained organist, there are few of them around today; pianists are easier to find. The keyboard we have chosen is quite comparable to a piano in touch and sound, and is also user-friendly.

Our attempts to sell our organ have been unsuccessful due to its model. Since we have such a historic sanctuary, we would like to preserve the older look. So we are putting the keyboard into the organ case. Most people will probably just think we have an awesome organ.

Special Offering Planned

All three of these upgrades are being financed through the Memorial Fund, a separate fund from the recent Seymour estate gift. The latter is largely being reserved for future building needs, which we would not be able to address without it. We are very thankful to all who have contributed to the Memorial Fund over the years. However, more funds are needed to complete these three projects that will enhance our worship service. So on September 13, we plan to give everyone the opportunity to help as they feel led by contributing to a special offering. You may also send your gift to the church's post office box (see page four). Thank you to all who help with gifts or volunteer work to make these significant upgrades a reality!

The **200th Anniversary Committee** will meet on Tuesday, **September 15** at 7 PM. All who are interested in helping to plan are invited to attend.

Our **Annual Charge Conference** will be held at the church on Wednesday, **October 28**. Watch for more information in the bulletin.



Copper Hill United Methodist Church
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Copper Hill Connection

The newsletter for members and friends of
Copper Hill United Methodist Church, 27 Copper Hill Road, East Granby, CT 06026

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If you would prefer an email copy, please let us know.

Regular Meetings/Activities

Worship Service: 9:30 AM Sunday morning

Coffee Hour: Second Sunday of each month, immediately following morning service.

Communion: First Sunday of each month

Find us on the **web:** www.CopperHillChurch.us

Pastor's Blog: at www.learntobewise.com

Facebook at www.facebook.com/

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