



TIMELY TIDINGS

2024

"WHOEVER YOU ARE AND WHEREVER YOU ARE IN LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME IN OUR COMMUNITY."

NOTE ON MINISTRY AT PCC

Until Peacham Congregational Church finds an interim/settled pastor, the Deacons & The Lay Service Coordinator will plan and host/lead all services. Head Deacon Patty Gardner can be reached at 413-883-2842.

From Church Council Chair, John Marshall

The Peacham Congregational Church is in transition, following Sonia's decision to step down, and although a challenging time, the Church has a great future (as Sonia said in several excellent services during December). Our transition presents an opportunity to think about the Church and its Mission Statement and engage with our community about the Church's future.

In the absence of a called pastor, the Church Constitution requires appointment by the Council of a Search Committee consisting of 3-7 Members of the Church (including not more than two Associate Members), which the Council will take up at its next meeting set for February 25th. I recommend that the Council give the committee a broader mandate: not only search for a pastor deliberately, but also engage congregants and our community, asking what should the Church be going forward.

To begin, we have scheduled an informal meeting, open to all in the community, at the Meetinghouse on January 28th at 11 am. We will discuss the aspirations of congregants and others in the greater Peacham community for the Church, including whether the church should be "open and affirming": who should lead worship services and other spiritual activities during the transition as well as long-term, including pulpit supply and the possibility of an interim pastor; whether the Church should be allied with other churches, including those in the area looking for pastors, those with settled pastors, and associations like the UCC; and what should be the role, contribution and expectations of lay leaders and all church members during the transition and going forward.

As we transition in the absence of a called pastor, the Deacons have, under our Constitution, full responsibility for the spiritual welfare and ministry of the Church. The Deacons also have authority for pastoral supply, and they have accordingly taken the lead in planning and scheduling services led by guest pastors, lay speakers, and congregants (for the immediate future)—based on the flexible approach developed during Sonia's sabbatical last October—the details of which services appear below (and can be found on the Church Calendar at our website).

I close by emphasizing again that we have a meaningful opportunity, during this time of transition, to plan a great future for the Church as it enters the next chapter of its 230-year history.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking Ahead

1/25—Childrens Center COFFEE SOCIAL Hour,
6:30 AM to 8:00 AM SOCIAL HALL

1/26—Church Planning Committee meeting,
8:30 to 10:00 am, at library

1/28—11ish - First Church Transition Meeting
after CoffeeHour

2/6—AWIP @ Peacham Library Location,
1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

2/6—Peacham Elementary School Concert,
6 pm, PCC SANCTUARY

2/9—Church Planning Committee meeting,
8:30 to 10:00 am, at library

2/16—Childrens Center COFFEE SOCIAL Hour,
6:30 AM to 8:00 AM SOCIAL HALL

2/17—Peacham Town Winter Carnival -
Click Here for Events/Schedules

2/17—PCC Pancake Breakfast: Breakfast is being
served beginning at 9:00-11:00 am

2/25—Church Council Annual Meeting Prep

3/5—AWIP meeting on Tuesday,
1:30 to 3:00 pm at library, program TBD

3/8—Church Planning Committee meeting,
8:30 to 10:00 am, at library

3/10—10:30 PCC Annual Meeting

3/17—First (organizational) Council Meeting

4/2—AWIP meeting on Tuesday,
1:30 to 3:00 pm at library, program TBD



UPCOMING SERVICES



SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH — COFFEE HOUSE SERVICE IN SOCIAL HALL - 4TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, — 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY - PATTY GARDNER, LAY SERVICE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH — TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY: *UP FROM EDEN* - DEACONS & KENNETH VOS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH — 1ST SUNDAY IN LENT: CONSIDER THE ENEMY - DEACONS & THE REV. JOHN MORRIS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH — 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT - LYNNE LAWSON & ABBY POLLENDER, CHAPLAIN, NVRH

SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD — 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT - LYNNE LAWSON LEADER & REV. DR. ROBERT POTTER

SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH — 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT - LYNN LAWSON AND KENNETH VOS

SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH & 17TH — 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT - LYNNE LAWSON & THE REV. JOHN MORRIS

SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH — PALM SUNDAY AND THE BEGINNING OF HOLY WEEK

OUR MISSION FOR JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH



THE DANVILLE OPEN DOOR THRIFT & FOOD SHELF

Thank you for your continued financial support of our
Church and our missions.

CHECK DONATION:

Please support the **The Danville Food Shelf**
by check donation and please write
DFS on the memo line.
Mail to: **Peacham Congregational Church,**
PO Box 205, Peacham, VT 05862

ONLINE DONATION:

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO GIVE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE AT:
www.peachamchurch.org .

As always, we continue to encourage your food contributions to the
Danville Food Shelf. The donations basket is downstairs in the
kitchen. We are continually grateful for your support

JANUARY PCC SERVICES & EVENTS

(Times and Dates are subject to change look to peachamchurch.org for calendar event details & updates)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|------------------------------------|-----------|---|--|----------|
| 31 9:30AM Lay Service Lynne Lawson & R.D. Eno from Cabot | | 2 1:30PM AWIP @ Peacham Library | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 1st Sunday after the Epiphany: Baptism of the Lord | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany: Ken Vos, "What is Sweeter than Revenge?" | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany: John Morris Coffee House | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 6:30AM SOCIAL HALL: ChildrensCenter COFFEE SOCIAL | 26 8:30AM Church Planning Committee meeting, at library | 27 |
| 28 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 4th Sunday after the Epiphany 11:00AM First Church Transition Meeting after Coffee-Hour | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

FEBRUARY PCC SERVICES & EVENTS

(Times and Dates are subject to change look to peachamchurch.org for calendar event details & updates)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---|-----------|---|--|--|
| 28 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 4th Sunday after the Epiphany 11:00AM First Church Transition Meeting after Coffee-Hour | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 5th Sunday after the Epiphany | 5 | 6 Sanctuary: PES 2023 Concert 1:30PM AWIP @ Peacham Library | 7 | 8 | 9 8:30AM Church Planning Committee meeting, at library | 10 |
| 11 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM Transfiguration Sunday: Ken Vos, "Up from Eden" | 12 | 13 Fat Tuesday | 14 | 15 | 16 Peacham Town Winter Carnival 9:00AM SocialHall: Peacham Winter Carnival | 17 7:00AM SocialHall: Peacham Winter Carnival 9:00AM Social Hall: PCC Annual Pancake Breakfast |
| 18 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 1st Sunday in Lent: John Morris | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 8:30AM CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:30AM 2nd Sunday in Lent: Abby Pollender 10:30AM Church Council Annual Meeting Prep | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 6:30AM SOCIAL HALL: ChildrensCenter COFFEE SOCIAL | 1 3/1Zero Discrimination Day | 2 |



Thank you Reverend Sonia Dunbar for you many years of service. You will be missed.

Thank you to everyone in the planning of the Advent and Christmas services and Season.

We Thank you to everyone who is participating in keeping our community moving forward during our transition.

Thank you to Peacham Elementary School, families, and students, and your participation in the Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols.
Truly the best.

Thank you to everyone who supports our weekly food drive. These donations are appreciated.

January

Birthdays

10th—Mary Lou Judas
14th—Joanna Celenza
20th—Alexander Warner
21st —Jan Eastman
24th—Julie Cappellano

Anniversaries:

1st - Bruce Wescott &
Ellie Blachly

February

Birthdays:

4th - Bob Gardner
7th - Ian Boswell
15th - Addison Goodrich
18th - Peg Clemons
24th - Diana Senturia
25th - Barry Lawson

Anniversaries:

19th - Mark & Karen
Fitzhugh

PCC Office Hours:

We will be checking our Emails and Voicemails Daily.

Please contact us if you need or know of any who could use our community's support.

Please Note: All future announcements will be made during Coffee Hour. If you would like an announcement included in the Order Of Worship, send Timm the announcement/s by noon on Thursday, if posted after noon, it will be included the next Order Of Worship.

If it is time sensitive it will posted to the WebSite. peachamchurchevents@gmail.com

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE USE OF OUR SPACE/S

Please Click Here for Access or More Information

ETCETERA & EPHEMERA

PCC Pancake Breakfast **February 17**

Breakfast is being served beginning at 9:00-11:00 am

Peacham Town Winter Carnival **February 16th & 17th — admission-\$5**

Highlights will include biathlon Olympian Susan Dunklee, sled dog rides, wagon rides, and the pancake breakfast, the Ikiderod and more. Bring your family and your sled!

Check their website for Events and Schedules Here

GIFTS TO CARE FOR THE CHURCH AND THE MEETINGHOUSE

By Bruce Westcott

Over seventy years ago long-time Peacham resident Mrs. Lou Harvey Sargeant (1860-1935) made out her will to benefit her immediate family and, in the future, to benefit the Peacham Congregational Church and the Peacham Academy Alumni Association, in the name of her parents and her husband's parents. For many years local trustees – most recently Ms. Mary Farris (thank you Mary!!) – administered the funds, and the Church received some interest annually.

Just before the end of 2023 the Church was informed that the Probate Court in St. Johnsbury had agreed to dissolve the trust, providing about \$35,000 as a gift to the Church. Following the Church policy relating to gifts exceeding \$1,000 established by the Business Committee, the bulk of these funds will be split between the Olive M. Cheney Capital Fund, and the Endowment Fund. We are of course very grateful for the thoughtful foresight of Mrs. Sargeant, and will announce measures to be taken in honor of her memory, and that of the Harvey and Sargeant families.

The Church hopes that all its members and supporters are aware of Planned Giving opportunities that can benefit the Church or the Meetinghouse in the future. Details about making such bequests to support Church activities, Meetinghouse preservation, or related special areas of interest are on our webpage.

In addition, current tax laws make it easy for you to support the Church and the Meetinghouse through a traditional or Roth IRA. If you are 70 ½ or older (traditional IRA) or 59 ½ (Roth IRA), you can make tax-free contributions from your IRA to non-profit organizations of your choice. Simply have your IRA administrator direct a distribution in the amount you choose to the Peacham Congregational Church, which will not be subject to income tax. And your distribution can be set as either a one-time or recurring gift.

(For more details, please consult your professional financial advisor, or visit <https://www.peachamchurch.org/Web-Page-Name>, or email peachamtreasurer@gmail.com.



Peacham Congregational Church
P.O. Box 205
Peacham, Vermont 05862
802-592-3330

peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com or on the web at: www.peachamchurch.org

LIGHTING THE STEEPLE

PCC now has 3-ways to donate to light the steeple in memory, honor, or celebrations of your loved ones. Go to the PCC HomePage or [ClickHERE for direct access in how to LIGHT THE STEEPLE.](#)



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE USE OF OUR SPACE/S

[Please Click Here for Access or More Information](#)

**PLEASE SUBMIT TIMELY TIDINGS INFORMATION, ANNOUNCEMENTS, OR SHORT ARTICLES BY THE 24TH OF EACH MONTH TO:
TIMM AT PEACHAMCHURCHEVENTS@GMAIL.COM**