



Colebrook Congregational Church

The Friendly Church on the Green

REFLECTIONS

This spring and summer has been a long and winding road for my family and me. As most of you know, we started out in April with the marriage of my middle daughter, Jennifer, to the chap from England, Geoffrey Tolley. They are happily settled in Mountain View, CA.

Then my oldest daughter, Kathleen Green, had major complications from a surgical procedure. We almost lost her a couple of times. She has finally recovered and is back on the road to health with considerable help from my youngest child, Megan Grant. I appreciated all the patience and concern, and tremendous support you gave me during these joyful and difficult times.

The Deacons helped me get from here to there and back again. Their financial and spiritual support allowed me to keep my focus during the darkest times. Thank you Debi and Company. And there were all those Dear Folks who stopped by and handed me a check or cash so that I didn't have to think about meals at the hospital or transportation or any little thing that I might need. You know who you are, and I will be eternally grateful for the care you showed me.

There are times when some may wonder what good belonging to a community of faith has for us. We like to grouse about the shortcomings of the church in general and our church in particular. But, when the chips are down, and we allow people to know about it, something happens. Could it be that we let the light and love of God that dwells within us shine out? Could it be that we truly do know and understand the lessons Jesus tried to share with us? I believe the answer to these two questions is, "Yes." I am grateful to be here and to serve you all.

Grace and peace, *Pastor Alice*

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Colebrook Congregational Church will be held on **October 7, 2007** immediately following the worship service. Please plan on attending this meeting as we set the course for 2008. A change in the by-laws regarding the date of the Annual Meeting will be proposed.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer! Everyone is back to school by now and settling into their routines. And if you aren't settled into your routines yet, you'll appreciate this reminder: **Sunday school begins Sunday, October 14th!!!** That should give everyone enough time to get in those last weekend getaways before we start the new Sunday school year! Watch your mail at the end of the month for the Sunday school kick-off flyer.

As you know, we postponed the field trip to the Heifer International Farm, Overlook Farm from the spring to the fall. Well, it looks like we won't be taking the field trip until early spring; you could even call it late winter! We are looking at two dates. The first is Saturday, March 29th. If we choose this date, we will be able to make

reservations for a pancake breakfast and a tour of the sugaring operation in addition to touring the entire farm. The second date we are looking at is Saturday, April 5th. Scheduling the field trip after the holidays, but before the real spring begins and baseball and parades start up, is the best option to ensure that most of the congregation will be able to participate in this enriching and rewarding trip! Look for the scheduled date in the October newsletter and mark it on your calendar!

Christian Ed will meet on Thursday, September 20th at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall to plan classes, teachers and review our class material. Everyone is welcome to this meeting, whether you are on the Christian Ed committee or not! Input and suggestions are always welcome. We are all committed to the children and the success of our Sunday school program!

STUDY GROUP

The Thursday morning Study Group will resume meeting on September 13 at 10 A.M. The work we will be reading is Reading the Bible Again for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously But Not Literally, by Marcus Borg. New members are always welcome. Pastor Alice will order copies of the book for those who do not have one. If you would like a book but cannot attend the group, let Alice know (379-2517).

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

We were blessed, as usual, by a beautiful variety of music during the summer months. Vima handles the challenge of securing musicians for us. Assorted members of the choir sang on a couple of Sundays, Sheila soloed, Michael and Glen dueted, Christina Blum and Robin Yuan played for us, The Fenns, Anne and Fred, made their yearly appearance performing the "Panis Angelicus." Best of all, was September 2, when Vima treated those present to Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata." The silence in the church was wonderful; the music led us into a deeper and better worship experience. And, "Vima, did not miss a note," I was told. Perhaps, we can coax her into an encore. Thank you to all our talented musicians.

OUR GRADUATES

We had two people graduate this past year, one from high school and the other from nursing school.

Christina Blum graduated from Regional 7 and is now attending Wheaton College. Jennifer Hodgkin graduated from Capital Community

College after 4 years. She is working at Charlotte Hungerford. Remember to congratulate our graduates when you see them. If there are any more out there let Pastor Alice know.



COLEBROOK FAIR

Thanks to you all and to Astrid Tury for handling the White Elephant Table, Liz Blum and Abrah Carroll for taking care of the Bake Sale and the many wonderful volunteers they had helping them. The donations to the tables were plentiful. Everyone who found a White Elephant or two around the house and who donated them for the sale is greatly appreciated. And all those who baked, baked and then baked a little more, have earned the "White Thumb Award." Every piece of bakery sold. Pastor Alice's pickles all sold, 28 jars of the 40 of nectarine jam made and donated by Rita Bishop, sold, as did many other special items. All in all, the generosity of Church and community members earned \$1,688.00. Thank you all, so much.

TAG & BAKE SALE & CAFÉ & BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The All-Church Tag and Bake Sale and Café will be held on Saturday, September 29th. The hours are from 9-2. The Annual Blessing of the Animals will be at 2 P. M. Donations of books, small working electrical appliances (toasters, mixers), clean and gently used clothing, puzzles, small pieces of furniture, tools, and any other tag sale items you would like to donate would be appreciated. We also need baked goods, one more time, for the Bake Sale. Muffins, brownies, pies (our best seller), cakes, breads, apple goodies, are all appreciated. If you would like to volunteer some time to help with the Tag Sale, please call Linda Farnham, 379-9308 or Astrid Tury, 379-0391; for the Bake Sale, call Abrah Carroll, 379-4089, or Pastor Alice, 379-2517, or the Café, call Debi McKeon, 738-0850. Debi will be looking for Apple Crisp bakers. Please contact her if you would like to donate a pan so she doesn't end up with enough to feed the entire Eastern Seacoast. The Café will be featuring a baked potato bar along with hot dogs and other delights. If you, or anyone you know would like to rent table space for this event please contact Linda at 379-9308.



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www.colebrookchurch.org

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