



First Edition

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Spring 2013

Spring forward!

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Sunday Worship
8:30 and 10 AM

Church Office Hours
9 AM to 12 Noon Mon-Thurs

Church Council
Ken Heidebrink (Chair), Shirley
Bishop, Natalie Kelloway,
Gerry Levesque,
Pastor Thom Christian (ex-officio)

First Edition

is published quarterly.
Articles and photos for the summer
issue,
to be published in June, are due
in the church office by May 20th.

Set your clock ahead Sunday!

Happy New Year!

Now with an opening line like that, some of you are probably thinking, "OK, so he's finally snapped." And I'm not saying that the jury's not still deliberating that, but hear me out!

Now I know the whole January 1st thing works well for us in "making the world go 'round." After all, we need calendars and dates to give us a perspective and help us plan. And it can be a time when we make those New Year's resolutions to try to get ourselves back on the right path. But I was thinking, this being the spring newsletter and all, that that's not how nature works.

God, in His wisdom and His majesty and His creativity, actually planned it according to *His* calendar, about four months later. Think about it. When does the earth come alive each year? Trees budding, grass sprouting, flowers popping? And in the barnyard—chicks hatching and lambs and kids and colts all see life for the first time and begin cheeping and baaing and neighing with the joy of being alive.

And in the church, that's the time we celebrate the holy day of the commemoration of our Lord rising from the grave and bringing new life to any and all who will place their faith in Him and in what He did. And even our Jewish brothers and sisters celebrate the wonderful feast of Passover to remember how God passed over the houses of the Israelites while they were still in bondage in Egypt—a

typification we will honor on the day of Easter in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

So this spring, how about looking at it in a new way—as a new year! Step back for a moment and take time to see the glory and splendor and majesty of God and His creation as He unfolds His world for each of us to enjoy. Take a lesson from the foals in the barnyard as they leap around. And maybe do a little leaping yourself! There's so much to celebrate at this time of year.

And as you take time to improve your golf swing, get that boat ready, or lose those few extra pounds of winter "insulation," don't forget to pause in the pursuit of *your calendar*, and watch as God opens *His!*

Happy New Year!

▪ *Unworthy, but His,
Thom*





Victorious!

Join us for Easter worship!

Jesus came "to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners." We all need help. We all need healing. We all need grace. And Jesus came to give us those very things. He gave His life away for us. But it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him! And the power that raised Christ on the third day is alive in us! Because He lives, we too, will rise!

Easter morning (March 31st) begins with a Sunrise Service at the Wolfeboro Inn dock at 6 AM, with hot coffee and pastries available back at the church afterward. Easter worship services will be held at 8:30 and 10 AM, with an instrumental prelude beginning at approximately fifteen minutes prior to each service.

"Because I live,
you also will live."

Get your Easter lily orders in by March 24!

This Easter season you are being offered the opportunity to honor the memory of your loved ones in a special way, and also to help beautify our church during the Easter season by providing lilies for our sanctuary. Your flowers will be displayed up through the Easter services, following which you are welcome to take them home with you. We will list the names and dedications of the donors. The cost of plants is \$12. Order forms are available in the Sunday morning bulletins.



*Please complete this form, and drop it in the offering plate or return it, along with your check or cash, to the church office **by March 24th**! Thank you!*

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Number of plants _____

In memory of _____

Kitchen gets facelift!

Gerry Levesque, Brian Eaton, and their crews worked feverishly on updating the electrical and giving our kitchen area a beautiful new look between two Sundays during the month of February. Thank you so much, guys, for the new look and all the extra counter and cupboard space!

Ladies' Gathering attracts many women

February 1st was the date of a special gathering of women at First Christian Church. Visitors and "regulars" packed out the fellowship hall and enjoyed an encouraging talk by Sue Christian, a fun and inspiring flower arranging demonstration by Carla Zwahlen, and delicious soups and muffins. Much gratitude goes to Deb Collins and her helpers for organizing such a wonderful evening.



Valentines Dessert is sweet time of fellowship

A gorgeous sunny day, February 12th found twenty-five women (ages 14-93!) at the home of Bette Frazier to enjoy the annual Valentine's Dessert! Beautiful and delicious treats were enjoyed by all. In addition, each guest received a hot pink yo-yo heart key chain favor hand-crafted by Bette.



Getting to know one another

Ann Caspar spent her growing up years in Methuen, Massachusetts, where she lived with her mother and father in a house across the street from the Congregational Church. Her friend lived next door.

One day, when the girls were in third grade, they heard there was to be a wedding at the church. Finding that to be exciting news, they decided to attend. They changed into their best dresses, hats, and gloves and sat in the back of the church. They enjoyed it so much that they went to every wedding in the church. The minister (known as "Skipper") even kept the girls informed of upcoming weddings! Can't you just picture them? Norman Rockwell would have loved it!

Ann has had an interesting career background. As a teen and then during college vacations she began working for her father in the music department of his retail business in Lawrence. Her first two years of college were spent at Westbrook Junior College in Portland, Maine, where she became acquainted with

Christine Churchill, later to become Mrs. John Fipphen. The next two years Ann studied at Skidmore in Saratoga Springs, New York, and then graduated from Tufts with a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. During these two years she shared an apartment in Cambridge with Chris and another girl. She taught at Wheaton College Nursery School in Norton, MA, and then served as director and teacher at the Simons College Nursery School in Boston, where she taught Child Development. The next several years she taught in the nursery school that was part of the Child Psychiatry Department at Strong Memorial Hospital. The rest of Ann's teaching career was at the Yale Child Study Center Nursery School in New Haven, CT.

Ann then decided to pursue her interest in food and the restaurant business. She went to the Restaurant School of Philadelphia, and then worked for some time in a small gourmet food shop and catering business in Guilford, CT.

The next 10 years she did catering on a small scale ("except for an occasional event for 100-125 people"). She moved to Wolfeboro in 1991 and renewed her friendship with Chris and John Fipphen.

Ann has enjoyed traveling and likes gardening (and belongs to the Garden Club). She enjoys music, art, P.E.O. (a sisterhood), and still enjoys cooking. You can understand why people gather around her at "potlucks"!

■ *Noa Pilkington*



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