

Elmwords

Pastor's Corner

Years ago when I was just starting out I took a job as Production Manager of a battery factory. As part of my training process the plan was for me to spend a week or so doing every job in the shop. This was an excellent idea, that way I would know what each job entailed, how long it might take, what could be done to streamline the process and make the entire plant more efficient. It was a very good idea by the owner of the company.

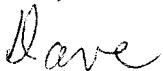
But when I started the owner did not let people know that I would be the Production Manager. He let them think I was being trained as a "Float" who would fill in. Maybe he wanted me to stay under the radar screen and pick up information from conversations. I don't know. During break it was a lot of fun kicking a soccer ball around with the guys from Haiti. Once I was late to break because I wanted to finish something. Pierre sadly shook his head. "Young man, let me tell you something. When they give you a break, take it." He pretended to hold a pickax up in the air. "When that bell rings, you leave that pickax up in the air and walk away."

Some people are more engaged in their work than others. Some jobs call for more dedication than others. Some jobs are more fulfilling than others. People who cannot stand their jobs need some time off. People who absolutely love their work need some time off. God knows this. Alone among ancient people, the Jewish people perceived that God desired them to spend at least one day per week resting from work, and reflecting about God's will for their life. Medieval Europe honored the Sabbath on Sunday, and added in any number of Saint's days that were in effect days off.

Humans may need time away, but God does not. Jesus Christ, man of Nazareth grew tired and thirsty, just like we do. But our Risen Lord is always on call, always available, always more than willing, more than able to hear our "cries and sighs too deep for words."

Whether we are working or resting, reading the Bible and praying or just chugging along on our own, our Heavenly Father is working on our behalf. With God in control of our lives, we may rest easy. We may rest easy at all times. One of the self-help groups that meets here has a poster that says, "Let go and let God." We can do that all year round, but summer is a good time to practice letting God be God.

Peace,



Dave

Church Council Meeting – June 18, 2012 – Agenda/Moderator’s Notes

Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm with eight members present: Al Croxall, Diane Ludwick, Bill Alberti, Barb Hesse, Pastor Dave Congdon, Jerry Gray, Mickey Allgaier and Robin Lindemann

Opening Prayer and Scripture (Pastor Dave): Matthew 11:28-30

Minutes of the previous meeting: Not available – Moderator’s notes from May reviewed.

Old Business:

- Strawberry Festival netted \$290.00. Larger sign suggested; wider advertising suggested, placing posters with nearby merchants suggested, lawn signs, etc.
- Choir Appreciation Celebration was wonderful!

New Business:

- Chicken Barbeque – probable date is July 27th. Mickey will coordinate.

Committee Reports:

Deacons – Jerry Gray

- Need more visitation by members and cards, etc.
- Memorial Service for Sal Alibrio at 10am on June 30th.
- Would like to reactivate prayer shawl ministry – have lots of yarn. Also, have lots of carebears.
- Suggest that Children’s Sunday be held in May in the future.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Dave

- Pastoral Study, Monday, July 16th thru Friday, July 20th; Vacation July 23rd thru 29th.
- Shared rough outline of conference attended on May 29th.
- On June 24th will have commissioning piece for Youth Mission Trip.

Missions – Robin Lindemann

- Donation of auger ¼ inch drill from Robin L.
- No meeting until August.
- Next South Park is in September.
- Nominating Committee: Cindy Gauthier will join Board of Missions with unanimous approval of Council.

Trustees – Bill Alberti

- Minutes of meeting shared.
- Al Rakus began sexton duties on June 11th. Tasks will be coordinated thru Trustees.
- Rentals discussed.

Christian Ed – Patrick Nobou not present

- No report.
- Children’s Sunday was great.

Controller’s Report – Susan Wiley not present

- Reviewed on paper – still reflects significant deficit.

(moderator's notes continued)

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Senior Member-At-Large – Al Croxall

- ECC not listed under “Congregational” area of yellow pages; only under “UCC”. Will rectify for next year’s directory.
- Area of playground a mess – resolved already.
- Prayer time – would like to know name of person for whom prayer is requested.
- Conte Hall: needs thorough clean out of “island” storage area.

Junior Member-At-Large – Barb Hesse

- Fountain has been cleaned.
- Barb Hesse will be away quite a bit thru the summer and may ask Cindy Johnson to help with scrip.

Newest Member-At-Large Diane Ludwick

- Members could barely see sign advertising Strawberry Festival.
- Need for wider advertising venue.

Upcoming Events (Just so we’re all on the same page)

- Chicken Barbeque on July 27th.
-

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next Meeting: August 20th

MEMBERS LOOKING AFTER MEMBERS

We are all in this together. Some are able to be more active and stay connected; some cannot. Even so, we are all one church family. Please give prayerful consideration to visiting, calling, and sending cards to those who cannot spend as much time with us as they would like. Everyone appreciates a little TLC, but here are a few suggestions.

Elaine Carlson

Rhoda DeBonee

Betty Gilpin

Dot Guertin c/o Hebrew Home, 1 Abrahms Blvd, West Hartford, CT 06117, 860 523-3800

Eleanor Mitkoski

Ruth Porter

Janet Stewart

Dot Swenson

If you think of others that could be on this list, let me or a Deacon know.

Thanks, Pastor Dave

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Diane Ludwick
- 05 David Lamb
- 06 Robin Lindemann
- 08 Anson Brown
- 08 Addison Brown
- 08 Mark O'Connor
- 10 Gonzalo Rodriguez
- 11 Colleen Peterson
- 14 Charles Shorter Jr.
- 17 Sarah Smith
- 19 Dallas Rodriguez
- 20 Bill Alberti
- 20 Craig Croxall
- 31 Abby Hunsinger



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 07 Carol & Bill Alberti
- 25 Judi & Dan Swift
- 27 Carol & Vernon Coffin

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Ronnie Hunsinger
- 03 Gene Knorr
- 07 Alexis Lamb
- 10 Kirsten Peterson
- 10 Karen Buckley
- 11 Hannah Wittchen
- 12 Ellen Bucchere
- 14 Zachary Smith
- 18 Brian McLarney
- 18 Thurston Couser
- 18 Wendy Leonard
- 19 Barbara Hinds
- 20 Ted Janas
- 23 Betty Gilpin
- 24 Ron Hunsinger
- 28 Norman Carter

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 06 Colleen & Chuck Peterson

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

In observance of the July 4th Holiday, the church office will be closed on Wednesday.

Also, new Summer Hours are effective from June 3rd thru September 3rd, 8:30am-12:00pm Monday thru Thursday. Office is closed on Fridays.

BIBLE STUDY

There will not be any Bible Study during the months of July and August. It will resume in September.

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STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

The Strawberry Festival made a profit of \$290.00 I would like to thank everyone who helped with the berries, making the biscuits, cooking the food, collecting the money, set up and clean-up duties, we really appreciate everyone's efforts in making our annual fundraiser such a success! **Daysha Haxton**

MISSIONS

The Mission Board is collecting vacation toiletries for shelters: shampoo, soap, etc. There will be a box placed in the church Narthex for the collection. Thank you.

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The Board of Missions would like to say a special thank you to all who helped make our trip to South Park a great success. We took over the leftovers from the Strawberry Festival as well as from the delicious coffee hour. Thanks to all who sent donations of food items or helped with the sandwiches and food preparation. It is so true that many hands make light work!! Thank you to Gene, Pat, and Charles for serving!! All our efforts are greatly appreciated!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
ATTENTION ALL HANDS

A special Sunday for Habitat for Humanity is scheduled for July 15th at worship when Jeffrey and Lori Fort and family will be our guests. They are coming because we built the "House of Faith" for them back in 2003-2004. We would love to have all the volunteers come and welcome them to our church. Even if you weren't a volunteer for Habitat, we would be happy if you joined us. So please come on Sunday, July 15th to worship and celebrate with the Fort family the "House of Faith" that the Elmwood Community Church built. Hope to see you then! Mason Ellison

CHICKEN BARBEQUE

Elmwood Community Church's Chicken Barbeque is scheduled for Friday, July 27th, from 4:30-7:00pm. Please call the office between 8:30am- 12:00pm Monday thru Thursday, for further information.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

FROM THE HISTORIAN ROOM

Thank You

Last month the historians put out a cry for help. We were missing several Annual Reports for our files. We are pleased to report that Rosli Glista, Eleanor Mitkoski, Al Croxall and Gene Knorr came to our rescue. We wish to thank these generous members for their contribution to our Church history. However, we are still missing the Annual Report for the year 1969.?? So once again we ask you to check into that file drawer, or pile of papers on the bottom shelf of the bookcase in the spare room. Help us complete this section of recorded Church history. Sunday School Library

In our quiet room there are a few books for young children. In our Fellowship Room there are books for older children and adults. There are more books upstairs in the music room. Why does our Church have all these books? Tradition of course! In its second year of existence, on September 27th, 1874, \$20.00 was appropriated from the Sunday School fund and given to a committee of six people to purchase books for a Sunday School Library. More books were purchased that August and the Sunday School Library was moved from the old school house to our Church Chapel. Almost every year new books were purchased or given to the Sunday School Library. In 1902 the library had grown so much that space had become an issue. It was requested that all new and donated books purchased for the Sunday School Library be suitable for children ten years old and younger. Many of these books were donated to schools that had no library in them.

The Sculpture

On the first floor landing, before you go downstairs to Conte Hall there is a sculpture of "The Good Samaritan". This work of art was created by one of our church members, Mr. Douglas Hilliard. He donated it to our church in 1972. This generous gift was appraised at that time by the West Hartford Art League with a value of \$2,000.00. Please take the time to revisit and appreciate this wonderful gift. Pat MacDougall and Ellen Bucchere, Historians

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~ Did You Know? ~

Welcome to a features column by the Deacons! We hope you find it informative and helpful.

Did you know that we are in need of knitters to make prayer shawls? This ministry was started a number of years ago but fell by the wayside. We have been receiving requests for shawls and would like to get it going again. There is yarn available to make a number of shawls – we just need people who can knit or learn to knit! All ages are welcome! Completed shawls are brought to Bible study, church services or Pastor Dave and prayed over before they are given to the person in need. Directions, help, prayers (both for the shawls and for those knitting), fun and laughter provided. Donations of 14" size 11 or 13 needles gratefully accepted.

A short story: Colleen, having crocheted (one hook) all her life, learned to knit (two needles) just to make prayer shawls. Her first shawl contained more swear words than prayers due to too tight a tension, split yarn and needles falling out...She gave it to her good friend Carol H., an expert knitter, knowing she'd understand... ☺ Colleen still needs a pillow on each side to keep the needles from falling out while she knits but she can teach you how to make a shawl. Please contact her at 860-561-0205 or colleenpeterson@comcast.net if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

♥Love and peace, Your Deacons

HELP! We (as in the Church) are looking for someone who would like to become our PR (Public Relations) Person. As a church, we need to grow and to grow ...we need to attract new members. We need to let West Hartford and the surrounding areas know what we are up to as a Church. We can do this through informative news flashes or the written word to various news outlets. We can supply you with the contacts at various venues to spread the word about Elmwood Community Church. Please, if you are interested, contact Pastor Dave or Robin Lindemann for more information. Help ECC to grow forward!

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

AT LAST - A CLEAN SWEEP!

Announcing great news: after a long, diligent, and transparent process, we have hired a Church Sexton. Mr. Al Rakus started his duties on June 11th. Let us welcome him warmly and support him in his new position. A few facts to be pointed out: He has been hired, not as an employee, but as an independent contractor. This simplifies the pay process, as we do not cover Soc. Sec., benefits, withholding, etc. The result is that we'll be saving significant dollars, as compared with our previous contract with the cleaning service. He will answer to, and be supervised by the Board of Trustees, with Rev. Congdon being his liaison to them. He will be working 15 hours per week, but those hours will vary from day to day, depending on the "job du jour." E.g., on a day that he mows the lawns, some interior tasks may be deferred to another day, or he may choose to work extra hours that day. His hours will be calculated on a weekly basis.

Al will not be permitted to take personal requests from us. If anyone wishes to have a job done: e.g., tables set up for an event, a special cleaning or painting project, etc., simply contact Geri Noonan via email or in writing, and she will forward same to the Minister. Just keep in mind that any requests be made in a timely fashion to allow for this process. The cleaning service will be kept on board through June, to allow Al to tackle some of the messy outdoor projects that have been in great need of attention, such as the south entrance area of Conte Hall.

We look forward to a solid relationship with Al, who has already demonstrated his meticulous attention to detail in painting and repairing other areas of the church in the past.

The Mission Board will be taking orders for mums on August 26th and September 2nd. The mums will be \$8.00 each. Hardy field-grown mums in 8" pots. Your choice of four beautiful colors; yellow, white, burgundy and pink to complement your Fall garden. **The last day for ordering is September 4th. The mums can be picked up after church on Sunday, September 9th. Order forms will be available in the bulletin on August 19th and August 26th and also in the September Newsletter.**

YOU OUGHTA BE IN PICTURES

"... You're wonderful to see..." as the song goes. It is so true – I'm having such a good time looking through the baby and toddler pictures that have been given to me for the photo project. **PLEASE** keep them coming; I can hardly wait to start posting them, but need at least 20 before I start putting them on display. This will really be fun with guaranteed laughs for all. Send pics of yourself, your kids, your parents – whatever. I'll be the only one to know who's who until the final unveiling.

Thanks!..Mickey

DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS & FRIENDS UPDATE REQUEST

The Member Directory will be updated in August. I would like to include email addresses. If you would like your email address listed in the directory, please fill out the form below and return it to the Church Office by August 9th. I also would appreciate being updated on any address or phone number changes too. (Note: The email addresses would only be used for church business). Thank you.

Geri Noonan, Office Manager

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

August 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 NO BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM DEACONS	2 NO CHOIR	3	4
5	6	7	8 6:30PM TRUSTEES NO BIBLE STUDY	9 NO CHOIR	10	11
12	13 6:30PM CIRCLE 6	14	15 NO BIBLE STUDY	16 NO CHOIR	17	18
19 MISSIONS MEETING MUM SALE	20 6:30PM COUNCIL	21 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE IN THE OFFICE	22 NO BIBLE STUDY	23 NO CHOIR	24	25
26 MUM SALE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE TODAY	27	28	29 NO BIBLE STUDY	30	31	

JULY HEAD USHER: CHUCK PETERSON

WORSHIP FACILITATORS JULY AND AUGUST 2012

AUGUST HEAD USHER: ED HANSEN


DATE	GREETER	LAY READER	USHER	COFFEE HOUR	COMMUNION	CRIB NURSERY
7/1/12	Adela Martinez	Mickey Allgaier	Colleen Peterson Adela Martinez	Daysha Haxton	Colleen Peterson Adela Martinez	Betsy Smith Tatiana Smith
7/8/12	Norm Carter	Colleen Peterson	Norm Carter Cynthia Carter	Barb Hesse		Kathy Barletta Sarah Smith
7/15/12	Gene Knorr	Jerry Gray	Al Croxall Gene Knorr	Susan Wiley		Diana Collins Maddie O'Connor
7/22/12	Carol Hunsinger	Robin Lindemann	Carol Hunsinger Ed Hansen	Mickey Allgaier		Susan Wiley Adela Martinez
7/29/12	Herb Seagren	Mickey Allgaier	Herb Seagren Alan Waite	Edie Gray		Carol Alberti Bill Alberti
8/5/12	Daysha Haxton	Mickey Allgaier	Kristina Wittchen Daysha Haxton	Jerry Gray	Kristina Wittchen Daysha Haxton	Edie Gray Sarah Smith
8/12/12	Edie Gray	Wendy Leonard	Edie Gray Pat MacDougall	Joan Gustafson		Betsy Smith Tatiana Smith
8/19/12	Al Croxall	Jerry Gray	Al Croxall Gene Knorr	Beth Gustafson		Kathy Barletta Ernestine Nobou
8/26/12	Ed Hansen	Wendy Leonard	Barb Hesse Ed Hansen	Pat MacDougall		Diana Collins Maddie O'Connor

If you are not able to serve when scheduled, please switch with or find someone to fill in for you and notify the office.

If you have concerns about this, please contact Pat MacDougall@529-3896. If you have questions regarding the Crib Nursery schedule, please contact Edie Gray @521-7119.

JULY 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NO CHRISTIAN MEETING THIS MONTH	2	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY 	5	6	7
8	9 6:30PM CIRCLE 6	10	11 NO DEACONS NO BIBLE STUDY	12 NO CHOIR	13	14
15 NO MISSIONS MEETING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUNDAY	16 PASTOR DAVE AWAY ALL WEEK ON RETREAT	17	18 NO TRUSTEES NO BIBLE STUDY	19 NO CHOIR	20	21
22	23 PASTOR DAVE ON VACATION ALL WEEK	24	25 NO BIBLE STUDY	26 NO CHOIR	27 CHICKEN BARBEQUE 4:30-7:00PM	28
29 GUEST PREACHER	30	31				

WORSHIP FACILITATORS JULY AND AUGUST 2012
AUGUST HEAD USHER: ED HANSEN

JULY HEAD USHER: CHUCK PETERSON

DATE	GREETER	LAY READER	USHER	COFFEE HOUR	COMMUNION	CRIB NURSERY
7/1/12	Adela Martinez	Mickey Allgaier	Colleen Peterson Adela Martinez	Daysha Haxton	Colleen Peterson Adela Martinez	Betsy Smith Tatiana Smith
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7/15/12	Gene Knorr	Jerry Gray	Al Croxall Gene Knorr	Susan Wiley		Diana Collins Maddie O'Connor
7/22/12	Carol Hunsinger	Robin Lindemann	Carol Hunsinger Ed Hansen	Mickey Allgaier		Susan Wiley Adela Martinez
7/29/12	Herb Seagren	Mickey Allgaier	Herb Seagren Alan Waite	Edie Gray		Carol Alberti Bill Alberti
8/5/12	Daysha Haxton	Mickey Allgaier	Kristina Wittchen Daysha Haxton	Jerry Gray	Kristina Wittchen Daysha Haxton	Edie Gray Sarah Smith
8/12/12	Edie Gray	Wendy Leonard	Edie Gray Pat MacDougall	Joan Gustafson		Betsy Smith Tatiana Smith
8/19/12	Al Croxall	Jerry Gray	Al Croxall Gene Knorr	Beth Gustafson		Kathy Barletta Ernestine Nobou
8/26/12	Ed Hansen	Wendy Leonard	Barb Hesse Ed Hansen	Pat MacDougall		Diana Collins Maddie O'Connor

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MUM SALE

The Annual Mum Sale to benefit Hope Works, Inc. will take place August 26th and September 2nd. Hardy field-grown mums in 8" pots. Your choice of four beautiful colors; yellow, white, burgundy and pink to complement your Fall garden. The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Please fill out the form below to place your order. Last day for ordering is September 4th.

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

COLOR: ____ YELLOW ____ WHITE

____ PINK ____ BURGUNDY

TOTAL AMOUNT: _____

Please return form to the Church Office. Please indicate on memo line of check "Mums".

The Elmwood Community Church
----United Church of Christ----
26 Newington Road
West Hartford, CT 06110
860-233-8203 fax: 860-233-4202
Secretary's e-mail: eccsecretary@snet.net
Pastor's e-mail: elmwoodchurch@snet.net

PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY
DATED MATERIAL

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 24th.....SUMMER NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE
July 4th.....OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
July 9th.....6:30PM CIRCLE 6
July.....NO DEACONS MEETING
July.....NO TRUSTEES MEETING
July.....NO CHRISTIAN ED MEETING
July.....NO MISSIONS MEETING
July & August.....NO YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS
July & August.....NO CHOIR
July & August.....NO BIBLE STUDY
July 15th.....HABITAT FOR HUMANITY SUNDAY
July 16th thru 20th.....DAVE AWAY ON RETREAT
July 23rd thru 29th.....DAVE ON VACATION
July 27th.....4:30-7:00PM CHICKEN BARBEQUE
July 29th.....GUEST PREACHER
August 1st.....6:30PM DEACONS MEETING
August 8th.....6:30PM TRUSTEES MEETING
August 13th.....6:30PM CIRCLE 6
August 19th.....MISSIONS MEETING
August 19th.....MUM SALE
August 20th.....6:30PM COUNCIL
August 26th.....MUM SALE
August 26th.....SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER