

THOTS FROM TOM

As I write this I am preparing for my vacation. I am hoping to get out to Ohio to see my sister this summer if plans can work out, and we are taking two weeks to

Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, where we have been going every year for at least one week since 1981. I hope that your summer plans are taking shape for you as well.

We bade a fond farewell to the Seeds of Hope gang heading to Gary West Virginia on Saturday, June 26; they will have returned by the time you read this, (returning July 3) and we will be eagerly awaiting their report on their work rehabilitating homes and leading a Bible Camp for the community's children.

We will have another full summer at the church. We have our Silent Auction during Old Home Days, and a first-time barbecue on that Saturday (July 10), as well as another cook-out on July 29 for the Goff House gazebo concert series. On August 17 our annual community Golf Tournament will be held at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. If you can help with any of these events, it would be most appreciated. You may call the church office and leave a message if no one is there, and someone will put you in touch with the right person or group to contact.

Ann will be in the office two days a week through the summer, so if you call and receive no answer, please leave a message. If there is an emergency while I am away, please call the church office and leave a message which Ann will relay to Shelly Timber, pastor of Haddam Neck Covenant Church, who is covering for emergencies in my

absence. You can also reach Pastor Timber directly, at the Haddam Neck Covenant Church, 267-2336. I will return from vacation July 31. I will be on study leave August 1 through the 21st, which means that I will not be holding regular office hours, but will be working out of the house, and will be on call for emergencies. I will be leading worship each Sunday in August. I am hoping that the services will be more informal, and even interactive. We will see how things go!

Finally, I need to apprise you of a change in staffing that will affect our life together, at least temporarily. Our custodian Mark Thomas, who has faithfully contracted with the church for at least the last five years (I lose count!) has had to retire from his cleaning business because of health reasons. While the Buildings and Grounds Committee looks to replace Mark with another professional service or custodian (which could take some time) we are in need of volunteers to step up and help clean the church. Our building usage in the summer is lessened somewhat, but we do have two summer camps using our fellowship hall for two weeks in July. Mel Barlow, chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee has put a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board with the list of cleaning tasks to be accomplished and a place for people to sign up. If you can devote a half hour, or an hour, or more to the task of cleaning, please put down your name. The more people the church can enlist in this work the easier and lighter it becomes for everyone. We thank Mark for his years of faithful service to our church, and wish him well and continue to keep him and his wife Hollye, and their son Trevor (still at home) in our prayers as Mark recovers his health.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

Have a safe and blessed summer, and I hope to see you in church!

Faithfully,

Tom

SUMMER SUPPER ON THE LAWN

Come one, come all.. Second Annual "Summer Supper on the Lawn" Here's the lowdown..

Date: Thurs, July 29th

Times: music 6:30 to 8:30 "grub" 6:00 to 7:30

Goff House Gazebo Music Series..featuring The Thompson Sisters...folk duo (guitar, flute, percussion, harmony..amazing twin sisters from Boston...)

Where: church lawn near the gazebo (in FH in case of rain)

Price: \$8 adult, \$7 Sr., \$5 kids

Menu: burgers, dogs & kielbasa (chili & 'kraut, too!), buttered corn on the cob, baked beans, shady glen coleslaw, watermelon, cupcakes, beverages. Enjoy a fun, relaxing, close to home evening...invite family and friends...see you there !!

Thanks. Karen

REMINDER FROM INTENTIONAL GIVING

Summer is here and we all are enjoying the wonderful activities and relaxing vacations of summer. Just a reminder from Intentional Giving that it is important to stay current on pledges during the summer months. It will help us stay on track if funds come in throughout the summer. Thank you.

COSA NEWS

The Christian Outreach and Social Action (COSA) committee is busy planning activities for the coming program year. We met in June and are incorporating ideas from the spring church surveys and the May church planning workshop. We met with Wendy Regan (social services coordinator in town) in June and came up with several ways we can support our local community. A new project we will be working on is in response to one of her client's biggest concerns - back to school supplies. We also set a date for the CROP Walk, which will be October 17th. We look forward to a meaningful and productive year.

CHICKEN BBQ

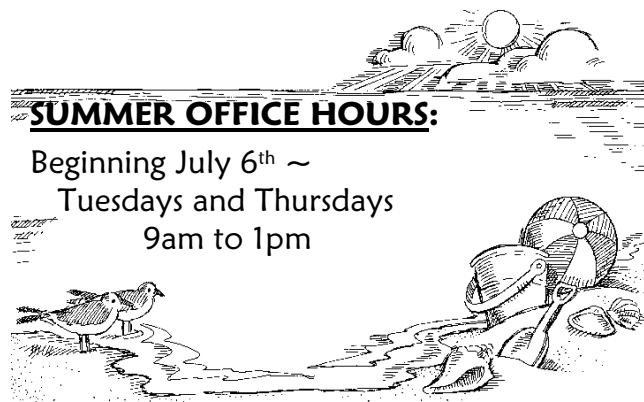
Smokin' Chicken BBQ sponsored by Church Council.

Our church is embarking on a new adventure for Old Home Day this year. We will be offering a chicken barbeque on our church lawn on Saturday, July 10th. (We will not have a booth on the OHD grounds this year). Our master griller Rich Wellman will be working the grill. He needs your help. We will be setting up and prepping food on Friday, July 9th from 5:00pm-7:00pm and will be working all day Saturday from 8:00am until 8:00pm or until the food is gone. There are signup sheets in Fellowship Hall for all jobs. Many hands make light work. We are also seeking donations to offset the cost of the chicken and ribs. Donations can be given to Rich Wellman or Anita Guerin.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

The fifth annual Belltown Open Golf Tournament sponsored by our church is set for Tuesday, August 17th at the Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. Once again dinner and lunch will be provided. Mark your calendars, get your foursome set, and plan on a great day of laughter, friendship and good times. More information will follow or contact Lance Crouch.



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

Beginning July 6th ~
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9am to 1pm

GRANDCHILDREN HUMOR

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, "69." He was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse, and she proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. At last she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back to bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three year old say with a trembling voice, "Who was That?"

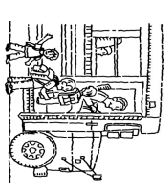
My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				← Seeds of Hope Mission Trip Gary, West Virginia → Returning on 7/3		
				1 Gazebo Concert 6:30-8:30pm	2	3
				← Silent Auction 6-9pm →	← ← ← Old Home Days → → → →	
4 Independence Day! Worship, 10am Hymn Sing AA, 8pm	← Set-up for the Silent Auction 6-8:30pm →			8	9	10 Silent Auction 1-6pm
11 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	12 Camp, 9am-3pm	13 Camp, 9am-3pm Boy Scouts, 7pm	14 Camp, 9am-3pm AA, 8pm	15 Camp, 9am-3pm Gazebo Concert 6:30-8:30pm	16 Camp, 9am-3pm	17 Eagle Scout Ceremony Drew Gates - 6:30
18 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	19 Camp, 9am-3pm	20 Camp, 9am-3pm Boy Scouts, 7pm	21 Camp, 9am-3pm AA, 8pm	22 Camp, 9am-3pm Gazebo Concert 6:30-8:30pm	23 Camp, 9am-3pm	24
25 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	26 Mom's Group, 10am	27 Boy Scouts, 7pm	28 AA, 8pm	29 BBQ on the Green, 6:00pm Gazebo Concert 6:30-8:30pm - TBA	30	31



AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	2	3 Boy Scouts, 7pm	4 AA, 8pm	5	6	7
8 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	9	10 Boy Scouts, 7pm	11 AA, 8pm	12	13	14
15 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	16	17 <i>Golf Tournament</i> 8:30-10 register 10am Tee-Time Boy Scouts, 7pm	18 AA, 8pm	19	20	21
22 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	23 Mom's Group, 10am	24 Boy Scouts, 7pm	25 AA, 8pm	26	27	28
29 Worship, 10am AA, 8pm	30  Back to School	31 Boy Scouts, 7pm			