

PASSAGES

MARCH 2008

From the Pastor:

Thank you, Lord, for Michelene:

**“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me.”**

Psalm 23:4

On Friday, February 15, our late beloved organist and choir director, Michelene Pivorunas, went to be with the Lord. Michelene, affectionately known as “Mickey” – not least of all for her fun attraction to Disney World in Florida – loved her Lord Jesus Christ and faithfully kept her membership in a fundamental Bible believing church, which supported her confident assurance of the eternal salvation she had “by grace . . . through faith” (Ephesians 2:8) in Jesus Christ.

I cannot separate her beautiful voice from her beautiful faith in her beautiful Lord Jesus. For the past couple of years, when a grieving family would request music for the graveside service of a departed loved one, Michelene would gladly respond. She had a favorite that we’d agreed upon – and keep in mind – she would have to sing a *cappella*, which means, without musical accompaniment. Sung in a minor key, difficult in and of itself, the haunting melody is one I can never forget. Michelene didn’t just “know” the words to *The Lord is my Shepherd*, she knew The Shepherd. These are the words:

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.

1. God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

2. Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your Name.

3. Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for you are at my side, your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.

4. You have set my a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.

5. Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Refrain: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.

. . . from death into life. Again, thank You, Lord Jesus, for Michelene.

When you know the Good Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and was raised from the grave of death, you know that dying is not a dying into nothing. For those who are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, death is the beginning of our life in Christ forever with our heavenly Father.

Jesus said, first of all, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.” Secondly, Jesus said that He is the only way (believe it or not) to this eternal life: “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

May our Lord Jesus Christ, risen from death and the grave, fill you with all the fullness of His love and power as you remember and celebrate His glorious death and resurrection.

Pastor Charlie

Rejuvenate Women's Conference

Come to the Table

April 11 – 13

and

April 25 - 27

. . .with speaker Linda Moore, whose professional experiences as an ICU nurse, recording and concert artist, women's ministries director, consultant, speaker and worship leader have afforded her many opportunities to express her passion for God and His people. Her ability to articulate Biblical principles of faith and Christian living through the power of God's grace has been an encouragement to many.

Contact: Monadnock Bible Conference Center
monadnockbible.org Jaffrey, NH 603-532-8321

Some people, no matter how old they get,
never lose their beauty –
they merely move it from their faces
into their hearts.”

Martin Buxbaum (1912-1991) Writer

New Hampshire (by Ruth Perkins)

It's winter in New Hampshire
And the gentle breezes blow seventy miles an hour
at twenty-five below.
Oh, how I love New Hampshire
When the snow's up to your butt
you take a breath of winter and
your nose gets frozen shut.
Yes, the weather here is wonderful
so I guess I'll hang around
I could never leave New Hampshire
'Cause I'm frozen to the ground!!

**'A friend is someone who reaches for your
hand and touches your heart.'**

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Hi Everyone,

Our new church website address is:

<http://GoffCong.org>.

All Passages articles for the April issue are due in the office March 24. We will be folding the newspaper on Friday, March 28 at 9:00am in the Chapel of the Parish house. If you would like to help out, please join us at that time. News articles are always welcome at any time of the month. They can be left in the Secretary's mail box in the Parish house or e-mailed to:

Office_goffcong@verizon.net.

Pictures can be left in the mailbox to be scanned. Please include a label, a short sentence or two about the picture or the names of the people in the photo. They will be returned after they are scanned. They can also be sent as .jpeg files to the office e-mail address.

Thank you,

Barbara Pinard

STARK HALL UPDATE: Substantial completion and use of all but the outside ramp area (as that needs the finish paving) was February 22nd. Therefore Trustees need to schedule various "work parties" to:

1. The new floor in Stark Hall will have to be waxed and allowed to set up before our use or setting of equipment on the floor. (Trustees will consult with a floor cleaning supply house as to the proper care of our new floors.)
2. We need to clean out the attic area above the dance studio and throw out the junk and yard sale the rest.
3. Move the kitchen equipment/supplies back into the kitchen
4. Stencil the new tables and chairs
5. Curtains and shades installation

If you can help, please sign up today in the Vestry, e-mail Bruce Buttrick at:

BBUTTRICK8468@comcast.net

or leave a note in the Trustees mailbox in the Parish House.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



HENAULT, Jarrett	03/01	OUELLETTE, Devin	03/14
HENAULT, Jeremy	03/01	STOCKTON, Letitia	03/15
MOULIN, Jared	03/01	NORKLUN, Kristi	03/16
GAGNON, Alexander	03/02	TAYLOR, Jeffrey	03/18
MCCORMICK, Scott	03/02	BEAUDOIN, Kali	03/19
SULLIVAN, Michael	03/03	DUMAIS, Ana Maria	03/19
PAUL, Meredith	03/04	GARRON, Joseph	03/20
BEAUDOIN, Ginny	03/06	RICHARDSON, Shirley	03/22
STRATTON, Thomas	03/07	CARR, Barbara	03/24
OUELLETTE, Jenifer	03/08	ELLIS, Emily	03/26
PHELPS, Joyce	03/09	LUGO, Nicholas	03/28
SARGENT, Sandra	03/09	SULLIVAN, Thomas	03/28
ZIVITSKI, Daniel	03/10	DUNCKLEE, Reece	03/29
KRAJENKA, Penny	03/14		

EASTER SUNDAY FLOWERS 2008

Would you like to order a potted plant for Easter Sunday Worship? To have us purchase a plant, give this slip and \$10.00 per plant to Barbara McLaughlin or place in the offering plate (use discretionary envelopes and label "Easter Flowers"). Please fill in the information below if you would like a notation in the bulletin, to let us know your preferred plant choice*, and what you would like done with the plant (s) after worship. All orders must be received by Palm Sunday, March 16th. *subject to availability!

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

Plant given in memory of: _____

By: _____

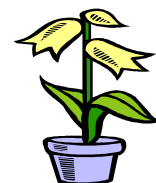
OR

Plant given in honor of: _____

By: _____

Check: I will pick up my plant after the service Plant preferred: Easter Lily Tulips
 Hyacinths Palm Jonquils Surprise Me!! (check One)

Any questions, call Barbara McLaughlin at 497-5196 THANK YOU



MISSION MOMENTS

"...For God loves a cheerful giver." 2Cor 9:7

One Great Hour of Sharing

Once again during this time of lent we will participate in this world wide mission collection. Your donations to this collection support crises and disasters in our country and around the world. The Fish banks will be passed out by the Christian Education Committee on February 24th in conjunction with Pastor Charlie's Sermon on Luke 5:10 as Jesus said "I will make you fishers of men". The Fish Bank offerings will be collected by the Mission Committee on March 30th.

Flower Delivery

If you are interested in delivering the flowers following the weekly Sunday morning worship service please see the sign-up sheet in the vestry on the coffee hour table.

THANK YOU FROM "Campus Crusade for Christ"

Dear Partner in Reaching the World for Christ,

The following note arrived on Christmas day, straight from a deployed airman:

I am an Air Force officer currently deployed in the desert. I received the Rapid Deployment Kit a few months back and I want to extend my thanks. I carry my New Testament Bible in my flight suit when I fly. I read a Psalm before each flight as my prayer for protection for that day's sortie. Especially during this Christmas season when I am away from my family, the Lord's words bring me comfort and peace. Thank you so much for this wonderful gift.

Your prayers and giving have blessed so many like this captain.

Steve Sellers, Vice President of the Americas

Campus Crusade for Christ International

IN LOVING MEMORY

We extend our sympathy and condolences with Jen Ouellette and her family on the death of her mother (January 30th) following a long battle with cancer.

Rev. Ford conducted the funeral service on Saturday, February 2, for

Mildred Coombs

August 12, 1916 – January 30, 2008

Mrs. Coombs had resided in Melrose, MA, and most recently in Weare.

Also, on February 19, Rev. Ford conducted the funeral service for

Louis P. Richard, Jr.

March 29, 1935 – February 15, 2008

Mr. (Lou) Richard resided in Bow with his wife, Carol.

And on February 23, Rev. Ford officiated at the funeral for

Jeffrey S. Lamy

January 25, 1963 – February 18, 2008

We extend our sympathy and condolences to the family of

Herman G. Hall

February 17, 1924- February 19, 2008

He was a past Deacon of our church and completed numerous carpentry jobs on the church buildings.

Micheline Pivorunas

Our beloved organist, pianist, choir director, and soprano soloist concluded her long battle with cancer on Friday, February 15.

The funeral service was held at her home church, Southside Bible Fellowship Church, Manchester, on Saturday, February 23. Micheline will be sorely missed by many.

**I am the resurrection, and the life:
he that believeth in me,
though he were dead, yet shall he live:
And whosoever liveth and believeth
in me shall never die.**

-Jesus, John 11:25-26

COUNCIL NOTES

Shaws cards will be available March 9.

Next UCC Information Meeting will be March 9th following worship.

How the Lord is Using YOU to Minister to the Needs of Others in the Name of Jesus:

From New Horizons

To The Congregational Church of Goffstown

8 Main Street, Goffstown

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500. Your generosity is crucial to continuing our programs and services at New Horizons and Angie's Shelter for Women.

In 2007 we were able to serve 68,199 meals in our Soup Kitchen and shelter an average of 70 people each night. In addition, our Food Pantry provided 16,347 bags of quality food items to impoverished families and individuals.

We are currently providing shelter for an average of 99 individuals each night and experiencing an increase in need at our Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. Your gift helps to assure that we are able to help people when they need it the most.

Sincerely, Susan Howland, Development Director

Dear Family and Friends,

It seems like just a few days ago we were enjoying a brief visit with Peter & Betsy and Kristen in Arlington, VA rather than it being almost the end of February.

We'll start with the **big** news--on Christmas Eve, we as a family opened one small gift--**but what a gift!** It wound up being a pair of very small mittens that Peter & Betsy gave us as their way of announcing that they are expecting their first child early next August. In the midst of planning for Karen to graduate from high school and then to leave for college, we are also anticipating the joy of becoming "Grandma & Grandpa." We are pleased that the pregnancy is going well--Betsy has continued with her

seminary classes and has started an internship with their church, and Peter enjoys his job with Alarm.com.

Then with some careful planning with Dad, Kristen and her boyfriend, Chris Johnson, made a surprise visit to Costa Rica to celebrate Shelley's birthday, arriving on January 27th. Thank you to Chris's parents for giving them the American Airlines miles to buy their airplane tickets. Kristen enjoyed showing Chris around, and we all had a wonderful time together. A few days after they left, DJ Rippl, the middle school director at the Chapel Hill Church in Gig Harbor, WA came for a conference, and to work with us on planning a work team from the church coming the end of March. While DJ was here, Heather Farrell, who shares a house with Peter & Betsy, arrived for a week's visit to get to know Costa Rica, including celebrating Karen's 18th birthday. In the midst of their visits, the Rahab Foundation also had a work team for a day and a half. The day after Heather left, the Rahab foundation received two visitors from the Tabernacle Church in Chicago. They also came to plan a work team for late July.

In the midst of the surprises and visitors, our ministry continues to happen. The IINDEF staff team is in the process of restarting the planning for the next Latina conference. This had been put on hold due to lack of funds. For this conference to happen, we need your prayers. Obtaining the needed preliminary funds for the conference is a challenge, but it is a challenge that is causing us to place all of our trust in God's bountiful financial and prayer provision. We know that God used the previous two Latina conferences to assist in guiding young adults to move into various ministries, and we believe that another Latina conference would be very valuable to continue to challenge Latin young people.

While the planning process for the next Latina is happening, the Evangelism-in-Depth (IINDEF) team is also planning a 3-day international planning conference in Managua, Nicaragua in April to work on ministry goals for the future. Please join us in praying that God will provide the \$5000 needed to cover the travel, housing and conference expenses.

For the Rahab Foundation, the Costa Rican government has provided the funding to complete the first phase of the construction of their new facilities. These funds should last for about four more weeks of construction. The funds to complete the property payments are in this year's national budget. We have submitted the first round of papers to receive this money. As usual, they returned another list of documents they neglected to mention the first time. We are working on these documents now. After we finish paying the mortgage, we can then work on the paperwork to receive another

(continued on page 7)

VNA of Manchester

Free Hospice Volunteer Training Program

Starts on Saturday, April 5, 2008 ,9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. and then continuing every Thursday evening 6:00pm to 8:30 pm through May 29, 2008. Some of the topics to be covered are hospice philosophy, compassion through active listening, medical aspects, grief and bereavement. Trained volunteers will work with the hospice team of health care professionals to provide services that help patients stay at home with dignity during a terminal illness. Any interested member of the community including homemakers, retirees, college students, businessmen and women are encouraged to explore hospice volunteering. Pre-registration is required and class size is limited. Please call Linda Krisch, Volunteer Coordinator at (603) 663-4008.

IRON SHARPENS IRON

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”

Proverbs 27:17

2008 National Men’s Conferences

Portsmouth, NH April 26

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Kenny Luck is the Men’s Pastor at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California.

Randy Phillips is the founder and director of Passage, served as the first president of Promise Keepers in 1991 and was a contributing author of the best selling book The Seven Promises.

This annually sold out event will be held at Bethany Church, Greenland, NH. www.bethanychurch.com

www.IronSharpensIron.net

“The man who has been dulled by sin will say that he is not even conscious of it.”

Oswald Chambers

Ladies Day Apart

with

Dee Brestin

“The God of All Comfort” Finding Your Way into His Arms

Friday, April 4th or Saturday, April 5th 2008

8:00am – 3:00 pm

Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Road

Derry, NH 03038

603-434-1516 www.cbcderry.org



Christian Radio Is Good for the Soul

- 1320 AM WDER Derry
590 AM WVNE Boston
91.1 FM WVNH Concord
90.7 FM WLMW Manchester

AFR American Family Radio, www.afr.net

Uplifting music and news to encourage you

in your daily walk with Jesus Christ.



Momentum

men & father-son conference

Spring 2008 April 4-6

Monadnock BIBLE CONFERENCE CENTER

monadnock.org Jaffrey, NH 603-532-8321

MEN’S TRACK:

“Priority One” with speaker Paul Soucy

FATHER SON TRACK:

Living and Giving the Father’s Blessing

with speaker Dr. Scott Larson

[President, Straight Ahead Ministries]

DIACONATE DIALOGUE

LUKE 3:21-22; 4:4

by Dee Sturtevant

Jesus was obedient in *all* things. He went into the wilderness alone to humble Himself and ask to be baptized by a man when He was God. Our obedience to God and the many forms it takes is a study for a lifetime. Brokenness and how it relates to my life and relationship with Christ is my latest form of this study.

"--- you're living as if God is dead." is part of a quote from the book Brokenness by Nancy L. Demoss. This jumped off the page to accuse me and I am just starting to discover why.

Isn't this referring to someone who doesn't love our Lord and believe in the Resurrection? But no!! This is about me!! I am living as if Christ was dead and not with me, knowing me even better than I know myself. He knows I do not obey Him and love Him first and look to spend time with Him in His Word daily. He knows of my sin of pride, maintaining walls that keep others at a distance, keeping me from growing closer to Him and the life He wants for me.

But Christ's message of sacrifice and forgiveness ensures us a place at His side in our Heavenly Father's kingdom if we will but follow Him.

It seems a small thing for me to sacrifice for Lent some of the many time wasting things I do, to make room for time spent with my Father and His Word.

Sanctuary Candles may be lit in celebration of special occasions or in memory of loved ones (\$5.00) by contacting the church office at 497-2365. Forms are available in the Vestry. **To donate Flowers for March and April** please contact Barbara McLaughlin at 497-5196. There is a Flower Chart in the Vestry which you may use to sign up. Thank you.

(RICE FAMILY— CONTINUATION FROM PAGE 5)

government grant to finish the details for this first building. In the meantime, God has been working among the Rahab staff and has shown us that we need to focus more

on God's work in the women's lives, before dealing with the psychosocial components that had become a priority. It is exciting to see how this approach is challenging the women in positive ways.

The challenge of this new year is to allow God to surprise us with his work in our lives and those with whom we minister, his faithful provision of these ministry financial needs and also of our own monthly support needs. We know that God will surprise us because His provision has never let us down. With this in mind, we constantly appreciate and covet your prayers for us, for our family and for our ministry. We've attached our most recent family picture.

This comes with our prayers,

Craig & Shelley Rice

Mailing address:

SJO--131, P.O. Box 025216

Miami, FL 33102-5216 Email: crice@lam.org



A NOTE:

Thank you so much for your kindness, comfort, and thoughtfulness during this time of sadness.

Love,

Jen, Moe, Brendan and Devin Ouellette



The Congregational Church of Goffstown

8 & 10 Main Street

Goffstown, N.H. 03045



Easter Sunday March 23

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

GOFFSTOWN, N.H. 03045

PERMIT NO. 25



HOLY WEEK

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

10 Main Street, Goffstown

Palm Sunday Worship March 16 at 10:00AM followed by the Ecumenical Palm Sunday Procession on Main Street at 12:00AM.

Maundy Thursday March 20—7:00PM Service

Good Friday March 21—Church Open All Day ending with a 7:00PM Service.

Easter Sunday March 23 -

6:43AM Sunrise Service led by the Youth Group on Shirley Hill Road

(in case of rain, the church Sanctuary)

10:00AM Easter Worship

6:00PM Evening Easter Worship