



# The Taftsville Chapel Current

*God calls us as followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as a community of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to our world.*

Sam Carbaugh, *Editor*, Carie Good & Virginia Schlabach, *Newsletter Staff*

October 2012



Dear Taftsville Chapel Family,

More than a month has gone by now since our official end date, and still the words to fully express our gratitude to you all have escaped me. Every time a few sentences would form, an awareness that there was so much more would silence me. One point of thanks would lead to ten more, and those ten to still ten more. Your kindness, encouragement, mercy, generosity and patience toward us over the years became impossibly uncountable in a matter of seconds. Shared laughter, meals, singing, prayer, worship and service with you are as deeply knit to our souls as life itself. It has finally occurred to me that, because it is God that's at work among us, this is how it must be. An attempt to fully express gratitude is hopeless. So, thank you, thank you. I am lost in wonder and praise.

The beautiful evening gathering on September 15th was more of the same, concentrated into a few hours. It was less an isolated event and more a picture of just how it has been all along for us – welcomed in to community filled with grace, thoughtfulness, behind the scenes service and unselfconscious love. The night seemed to me to have a joyful life of its own. It was obviously thought out and much effort went in to preparing,

and it seemed as though there was an extra measure of the very real presence of Another. Did you sense Him? This happened because you all, once again, invited and welcomed the Spirit. As with all the years preceding, it was a taste of Heaven given by God through you, as you. Once again, I was lost in wonder and praise. Thank you, thank you.

The seasons are changing. The leaves are showing the evidence of it, and when we mix in one of those glorious deep blue Fall days when the air is crisp and the sun is warm, it is easy to see the hand of God at work in what He has created. It would not be seen at all unless God had not also created the changing seasons themselves, and placed us in them with the capacity to be blessed by it all and return thanks to Him. We are not just detached observers. As a congregation we have our own seasons; we have our changes and in them we have a chance to testify to God's beauty to the world. May we be unselfconsciously colorful and deep and crisp and warm through Him. And, still lost in wonder and praise, serve in redeemed gratitude.

O for a thousand tongues to sing!

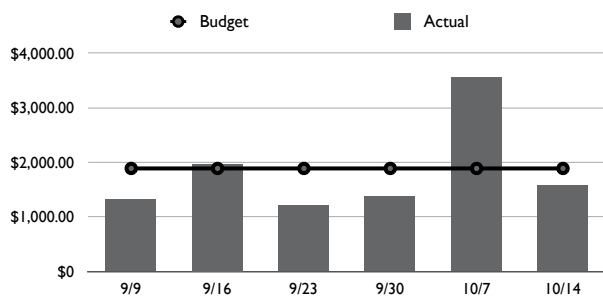
Yours,  
Randy

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## Treasurer's Report

### Weekly Offering



We're continuing to do well this year, still being within about \$500 of our budget for offerings. Our expenses have been very low, mostly due to Randy's retirement, as we are no longer paying a pastor's salary. We are putting all the monies that would go toward staffing, and placing it in a special holding area as a sub-account of our savings. We will use this to help defray the costs of continuing the search for our new pastor. Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

Sep 9, 2012 = \$1,320.00  
 Sep 16, 2012 = \$1,975.00  
 Sep 23, 2012 = \$1,215.00  
 Sep 30, 2012 = \$1,371.71  
 Oct 7, 2012 = \$3,556.00  
 Oct 14, 2012 = \$1,580.00

6-Week Budget: \$11,338.20  
 6-Week Total: \$11,017.71

Total YTD Budget: \$30,235.22  
 Total YTD Received: \$29,725.01

## TWELVE SYMPTOMS OF SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

This was posted anonymously in the Chapel kitchen. (We suspect it was provided by the Saturday morning AA group.) Check it out, these symptoms are worth pondering. Are YOU coming down with a case of Spiritual Awakening?

1. An increased tendency to let things happen rather than make them happen.
2. Frequent attacks of smiling.
3. Unexpected feelings of being connected with others, and with nature.
4. Frequent overwhelming episodes of appreciation.

5. A tendency to think and act spontaneously rather than from fears based on past experience.
6. An unmistakable ability to enjoy each moment.
7. A loss of ability to worry.
8. A loss of interest in conflict.
9. A loss of interest in interpreting the actions of others.
10. A loss of interest in judging others.
11. A loss of interest in judging self.
12. Gaining the ability to love without expecting anything.

## TAFTSVILLE TIDBIT TRIVIA

Do you remember when...

### 40 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*October 9, 1972*

The group felt it was good to allow time in our morning worship service for testimonies and sharing, at least periodically.

*November 8, 1972*

It was decided to go ahead and purchase a tape recorder. Hopefully, with an additional speaker and microphone, those in the nursery will be able to hear the services.

### 35 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*October 21, 1977*

Don't forget to contact Brian if you are interested in participating in an overnight canoe trip.

*November 1, 1977*

Mary Guntz will be taking charge of the magazine library. If you wish to have your magazines returned, please be sure to mark them.

### 20 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*October 24, 1992*

First ever Self-Help Sale Day at Taftsville. With 53 transaction, net sales are \$1,334.53.

### 15 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*October 5, 1997*

Fall hike to Oliver's Cave in East Barnard, Vermont. Meet at Carie and Randy's.

*November 13, 1997*

Allen presented the results of the 10,000 Villages Sale (formerly Self-Help). This was the best year ever, with net sales over \$13,000. That will mean \$4500-\$5000 to give away.

10 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

*October 3, 2002*

There was discussion about how to create some flexible divided space for youth Sunday school. Folding quilted screens? Finish off the attic? Your ideas are welcome. Please see Elinor.

*November 14, 2002*

There was much discussion at council concerning adequate time for the various elements of Sunday morning since we seem to be running over each week: worship service, teaching time, fellowship time and Sunday school. The consensus for now is to continue our flexibility with ending times, still allowing a half-hour for coffee and fellowship, along with 45 minutes for Sunday school. This will mean that on some Sundays we may not wrap up until after 12:00.

**Taftsville Chapel Mennonite Fellowship**  
Located in the village of Taftsville, VT, one block south of Rt. 4 on Happy Valley Road.



**Randy Good, Pastor**  
[www.taftsvillechapel.org](http://www.taftsvillechapel.org)

Send your contributions for the Current to: [samuel.carbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:samuel.carbaugh@gmail.com) or contact a Newsletter Staff member: Carie Good & Virginia Schlabach



*Evelyn McCrory's  
Drawing of Jesus*