



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*

Summer 2012

Change...

Sometimes welcome, sometimes avoided, sometimes planned, sometimes sudden, but always with us. Life is predictably unpredictable. And so we are in the midst of some change at Taftsville.

On the other hand, what matters most remains unchanged. The Chief Shepherd Jesus is still very much among us. The Spirit that leads us may be like the wind, but has not departed. We are secure in the Father's great love. Overall, as a congregation, our fellowship together is good, worship is happening, service is happening, mission is happening, healing is happening and hope is alive. Peace like a river attends our collective way.

During the time between Carie and I officially stepping aside (Sept. 2nd) and our new pastor being among us, there will be more that stays the same. Sunday mornings will be coordinated, leadership will be present, and pastoral care will be available. As always, this will be the work of existing teams that will continue, at least, for the near future.

The Sunday morning worship planning is covered through the fall, and possibly through Advent if need be. There will be various speakers and types of services, but all the same folks will be there!

The Leadership Team (Elinor, Ted, Janice, Omar) will continue to function in the role often referred to as "elders" in other churches. They will not be taking on the role of interim pastors, but will attend to the spiritual oversight and well-being of the group. They meet to pray for the fellowship, think about the spiritual health and direction of the congregation, and generally stay aware of the pulse of things. If need for spiritual counsel of any kind arises, they are there as always.

The Pastoral Care Team (Carmeleta, Dave, Ruth Ann, Richard) will continue to be alert to the more practical needs among us, functioning similar to "deacons" in other churches. This team meets to pray for specific situations in the congregation, and organizes a response to the need if possible. They seek to stay aware of joys and concerns as they arise, and are there as always for support and encouragement.

Carie and I were the "overlap" between the two teams, so they will now be meeting together at times during the interim. Both teams view themselves, happily, as servant-leaders. Also, and this is important, both teams place the highest value in confidentiality. You can trust them. Much more specific detail about the function of the Teams can be found in the Taftsville Handbook in the Millen Room.

There will likely be an increased call for more folks to be actively involved in some specific aspects of our life together. The Spirit is still moving – sometimes through a "tap on the shoulder."

In this Issue:

Milestone Anniversaries	Page 2
Green Mtn Girl in the Himalayas	Page 2
Treasurer's Report	Page 4
Community Notes	Page 5
Pastoral Search Update	Page 6
Childcare Schedule	Page 6
Baptism Photos	Page 6
Taftsville Tidbit Trivia	Page 7
Back to School 2012	Page 8

After September 2nd, during our interim period as the search for our new pastor progresses, Carie and I look forward to continuing as part of the Taftsville family. We expect to attend worship services and be a part of the life of the congregation even though we will not be taking part in any leadership or pastoral responsibilities. So, yes, that's a change – for all of us. We'll need your help with this, and it may sometimes feel awkward... However, we're comfortable being in charge of the boundaries so don't be concerned about overstepping them. I honestly believe we'll all be just fine together.

When a potential new pastor comes to speak, we won't attend on those Sundays. When our new pastor begins, we won't be attending for a good while so that there is complete freedom for the new relationship to begin and take root. Once our new pastor is established, we'll be back as members, joyful to be among such a group as Taftsville!

He does know the plans He has for us, He really does. They are plans to give us a future and a hope – His future and His Hope. So, even in the midst of some change, as always, rest. It continues to be the highest form of worship.

With overwhelming fondness,
Randy

Milestone Anniversaries



Dave and Carmeleta Beidler, married 25 years in April, were surprised by their children and many friends at a party held at Taftsville Chapel on April 7. (Laura, Carmeleta, Dave, and Ben)



Abner and Virginia Schlabach, married 50 years in June, celebrated with family and Vermont friends at the East Barnard Community Hall on August 4.



On August 9th, Laura Beidler left for her year of service (and adventure!) in Gajuri, Nepal. She will be serving with SALT (Serving and Learning Together) a program of MCC (Mennonite Central Committee), geared for young adults from the United States and Canada to serve, learn and live together with faith communities in Africa, Asia, South Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean. She will be working with Shanti Nepal, a Christian non-profit organization that works to improve public health, water quality and sanitation in rural villages in central Nepal.

The following is compiled from Laura's blog *Green Mountain Girl in the Himalayas*:

Namaste,

I have just over 2 weeks left in Vermont and then my world will be flipped upside down! I won't be working with my friends, listening to Sox games with my family or snuggling with my dogs anymore. I think that I knew all of these things when I accepted my SALT placement, but still, as these realizations sink into my heart, I start to get a greater understanding of what I got myself into. Trust me, I am still beyond excited about my rapidly approaching time in Nepal, I'm just not the biggest fan of change....

As you may already know, on August 9th, I will be starting on my journey towards Nepal. I will have a week of orientation with my fellow SALTERs in Akron, PA and after that week, I will be on a plane (or two or three) and on my way to Nepal.

I think it's a lot easier to write those words than it is to really let it settle in. My beloved Green Mountains will be replaced with the majestic Himalayas. I am excited to return to these mountains as I fell in love with them while on my EMU Cross-Cultural to India in 2011.

This year will provide me with a chance to use my years of education and an opportunity to serve others. I know that I will be forced out of my comfort zone and that I will learn a great deal about myself. I will be learning Nepali, living in an area where I will most likely be the only non-Nepali, and I will be away from my family and friends for a long time.

While all of these adventures seem daunting, I believe that I can do this. My structured and routine-oriented American lifestyle will soon be shattered. This scares me, but I know that it will be a wonderful growing experience.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated both as I prepare to embark and while I serve in Nepal.

With love, Laura

Gajuri, Nepal

Gajuri is a village development in the remote Dhading District in the central region of Nepal. Although the district is located at the border of Kathmandu valley, many parts of it are still inaccessible by road. Only 39% of the population in the district has access to clean drinking water and only small percentages of them have sanitary toilets. Most of the population lives on subsistent agriculture and has low income for basic livelihood.

Statistically, the district also has a low health status. Child and infant mortality rates are high, at about 10%, and average life expectancy is only 49.5 years. The high occurrence of preventable and communicable diseases like skin diseases, diarrhea, gastritis and intestinal worms, typhoid and ear infection reflects the poor health situation.

Shanti Nepal

Shanti Nepal is a Nepali, Christian, not for profit, social development organization founded by a team of Nepalese Christian health and development professionals with a passion to bring about wholistic transformation of poor and marginalized communities. It was registered under government law in April 2003 and has been working among the poor and needy communities (mainly in primary health care) in Lalitpur and Dhading Districts.

Taftsville Chapel Mennonite Fellowship

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



Randy Good, Pastor

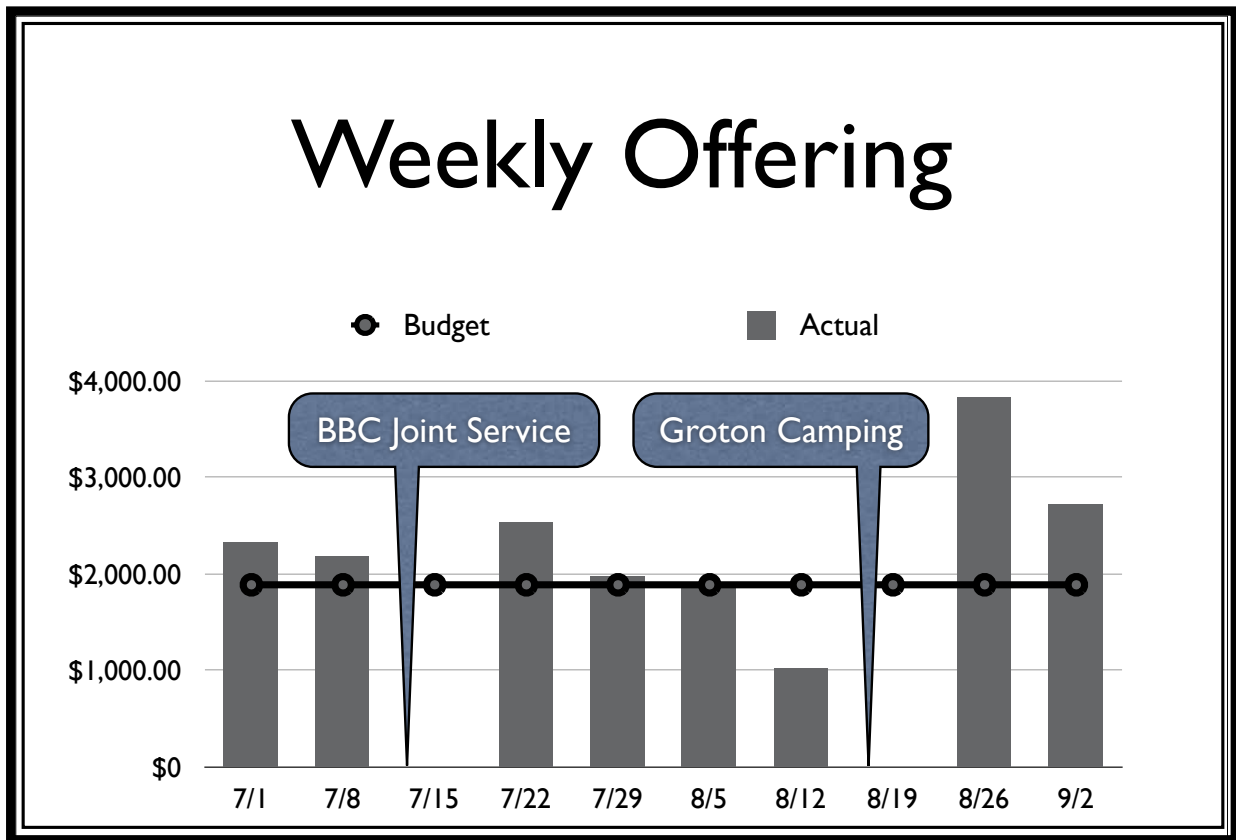
www.taftsvillechapel.org

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

Treasurer's Report

This fiscal year has started off well! We are only about \$500 below budget on total regular offerings for the year, and that includes the two Sundays that we didn't take an offering (July 15th and Aug. 19th). I'm confident that we'll make this up naturally over time, as we usually alternate between being above and below budget on offerings. Thanks to everyone for their continued generosity and support!

Jul 1, 2012	\$2,330.00	Weekly Budget: \$1,889.70
Jul 8, 2012	\$2,190.00	Weekly Average: \$1,848.20
Jul 15, 2012	\$0.00 (BBC Joint Service)	
Jul 22, 2012	\$2,539.00	Total YTD Budget: \$18,897.00
Jul 29, 2012	\$1,980.00	Total YTD Received: \$18,482.00
Aug 5, 2012	\$1,856.00	
Aug 12, 2012	\$1,030.00	
Aug 19, 2012	\$0.00 Groton Camping	
Aug 26, 2012	\$3,831.00	
Sep 2, 2012	\$2,726.00	



Tim + Allison's Home in Hartland



We are really excited to be in the process of building our new home in Hartland, VT! So many things are happening so quickly, we started a blog to document the progress. We'd love to share the journey with you all, so please visit our website! Here is the address:
<http://26dodgelane.wordpress.com>

Blessings,
Tim + Allison

A Note from the Hospitality Committee

Thanks to everyone that shared their beautiful flowers at church this past year, especially this Summer. No need to stop now, but we realize there are less options as the Summer is ending.

And a big THANKS to Mary Fullerton & Heather Wolfe for their many years of serving on the Hospitality Committee.

Also - for those doing coffee
If you see we are running low in Hot Chocolate, Tea or Sugar let Jane Glick or Mary Guntz be aware of it. Abner is the one that orders the coffee.

Mary G, Jane and Judy

Address change for Homer Welch:

Homer was discharged from the VA Hospital on August 29 and is now nicely settled in his new home Room 225 at Stoughton House on Route 5 in downtown Windsor. Stoughton House is part of Historic Homes of Runnemedede and is an assisted living home. Visit Homer here if you can. Cards and letters can be addressed to:

Homer Welch
40 Maxwell Perkins Lane, Unit 225
Windsor, VT 05089

Phone to be installed soon.

Bethany Birches Camp Benefit Auction

Be sure to attend the benefit auction for a fun time at this important fund raiser held at Camp on Saturday September 22.

9 am Preview
10 am Auction begins
12 Noon Lunch

It is not too late to make a donation but we need to know about it ASAP. Contact Allen Guntz with donation information.



Taftsville Chapel undergoing late summer upgrade. New paint for the front of building.

Pastoral Search Update

The search committee has been meeting regularly over the past 3 months. To date we have completed:

- A 12-page Congregational Information Form which is an “about us” profile that will be shared with potential candidates
- Tabulated congregational scores from the 20 Pastoral Tasks forms, providing a collective ranking of perceived needs of Taftsville Chapel fellowship and priorities of a pastoral candidate

These two documents were sent to our Franconia Conference representative, Donella Clemens. Donella is now in the process of identifying names and brief bios of candidates from a registry for consideration by our search committee. We’ve been presented with a first round of candidates from which we requested complete resumes on three individuals. Upon further contact none were viable options for us at this time.

As Donella has reminded us, the process of discerning a pastor is different than hiring to fill a position: “There needs to be consensus by the search team, the leadership of the congregation and then the entire congregation that this person has been called by God to this position for this time and is a good fit with the congregation.” Likely this process may take longer than a traditional job search.

Thank you to everyone who completed the Assumptions survey we distributed in August. Your responses will help guide us as we consider candidates. We appreciate the ongoing prayer of the congregation as we continue the pastoral search. It is the work of the Church Council to plan for the interim period until a new pastor is identified. They are trying to arrange for an interim pastor by January 2013 since the pastoral search will probably take some time.

Pastoral Search Committee:

David Beidler (chair), Allison Good, Abner Schlabach, Elinor Shatuck, Carol Whitney, Heather Wolfe, Omar Zook

Childcare Schedule

September

2 Mary
9 Victoria
16 Virginia
23 Jane
30 Nancy

November

4 Jane
11 Nancy
18 Karen
25 Mary

January

6 Mary
13 Victoria
20 Virginia
27 Jane

October

7 Karen
14 Mary
21 Victoria
28 Virginia

December

2 Victoria
9 Virginia
16 Jane
23 Nancy
30 Karen

February

3 Nancy
10 Karen
17 Mary
24 Victoria

Sam Carbaugh’s Baptism

On August 19th I was baptised in the cool waters of Lake Groton with members of Taftsville Chapel witnessing. It was a beautiful day and I couldn’t have asked for a more blessed gathering to celebrate with me. Thank you to everyone who has wished me blessings at and since the event. Blessings to you all,

Sam Carbaugh

(Thanks to Carmeleta Beidler for the following photos)



Randy offering some thoughts and wisdom before we entered the lake.



Sharing some pre-baptism levity on the temperature of the lake.



Post-baptism and very happy to be a part of the church.

TAFTSVILLE TIDBIT TRIVIA

Do you remember when...

40 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

July 1, 1972

Work nights are scheduled for Monday nights in the month of July to paint the church building.

August 13, 1972

It was agreed to have the parking lot leveled and stones poured for a more effective parking system.

August 13, 1972

The adult S.S.class will discontinue using the quarterlies and will use book studies from the Bible. This will decrease the S.S.expense.

35 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

July 17, 1977

Doreen thanks everyone who helped with the World Vision Love Loaves and school kits. A total of \$138.00 was collected in the loaves and 33 school kits were assembled.

August 10, 1977

A request for more special singing was made. Also, a reminder to bring in magazines of all kinds to share with the group.

August 29, 1977

It was decided that the Minister of Administration would now be responsible for the smooth running of the Sunday morning church service.

30 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

July 27, 1982

Beth Sargent and Karla Glick are nominated for the position of librarian.

August 14, 1982

Everyone is invited to attend the 1-W reunion to be held at Singing Hills Retreat Center

25 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

July 22, 1987

Nelson Kraybill reports that his daughter said to him on his way out the door, "Daddy, when I grow up I want to be a man so I can go to meetings."

August 12, 1987

A special meeting of the congregation was called to discuss the issue of women in the Pastoral role.

20 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

August 2, 1992

The Work Project in the Northeast Kingdom is on. There is work for all skill levels. Consider giving 2 or 3 days if you can't give a week.

BACK TO SCHOOL - 2012

Please post this list or tuck it into your Bible as a reminder to pray for these church family members:

STUDENTS

K-12:

Ben Beidler – Hartford High School School – 12
Victoria Dandurand - Hartford High School – 12
Hayden Cox – Hartford High School - 12
Hannah Cox – Kimball Union Academy – 9
Calvin McCrory – Dothan Brook Elementary – 4
Mabel McCrory – Dothan Brook Elementary – 3
Evelyn McCrory – Dothan Brook Elementary - 1

College:

Haylie Cox – Mary Mount University - 4th year – computer science
Hunter Cox – St. John’s College – 4rd year
Emily Glick – University of Vermont – 4th year – archaeology
Max Halik – Gordon College - 2nd year - engineering

Graduate School:

Kristin Carbaugh – Plymouth State University – MEd program
Dave Swanson – Duke University Divinity School – 1st year – MDiv program

TEACHERS

Kristen Aloisio – Dartmouth College – teaching assistant, public health dept.
Dan Anderson - Hartford High School
Melissa Ayers – Windsor Southeast - speech and language
Kristin Carbaugh – Crossroads Academy – Gr. 3
Skip Chalker – Mascoma Valley Regional High School – English
Allison Good – Black River High School/Middle School & Ludlow Elementary School - instrumental music
Lynda Knisley– Albert Bridge School – art, K-6; Mid-Vermont Christian School – art, gr. 5-12; art history
Nancy Pejouhy – Woodstock Union Middle School – math, gr. 8
Carol Whitney – Hartford High School – math
Nick Wolfe – Hartland Elementary – social studies, gr. 7-8

SCHOOL STAFF

Ann Chalker – Hartford High School – coordinator, special education program
Kevin Cox – Hartland Elementary School – dean of students
Tim Good - Dartmouth Medical School - web architect
Bob Rosenberger – Woodstock Union High School – day custodian
Janice Zook – Hartford School District – nurse