

JUNE 2025 EDITION **THE CORNERSTONE**



Rev. Bette Bond

JUNE MEETINGS

June 2 - Monday 10:00am

Ladies Circle Meeting

June 4 - Wednesday 1:00pm

Missions Meeting

June 5 - Thursday 4:00pm

Deacon's Meeting

June 6 - Friday 10:00am

Caring/Sharing Sisters Meeting

June 12 - Thursday 6:30pm

Trustee Meeting

June 19 Thursday - 6:30pm

Church Council Meeting

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

June

JUNE is bustin' out all over!! Not just in the flower gardens but in our hearts and in our church!

We celebrated the ordination of our own January Peavey-Dodge on May 31st and what a blessing she is to our community! Please continue to lift her in your prayers for discernment of God's will.

We recognized our graduates on June 1st and wished them well as they continue on in their education, work or other pursuits. The future is bright!

On June 8th, WEAR RED - It is the Birthday of the Church - PENTECOST SUNDAY and besides celebrating with our brothers and sisters from the Warren Baptist Church, it is also my last day as your pastor and I will moving on to my next call - to family and home.

This month's theme is COMMENCEMENT - This is usually considered the "graduation service" at a high school or college. We aren't FINISHING something (though for students and teachers it certainly FEELS like it!) but actually are moving FORWARD into a NEW BEGINNING.

Our graduates receive our good wishes and prayers as they launch out into their next adventure. We lift our sister January up for her next adventure, and I am also writing a new chapter of my adventure.

...continued next page.

Where decisions are made.




My time as pastor of SCCW is ending, yes, but this is also a beginning for the church in Warren to look forward and prepare for YOUR new beginning. A new chapter is opening up, and each one of you has an opportunity to voice your hopes and desires for the future of the church, your next spiritual leader, and where you see the church going and GROWING looking ahead. It is another commencement - stepping into the future with faith and with confidence -not fear.

The Apostle Paul said to his protege and apprentice, Timothy: "Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God, which is in you by the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and love, and self-control".

STIR UP THE GIFT OF GOD in POWER and LOVE - BEGIN the next step of the journey with the Spirit to guide you.

My love stays with you no matter where we are physically, because we are bound in Christ forever.

Peace & All Good ~

Pastor Bette 



Pastor Bette has served us well. This is a time to look back and a time to look forward, a time for joy and a time for sadness. It is time to give thanks and praise to almighty God for what Pastor Bette has given us in our lives together.



*"May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hands,"*



This Prayer List is designed to inspire you to keep these cherished individuals in your thoughts and prayers throughout the week. If there's someone you'd like to add to this list, please speak with them first and obtain their consent before proceeding. (We understand that this may not always be feasible). If your loved one has experienced the healing grace of God, kindly inform us so we can remove them from the prayer list.

Heavenly Father, in Your compassion, please bring healing and recovery to those listed. Touch them with Your healing hand and restore their strength. Ease their pain and mend what is broken. Surround them with Your peace and comfort. In Jesus' Name we pray for...

Connie Heath
Bob and Karen Carpenter
Gayle White
Muriel Knutson
Peggy Libby
Clinton Lanphier
Gloria Britto
Lee Houghton
Brad Miller
Stuart Mank
Elmer Johnson
Lorraine Strout

Becky Tipp by Carole S.
Brent Lawson by Melody S.
Romeo Jackson by Melody S.
Ann & Peter Gribbin by Melody S.
Sheila A. by Tina
Ann Cmar
Natashia, Mickayla, Hanna by January
Joel Kinney by Janice O.
Rodney Brooks
Nathan Lanphier by Clinton
Jamie by Sterling R.
Linda Winstead by Pat W.
Dick Hooey by Brenda K.

June Birthdays

3 Eric Overlock
6 Bill Cutting
8 Sharon Landry
13 Kahtleen Borzelli
14 Aleta Mank
15 Sandy Gammon
17 Patty Ott
19 Joe Cifaldo
19 Sophie Cohen
20 Irene Maxcy
21 Linda Winstead
22 Vicki Barrett
29 Melody Sainio

If your special day
is not listed please
contact the office.

June Anniversaries

2 Marvin & Donna Lewis
5 Bob & Karen Carpenter
12 Richard & Irene Maxcy
15 David & Betty Baker
17 Jim & Beverly Pacheco
22 Ken & Linda Lent

Music News...

The Midcoast Brass Quintet and On A Ring and A Prayer Ringers together with our Missions group raised \$1,000.00 for Area Interfaith Outreach. Thank you so very much for your support.

My gratitude to all the Choir members and HandBell Ringers for their dedication to making music in ministry this past year. Thank you for your service to God and this Church.

Please consider. being a part of one of our groups for next year.
Thank you, Beverly Pacheco

First day...to Retirement....



As we all know, Rev. Bette will be returning to her hometown in Indiana to be with her Mom and family.

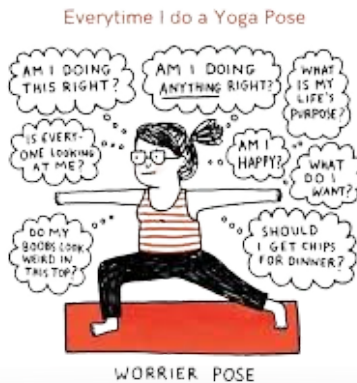
Please join us on June 8th for Rev. Bette's final Sunday service with us. Following service from 11am to 1:00pm there will be a light luncheon and reception as we bid her farewell.

IMPORTANT DATES & HAPPENINGS

- June 1 - School Senior recognition
- June 8 - Pentecost Sunday AND Rev. Bette's final service with us - Retirement party to follow
- June 12 - 5:30pm Thursday - Public Supper - Buffet style seating. Hosted by the Caring and Sharing Sisters. There is a signup sheet in the upper room for those who wish to help us with food preparation. We have decided to have a specific menu, please choose an item from the menu. Thank you for your continued support.
- June 14 - Flag Day
- June 15 - Father's Day - Happy day to all!
- June 20-21 - Friday evening & Saturday - Warren Days - "Back to the Farm" is this year's theme. The committee has lots of new things planned this year. The Deacons have decided to take a year off from manning the Hot Dog hut. But don't fret, there will be plenty of food.
- June 21-24 - the 71st Annual Meeting & Conference of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. Traveling mercies to our delegates.



June 12 - 5:30pm



**Yoga continues - Mon. Wed. Fri.
8:30-9:00am - ALL welcome.**



**June 19th - 6:30pm
Church Council Meeting
Moderator: Weston Ames**

This meeting is where the real work of church leadership happens — where vision turns into action and the decisions shaping your faith community get made. This meeting brings together the people responsible for guiding the church: the senior pastor, church trustees, deacons and key ministry leaders. If you're in that room, you're helping your church. That's the Congregational way. If you are on any board or committee, you should attend these bi-monthly meetings. Your voice matters.

Look who's feeling better...

Muriel Knutson recently suffered a mild stroke and is recovering in rehab. Rev. Bette and Michele Bradley paid her a visit. We wish her all of God's healing grace.



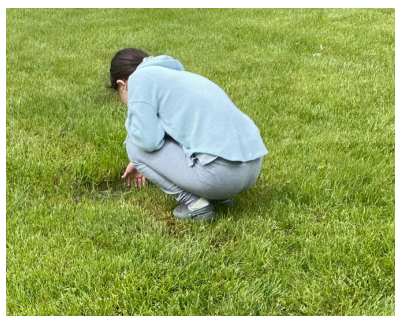
Merle Vanner taking his position as Sunday Liturgist very seriously. If you are interested in helping to share the Word on a Sunday morning, please contact the Hospitality committee (Carolyn, Patty, Tina).



On May 18th Zack, Jack and Zoe received the Holy Sacrament of Baptism. Congratulations Hobden family.



On May 25th, Children's Sunday, Becky took newly Baptized Jack and Zoe down to the Woolen Mill Park flower hunting. They enjoyed a good lesson about God and Nature with Becky.



June 1st Senior recognition Sunday, we proudly honored the following graduates. Congratulations to all.

Arden Boggs
Hayley Blake
Jorja Dodge
Hunter Hibl
Addy Ruggieri

“Here I am, Lord”

New Minister **ORDINATION**

May 31, 2025 - the Rev. January Peavey



Rev. January's husband Jonathan Dodge delivering the Old Testament Reading Isaiah 6:8



Soon to be ordained in Ct. Dave Stuart delivered the Epistle Reading, 2 Timothy 1:6-7

What a blessed day this was. With nearly 60 in attendance, family and friends of January Peavey were on hand to witness the blessed event, Ministers Ordination. Congratulations Rev. January Peavey - God Bless you!

[Click to watch Ordination Video](#)

[Click to watch Rev. January Sing “The Goodness of God”](#)

High School Senior RECOGNITION

On June 1st, we celebrated three remarkable young women who recently graduated from high school and are heading off to college to pursue their career aspirations. We wish them all of God's blessings. Congratulations, ladies!



Jorja Dodge-Addy Ruggieri-
Arden Kondracki



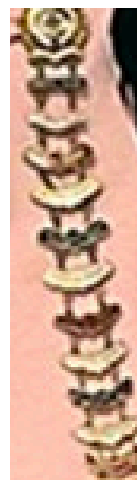
Proud grandparents
Gus & Becky



Addy sang "What a Wonderful World". [Click to see the video.](#)



Past Sunday School Graduates - check out those pins...Patty Overlock, Aleta Mank, Hope Creighton



OUR MIGHTY MISSIONS

Thank you one and all for donating to the Discretionary Fund during the Lenten season. In total we were able to boost this fund by nearly \$2000! We sincerely hope this helps our homeless situation, which seems to be a problem only getting worse. We also collected toiletries for the homeless, who often end up temporarily at the Traveler Motel. On the front page of the Midcoast Villager (May 22) there is an in depth article about a local family who ended up living in a hotel and collecting General Assistance through unforeseen circumstances, which started when they lost their apartment during COVID. As the article goes on, you will learn a local church is helping them through this crisis. This is what we are called to do, so again thank you for your caring and generosity.

The Mission group is going to miss Rev. Bette more than we can express. She has attended all of our meetings since the beginning and has good ideas and knowledge about what the local needs are. In her honor we made a \$500 donation to the Transfiguration Hermitage in Windsor, where 3 sisters/nuns are doing good work without a lot of financial support. Thank you Rev. Bette for supporting Missions for the past 5 years! May the next chapter of your story be the best yet!

The Mission Board, Gayle, Irene, Marcia, Sharon and Valerie

GARDENS AGROW Have you noticed the beauty that welcomes us each week?



HEART SHAPED RHODODENDRON

Our talented gardener, Irene Maxcy, has been hard at work enhancing the beauty of our gardens. If you spot her, be sure to give her a shout-out—her efforts are truly demanding, and she does an incredible job. Thank you, Irene!



Hello from the Ladies Circle.

This year we are working on scattering our blessings. Our mission for the year comes from a quote by Helen Walton, “It is not what you Gather, but what you Scatter, that tells what kind of life you have lived.”



Each month we try to reach out to a friend, church member, or community member offering; Cookies and a visit, help on a family event at church, our annual Fruit Basket deliveries, flowers and a visit. If you have any ideas for us let us know. ~Cindy



Hello from the Pastoral Search Committee (PSC)

We are in the process of completing our Church Information Form (CIF) which will be filed with the National Association of Christian Churches (NACCC). Their office will publicize our search for a new minister. In addition, they will help 'vet' any candidate who applies. This is a huge benefit to our church.

Part of the CIF informs any candidate considering our church of what we are looking for in a minister. This is where the congregation comes in. We need to know what is important to YOU in our next minister. Our survey to you will have questions that come straight off the CIF. They are a little complex at times. Please give it your best shot. We will pass them out for two Sundays in June and hope to collect them by end of June.

PSC thanks you. ~ Cindy, Carolyn, Clint, Marcia, Sharon, Tina, Wes

Food insecurity is high in our community, especially among the young families struggling to make ends meet. Recently our food barrel, which is located in the Church foyer, has been empty. Are you forgetting? Do you need to see more reminders? Maybe you need help yourself. The Warren food pantry, Bread for the Journey, is available to all Warren residents.

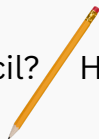
This month let's fill our barrel with some of the following items:

- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Can Veg's
- Egg Noodles



These are just suggestions. You are welcome to donate anything you want, just be aware of the expiration dates. They cannot accept outdated items.

Let's find out who reads the Newsletter!

Can you locate this pencil?  Hidden within the pages of this newsletter.

When you find it, be the first to call the office with its exact location and win a prize!

Scholarships..

The Scholarship Awards Program is a result of the former Riverside Fellowship Club Shows of many years ago. Thank you for making this fund possible for recipients!.

The committee met on May 20, 2025 and awarded three scholarships to the following students:

- Heikkinen "Henry" Gamage - SMCC - \$750.00 - 2nd Year Marine Science
- Nevan Power - Dean College - \$750.00 - 1st Year Sports Management
- Adrianna "Addy" Ruggieri - UMA - \$750.00 1st Year Dental Hygiene

We are very proud of our recipients. Please wish them the best as they continue their education.

Congratulations,

Valerie Miller, Secretary Scholarship Committee



Bottle Redemption benefits the
CHILDREN'S CLOTHING EXCHANGE

Returnable bin is in the downstairs
Fellowship room. We thank you
kindly for your donations.

Please empty your bags directly into the bin.

Also please empty the bottles before
putting them into bags and be sure
the bags you bring in do not have holes.
Leaky bags are no fun!

To Volunteer at the
Children's Clothing Exchange, contact
CCE Director - Susan Lombardo
207-701-7622

FROM THE EDITOR and OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR



- Current office hours are:
 - Wednesday and Thursday
 - 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Newsletters are sent out via mail and email once a month, typically on or around the first of the month.
- Submissions for the newsletter must be received **ON** or **BEFORE** the 28th of each month.
- If you would like a printed newsletter mailed to you, please reach out to the office. Printed copies are available upon request.
- Minutes from all board meetings will be distributed monthly. Kindly submit your notes to the office promptly after a meeting, except for the ladies' and men's groups.
- Council meetings: If you are a member of any board, you automatically become part of the church council, and your attendance at the bi-monthly church council meetings is expected and highly encouraged.



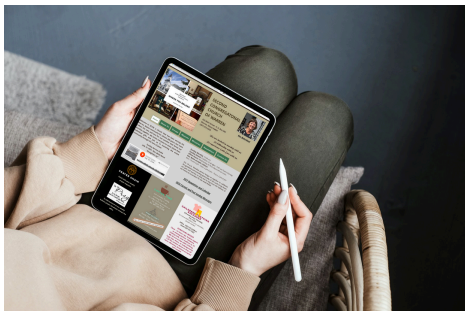
Tithe.ly

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tablet, click [HERE](#) to make a secure donation.

Thank you for your continued support.



DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	MISSIONS
05/04/25	50	\$1988.00	NA
05/11/25	64	1756.00	\$239.00
05/18/25	70	1127.00	91.00
05/25/25	61	1708.00	48.00



For the most current information, please visit our website, where you will find all the details you need. Explore our pages to learn about our history, listen to a Sunday service, and discover our various boards and committees. We invite you to visit us at www.SECONDCONGREGATIONAL.org.

SCCW CONTACT INFO:

OFFICE ADMIN: Carolyn Robinson - office.sccw@tds.net

TREASURER: Patricia Weaver - treasurer.sccw@tds.net

TRUSTEE CHAIR: Jeff Creighton - jeffcreighton@gmail.com

DIACONATE CHAIR: Weston Ames - westonames508@gmail.com

Editor's note...

This has been the most heart-tugging newsletter I've had to write in five years! Sure, crafting these updates always gives my brain a workout, but finding juicy news has been a breeze. We are indeed a busy flock.

Ever since the pandemic crash-landed and our superstar minister took the helm, our church has been glowing! Bette's light and magical influence through her Sunday sermons, midweek words of wisdom, Bible studies, Tuesday talks, and more, has deepened our faith and knitted us closer together.

Days in the office with Bette have been a joyful joyride. Her cheerful "Good morning!" as she breezed in will echo in my heart forever. What's magical about Bette is her knack for making real connections, I call it the "Bond Effect." She's formed genuine ties with so many of us, and I'm eternally grateful for my friendship with her. Her kindness, compassion, and genuine concern for others is an inspiration...and traits that should be etched in all of our hearts.

Her resilience after losing Jimmy and her ability to march on is awe-inspiring. But now, it's time for her to prioritize family, as her mother needs her more than ever. Her faith is rock-solid, and her drive is unstoppable. She leaves behind a strong congregation, and although we have navigated change before, we are not strangers to it, and we will get over this hurdle with grace and unity.

Working alongside her has been a delightful journey and an unmatched joy, I will miss her dearly. God bless you, Bette Bond, as you leap into this new chapter, may all of God's graces and traveling mercies carry you home! Indiana wants YOU now!

~Forever grateful for you...
with love and admiration, Carolyn!



It's not goodbye, it's see ya later!

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

P O BOX 206 WARREN, MAINE 04864 207.273.2338

JUNE 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 (Hall rented) Senior Recognition	2 10:00 am Ladies Circle Mtg.	3 9-11am Table Talk	4	5 9-11am CCE 4pm Deacon's Mtg	6 10:00am Caring/Sharing Mtg	7
8 10:00am Service Rev. Bette's Final Day Pentecost Sunday	9	10 9-11am Table Talk	11	12 11am CCE 6:30pm Trustee Mtg PUBLIC SUPPER 5:30pm	3	14 Flag day -Hall Rented 2-5pm January & Jorja
15 10:00am Service FATHER'S DAY Rev. Ken Dutille	16	17 9-11am Table Talk	18	19 9-11am CCE 6:30PM COUNCIL NACCC	20 WARREN DAY NACCC	21 WARREN DAY NACCC
22 10:00am Service Rev. Ken Dutille Music/Paul Smeltzer	23	24 9-11am Table Talk	25	26 9-11am CCE	27	28 9am Men's group
29 10:00am Service Rev. Ken Dutille Music/ Barbara Bibro	30	1 JULY 9-11am Table Talk	2	3 9-11am CCE 4pm Deacon's Mtg	4th INDEPENDENCE DAY	5
LITURGIST	DEACONS	TRUSTEES	GREETERS	HOSPITALITY		
06/01 Donna Lewis	06/01 Steve & Michele	06/01 Jeff Creighton	06/01 Kathleen/ Carolyn	06/01 Men's Group		
06/08 January Peavey	06/08 Sam & Wes	06/08 Irene Maxcy	06/08 Nola & Freda	06/08 Ladies Circle		
06/15 Aleta Mank	06/15 Betsy & Michele	06/15 Sandra Overlock	06/15 Marcia and Joe Cifaldo	06/15 Caring/Sharing		
06/22 Melody Sainio	06/22 Steve & Betty	06/22 Marcia Cifaldo	06/22 Patty Ott & Walter P.	06/22 Congregation		
06/29 Merle Vanner	06/29 Steve & Wes	06/29 Sterling Robinson	06/29 Sue C. & Raymond W.	06/29 Hospitality		

NOTE: Above duties are subject to change. Church Office hours: Wed. & Thurs. 8-12

TUES. EVE. AA Group Meet

THUR. EVE. Scouts Meet

Video Gentle Chair Yoga – Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30am