

# The Cornerstone-May 2021

Publisher: 2CCWM

Volume: No 5

Issue: No 5

A monthly publication compiled by the Second Congregational Church of Warren, Maine.

PO Box 206, 252 Main St., Warren, Maine 04864 phone. (207) 273-2338 E-mail: office.sccw@tds.net

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Are you finding the MAY flowers that the APRIL showers brought? It doesn't surprise me that the birthstone for May is the emerald. May is the **GREENEST** MONTH in Maine. The trees and grass just seem to come to life in May and are beautiful in their verdant lushness. To see all of Creation come to life around us is the wonder and beauty of God's works around us. It's also a good reminder that while we may think everything is dead in the winter, it's merely dormant – resting and biding its time to come alive! Perhaps some of **us** are feeling that way after a long winter, as well. I often think of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm with its green pastures, flowing water, and restful and tranquil places. Things are coming alive at SCCW, as well. As we continue our journey through the virus, knowing more, being more protected and vigilant, we are able to see more of our "flock" returning to the fold/congregation. Soon we will be enjoying coffee hour/fellowship time after worship - and the warmer weather lends itself perfectly to outdoor celebration! We will be starting a new Bible study this month (see article), honoring moms, and will also be celebrating a BIG BIRTHDAY. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> we will be celebrating the **Day of Pentecost** - traditionally the "birth day" of the Church - where Christians received the Holy Spirit by the thousands!! In most churches, it's the "wearing of the **red**" and a great and vibrant celebration. We hope you will join us in your best **RED** shirts, dresses, pants, skirts, scarves, hats, ties, or whatever! It is the color of POWER and the FIRE of the Holy Spirit. We will be ON FIRE! (figuratively, of course.) If you are looking for a Scripture reading or a daily practice, the book of



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Proverbs is a great place to begin. There are 31 chapters - one for each day of May. There are some “solid gold” nuggets in there, and you may be surprised at how many of them are still in use. My mom is partial to Proverbs 13:24: “*Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them!*” My husband quotes Prov. 27:15 “A quarrelsome wife is like the dripping of a leaky roof in a rainstorm – restraining her is like restraining the wind.” My own favorite is Prov. 17:22 “**A cheerful heart is good medicine.**” Read one each day and find your own personal favorites!

*Love & Light, Pastor Bette*

We've all heard about the “patience of Job.” Have you ever read the entire story (or poem, as it is written) of Job? We will begin a Bible study on the Book of Job - by popular demand, it will be on Tuesday morning, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. starting May 11<sup>th</sup> for six weeks, ending June 15<sup>th</sup>. If there are a few people who are able and want to meet on an evening, let me know and we can also have an evening study. If you feel sad or disappointed in your lot in life, reading Job is guaranteed to give a new perspective. Join us! *Pastor Bette* 2



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## MAY BIRTHDAYS



- |        |                |
|--------|----------------|
| May 02 | Nancy Braun    |
| May 03 | Mary Field     |
| May 03 | Sonja Wyllie   |
| May 04 | Everette Field |
| May 09 | Pat Libby      |
| May 11 | Shane Sainio   |
| May 14 | Tyler Field    |
| May 14 | Autumn Porter  |
| May 15 | Marilyn Chase  |
| May 19 | Wes Ames       |
| May 23 | Amanda Hanks   |
| May 24 | David Chase    |
| May 29 | Cindy Gardner  |

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES



- |        |                                |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| May 15 | Stephen & Susan Lombardo (50!) |
| May 18 | Jeff & Hope Creighton          |
| May 19 | Wayne & Robin Quinn            |
| May 20 | Gus & Becky Ruggieri           |
| May 20 | Jim & Rev. Bette Bond (25!)    |

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Roger Peabody  
Lorraine Strout by Linda Kaler  
Brian Hilt by Patty Ott  
Sally by Hope  
Cindy by Beverly  
Barbara by Renda King  
Joni by Karen C  
Vicky by Walter P.  
Henry & Lucy Carey  
Baby Loreai bt Linda  
Pat & Doug Libby  
Kaye Mooers By Walter K  
Tom Ferrucci by Melody  
Mary Dearborn by Sherry  
Charlie York  
Pam Pitcher by Becky  
Heath Barrett by Vicki  
Stubby Burnell  
Decan Robinson

Glenn Palmer by the Overlocks  
Dennis Perkins by Sterling  
Steven Cross by Kathy  
Taylor and Bob by Rev. Bette  
Candy by Marcia  
Anastasia by Bonnie  
Elizabeth by Merle  
Michael Stone by Pat W.  
John Milliken by Linda  
Colby by Debbie C.  
Irene Olsen By Karen W  
Jane Waltz  
Conner Greenman by Patty O  
Nola by Melody  
Evelyn Anderson  
Dana, Bill & Wayne by Robin  
Rosemary by Sharon  
Grace Anderson by Evelyn

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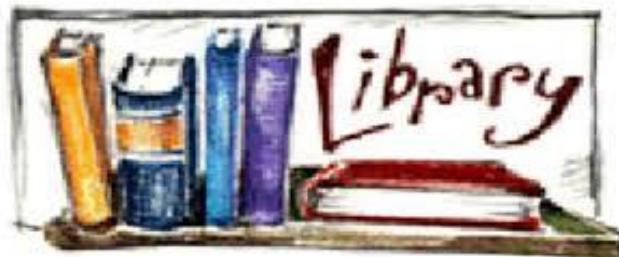
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Date	Collection	Attendance
April 04	\$3,181.00	89
April 11	\$ 877.00	51
April 18	\$1,185.50	43
April 25	\$2,125.66	57



Hello all!

I am happy to say that one of two books that hadn't been checked out properly has been returned. Thanks to whomever returned our copy of C.S. Lewis The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. We are still waiting for the return of Brian Jacques Redwall and I would like to remind people that the cardboard box with the yellow paper on the front is for book returns NOT THE BASKET. May comes and with it a renewed hope in the future in terms or covid now that we have a vaccine. I have faith that the end of covid is within sight. Stay safe, stay curious, and when trouble comes don't run or hide from it, take trouble head on and you will find its end.

- From James Lent, the Wild Rover in the Library

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Hello and thanks to everyone who brought in food for the month of April. The following is a list for the month of May.

May 2 Any bread product (English muffins, bagels, loaves of bread)

May 9 Mayo and Mustard

May 16 Baked beans (no vegetarian or dried)

May 23 Ketchup and Relish

May 30 Spaghetti sauce and Spaghetti

There will be a table in the back of the sanctuary to put the bread products on and they will remain up for the full month of May so people can bring in bread later.

We (food pantry staff) realize that everyone is on a budget so we deeply appreciate everything that you bring in to donate for the food pantry. Ramen noodles are a big hit and fairly inexpensive. Again, we thank everything and anything you bring in for food for the pantry.



## Bread for the Journey Bread drive

Sunday, May 2nd, 2021

Turn in the bread on tables in the back of the  
Sanctuary

Let's raise some Dough

I recently contacted Delia Lufkin asking her about the food pantry and this was the information she sent me.

Bread for the Journey was opened November 18, 2010 at Warren Baptist church.

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One of our members felt called and recognized the need to help, she organized and prepared the beginning set up. The church boards were approached and agreed to provide space in our kitchen.

For storage, the fellowship room was used, to offer coffee and fellowship to those who came for food assistance. It was not long before the space needed for the pantry overflowed into the fellowship room.

When the Old Brick school was put up for auction we were able to raise funds to purchase and renovate, then moved the pantry there freeing up our fellowship room for church events again.

## Mission statement

Our goal is to treat all people with dignity, integrity, and respect.

To develop new relationships throughout the community and meet the needs of local families, providing necessities and acceptance, and giving a hand up towards a quality way of life.

## *Matthew 25: 35, 36, & 40*

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you visited me.*

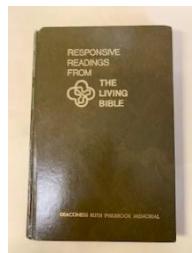
*The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.*

Thank you to everyone who has donated food and volunteered for this worthy charity.



**In the spirit and season of New Life and renewal,  
Anyone interested in becoming a member of SCCW, please see Pastor Bette.**

## **RESPONSIVE READINGS FROM LIVING BIBLE**



The church has these books if anyone wants a copy. Please see Cindy Bland or Pat Weaver and we will be very happy to give you one.

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The Mission Board wishes to thank the congregation for their generous support of USASOA (United Soldiers and Sailors of America), which was the recipient of our Lent offering (\$1,000), and Soldier's Angels, which received 169 pairs of socks collected throughout the Lent season.

We are so grateful to represent such a caring church body. In the first quarter of 2021 we gave out \$3,550 in donations, with a remaining balance of over \$2,000 in our checking account. In addition to our Lent recipients, we gave donations to AIO (Area Inter-faith Outreach), Fair Share, CCCME (our state organization) and RDNA (Rockland District Nursing Association), to name a few. We continue to contribute to the Brick School Community Center to house our Children's Clothing Exchange, which turned 8 years old in April.

The Mission Board meets the first Wednesday of the month and welcomes new ideas for ministries or organizations to support or Mission Moments to share with the congregation. Thanks again for helping us do the work we are all called to do. -Irene



To the SCCW Mission board and the entire Congregation I would like to thank you all for your generous support toward our Lenten mission, USASOA, United Soldiers and Sailors of America. As you all know, this organization was founded by my cousin, John Yori. When I suggested this to the Mission board and they agreed, I was beyond grateful.

The monies collected will go directly to feeding our homeless Veterans in and around Washington DC. John told me that the Capitol area looks like a war zone with all the tents housing homeless veterans. USASOA could never end hunger for these people. Knowing their efforts are just a drop in the bucket for the need that is out there; their tireless volunteers continue to provide as much help as they possibly can. And the help and generosity that you have all shown will further their efforts in combatting hunger. Your contributions and those of the mission board totaling \$1000, (WOW) will go a very long way.

So, thank you sincerely for your support and thank you for showing how our Congregation together can impact the lives of many.

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## EASTER EGG PAINTING EVENT

The Fellowship room was decorated and ready to host yet another Easter event, painting wooden eggs. An invitation went out to several of our Sunday School children. In spite of the Covid cautions being practiced, 11 children attended. A good time including some delectable snacks were enjoyed by all.

I know this was Becky Ruggieri's project to entice more children to come back inn the fall for Sunday School.

Thank you all that helped with this fun event!



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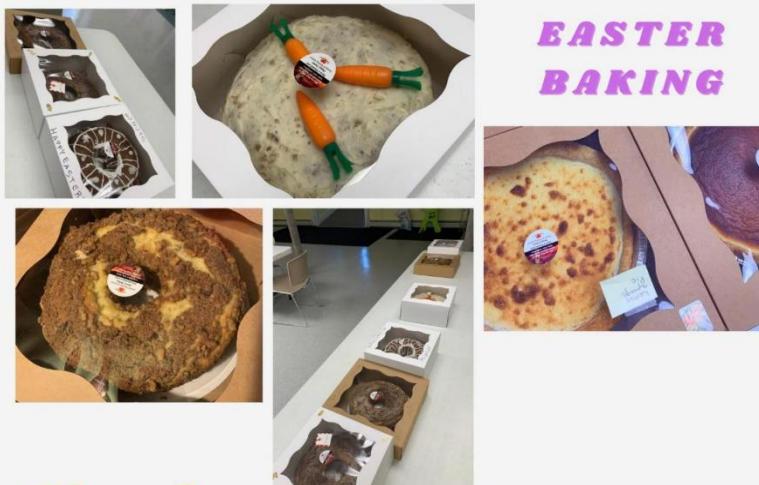
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**CARING & SHARING SISTERS**



**EASTER BAKING**

**Thanks everyone...  
for your support!!**

Some of you asked for the Sour Cream Coffee Cake recipe.... *From Ina Garten "the Barefoot Contessa"*

Ingredients...

12 tablespoons (1 1/2 sticks) unsalted butter at room temperature  
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar  
3 extra-large eggs at room temperature  
1 1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract  
1 1/4 cups sour cream  
2 1/2 cups cake flour (not self-rising)  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

**For the streusel:**

1/4 cup light brown sugar, packed  
1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt  
3 tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cut into pieces  
1/4 cup chopped walnuts, optional

**For the glaze:**

1/2 cup confectioners' sugar  
2 tablespoons real maple syrup

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and flour a 10-inch tube pan.
2. Cream the butter and sugar in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment for 4 to 5 minutes, until light. Add the eggs 1 at a time, then add the vanilla and sour cream. In a separate bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. With the mixer on low, add the flour mixture to the batter until just combined. Finish stirring with a spatula to be sure the batter is completely mixed.
3. For the streusel, place the brown sugar, flour, cinnamon, salt, and butter in a bowl and pinch together with your fingers until it forms a crumble. Mix in the walnuts, if desired.
4. Spoon half the batter into the pan and spread it out with a knife. Sprinkle with 3/4 cup streusel. Spoon the rest of the batter in the pan, spread it out, and scatter the remaining streusel on top. Bake for 50 to 60 minutes, until a cake tester comes out clean.

Enjoy!!!!

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## CAMP WINNIAUGUAMAUK, BROOSVILLE, ME

Spread the word if you know anyone interested. Applications are in the office.

**Camp Administrator  
Andrea Philbrick-Cooper**

The Congregational Christian Council of Maine offers a one-week residential camping experience for youth and teens in grades 5-12. This camp is located in beautiful Brooksville, Maine (just outside of Blue Hill). Campers attend Camp Winni from all over the state of Maine.



**Camp Winni 2019 will be held July 21-27, 2019**

(Camp staff will arrive July 20th to help set up camp)



At Camp Winniaugwamauk, youth live in cabins with 6-8 other campers and an adult cabin counselor. Cabins are arranged by age and gender. Swimming, athletics, arts and crafts are part of the daily routine. Other group activities such as a dance, skits, scavenger hunt, etc. take place each

evening. "Faith in Action", devotional time and evenings vespers services (which include the camper's favorite activity, prayer, scripture, and lots and lots of singing) round out the busy days at Camp Winni.

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Camp Directors for 2019 will be Pastor Mark Tanner from the Federated Church in Skowhegan, and Gregg Hanscom from East Orrington Congregational Church.



## Community Service Award – Liz Jenkins/AIO Food & Energy Assistance

This award recognizes a person, business, or organization whose activities have resulted in a significant community enhancement and/or positive contribution to the quality of life among local community members.

Liz Jenkins' impact on the Area Interfaith Outreach (AIO) Food & Energy Assistance organization has been felt since she became a volunteer in 2015. In 2017, she became the board chair, and set a vision for a new, state-of-the-art facility in Rockland to help those in need in our region. Jenkins led the board and community through a successful \$1.2 million capital campaign for the new facility, which opened on schedule in 2020 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.



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## AIO'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Joe Ryan

AIO Food & Energy Assistance is proud to announce the appointment of Joe Ryan as its first Executive Director. Established in 1990, AIO provides nutritious food and energy assistance throughout Knox County. Joe will provide oversight of AIO operations of the Food Pantry, Weekend Meal and Energy Assistance Programs. He will focus on the critical day-to-day operational tasks involved with carrying out AIO's mission; provide oversight of our partnerships with mission-aligned organizations and participate in AIO community engagement.



Contact: [joe@aiofoodpantry.org](mailto:joe@aiofoodpantry.org)

## DEACONS



The deacons have, for the past few months, worked on 'outreach' to members and friends of Second Congregational Church. We have sent cards, written notes, made calls, delivered cookies and dropped our spring flowers to say... *we are thinking of you and miss you.* We are a caring church, so I am sure the deacons are not the only ones doing outreach ! Thank you to all who are being caring stewards for SCCW.

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This past November the Trustees made the decision to have the sanctuary painted between the beginning of January and Easter Sunday. As you know this was completed and our first service was held on Palm Sunday. This update is to inform the congregation about how this was accomplished financially.

Albert Doherty, who did the painting, gave us an estimate of \$15,000 in November. We added several other jobs to the original job, including painting the foyer, polyurethane the pew backs and the wainscoting, new doors leading into the sanctuary, and the list goes on. The final cost was \$25,244.70. The good news is the actual cost to the church was \$13,344.70.

The breakdown goes like this: total labor-\$21,015, custom-built doors-\$3,000, material-\$1,229.70. Monetary donations came in at \$11,900; the paint and primer were donated; Karen Richards donated her time to help with color consulting; Jeff installed the recessed lighting, as well as, donated countless hours doing whatever needed to be done; Superior Restoration cleaned the carpet at no charge; and many others spent countless hours cleaning.

This project required a great deal of faith. The Trustees are so very grateful to so many for their contributions and to the congregation for their patience. Our newly painted sanctuary is worth all the inconvenience over the past few months. Come and worship with us and invite everyone you know to come and see and hear the word of God.



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As you all know our current Executive Director of NA, Rev Dr. Michael Chittum, is retiring. The Rev Dr. Ashley Cook Cleere will be our new Executive Director. She will be ratified at our NA annual meeting in June. There is an article included here to introduce her to you.

If anyone is interested in Lay Ministry training, there is information on the NA website.

I have requested a video from NA to tell us about her work. It should be coming to us soon.

Sandra Overlock and I have filled out Delegate cards for the annual meeting. It will be a zoom meeting June 19 and 20<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in being part of the meeting, let us know and you can zoom with us! It could be interesting how things work at NA.

Some state news: There will be a fall meeting in Skowhegan in October. Actually, in person! Yea! Anyone is welcome to go. There are usually several members going, so we could take several cars. It is always a fun time! Delegates are Gayle White, Robin Quinn, Pat Weaver and myself. Come join us!

Thanks to all who keep up with the NA news. It is who we are and what we are a part of. Very Important.

Respectfully, Marcia Cifaldo

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## Rev. Dr. Ashley Cook Cleere Named New Executive Director



The Executive Director Search Committee and the Board of Directors are pleased to announce the selection of Rev. Dr. Ashley Cook Cleere as the new Executive Director of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC). The selection was made after a national search process, numerous interviews, and thoughtful deliberation.

The Executive Director Search Committee and the Board of Directors are pleased to announce the selection of Rev. Dr. Ashley Cook Cleere as the new Executive Director of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC). The selection was made after a national search process, numerous interviews, and thoughtful deliberation.

Jodee Lord, chair of the Search Committee said "We were excited what we learned about Rev. Dr. Cleere through the interview and through conversations with her references. She is passionate about and experienced in the NACCC. Ashley is a leader who is willing to be part of the team. She is a reliable and good administrator but also a visionary and innovator." Jodee explained that the committee was particularly impressed and excited by the comments to questions related to visioning that the Rev. Dr. Cleere presented to the committee during the process. She was a unanimous choice of the Search Committee.

Ashley's personal resume most recently includes work as Chaplain, Director of Church Relations, and Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion at Piedmont College. Her role at Piedmont included strengthening ties with the NACCC, promoting student recruitment to establish a more diversified student body, and partnering with students, faculty, staff, and community organizations to effect change in the college community. While chaplain Ashley worked with budgets and goals, personnel selection and evaluation, fundraising, and programming.

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Ashley has also served as Interim Senior Pastor at Central Congregational Christian Church in Atlanta GA; Founding Minister at Covenant Congregational Church in Demorest GA; Minister of Congregational Life at South Congregational Church of Hartford CT; and Pastor of First Congregational Church of Etna in Pittsburgh PA. She is a graduate of Hamilton College, Union Theological Seminary, and Columbia Theological Seminary.

At the time of Ashley's selection, she was serving as President of the Board of Governors of the Congregational Foundation. As President, she was a voting member on the NACCC Board of Directors and served from 2017-2020. Other work included serving as a member of the Nominating and Annual Meeting and Conference Committees, Missionary Society, and Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies (CFTS).

Rev. Art Ritter, NACCC Board of Directors Chair stated, "We are excited about the choice of Ashley Cleere as the new Executive Director. Her experience within the NACCC will be helpful as we deal with the unique issues of our time and we look forward to her leadership in helping us define and work toward a bright future. We are grateful for the excellent work of the search committee."

The members of the Search Committee and the Board of Directors ask that everyone keep the Rev. Dr. Cleere in prayer as she begins her new position on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Her selection will be on the agenda for ratification by the Delegates at the virtual Annual Meeting and Conference on June 19, 2021.

*To nurture fellowship among Congregational Christian Churches and to support ministries of the local church in its community and to the world, all in the name of Christ.*

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



As many of you are aware, our church provides prayer shawls to those in need of comfort, hope and peace. The shawls are lovingly made by members of the congregation. They are blessed in our sanctuary, then are given as a symbol of the embracing, unconditional love of God. Anyone in our congregation can give a shawl to whoever they feel needs it. Some of the shawls will be placed in a downstairs cupboard for easy access. There are cards to

Attached to the shawls. There is also a log book to register who the shawl is given to and who gave it.

We would like to form a shawl makers group to support this mission. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting or would just like to get together please contact Gayle White or Carolyn Robinson.

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**A note to all at SCCW from your Music Minister.** I am Looking forward to 'after Covid Events'...

Thank you so much for the warm welcome at SCCW! I am so glad to be able to serve you. Would you please help me get to know you and plan by filling out this form? You may return it to the church or email it to [bpachecomusic@me.com](mailto:bpachecomusic@me.com)

**Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E mail address** \_\_\_\_\_

What is your

Your Favorite Hymns for Worship and service.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Your Favorite Praise Songs

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like to hear/ envision in the future for music at SCCW?

**Would you be interested :**

\_\_\_\_ in participating in a Hand Bell Choir?

\_\_\_\_ in a hymn sing evening.

\_\_\_\_ participating in a group that sings and performs occasionally at local nursing homes.

\_\_\_\_ sharing a musical number during the service.

\_\_\_\_ Do you play an instrument? Which one? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Are you interested in joining/returning back to Choir in September?

\_\_\_\_ In helping with a children/Youth Choir?

\_\_\_\_ Are you interested in being part of a music planning team to help plan music ministry events? (you would not have to be a musician).      18