

# The Goodwill Messenger

Published by the Village Church of Cummington

Minister: Rev. Jon Rehmus

Organist: Morgan Markel

Church Office: 634-5508

Service 10:00 AM, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Editor & Graphics: John Maruskin • Reporting & Mailing: Pat Keith

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[cummingtonvillagechurch.org](http://cummingtonvillagechurch.org)

*Village Church—Open and Affirming—You are welcome here*

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## Minister's Message

Dear Friends,

Summer to me revolves around water. I watch the weather and visit the garden daily with an eye to its water needs. Each dive into Ashfield Lake, every shower after a bike ride: these are ecstatic events for me. A cold glass of water, dripping with condensation, takes on the aspect of art. Each summer that I'm able, I look out over the ocean and feel this inward awe before the Mother of us all. Water is flow, it is sparkle and reflection, it is depth.

Water is life. As another month goes by with below-average precipitation—every month so far this year—each rain seems an act of divine grace. Think of India: the May heat wave put more than 200,000,000 people in danger of going without potable water. Closer at hand, the American southwest is literally burning for want of temperatures that allow for rain.

How blessed Cummington is to have a river running through its very center! How appropriate is water as the centerpiece to the beautiful quilt in our sanctuary!

When the summer is over, we begin our fall services with a "water communion." Consider now how you might collect water from a source precious to you to bring to this service: the source might be your tap, the stream near your home, or perhaps a lake or the ocean. From wherever you take it, offer thanks when you do so.

In faith and service,  
Jon

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## July At the Village Church

July 3—NO Service

July 10—Service 10 AM, 1st Greenwood Sunday, Come enjoy the beautiful music the campers bring us!

July 17—Service 10 AM, 2nd Greenwood Sunday

July 24—Service 10 AM, 3rd Greenwood Sunday

July 31—Service 10 AM, 4th Greenwood Sunday, West Cummington Church Invited

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The Goodwill Messenger, deadline for the August issue is July 25, 2016. Any personal news, an event, a business to promote with a paid advertisement or anything else worth noting please send to John at [mrblooz@verizon.net](mailto:mrblooz@verizon.net) or Pat at [patakeith@gmail.com](mailto:patakeith@gmail.com), mail to VCC, PO Box 76, Cummington, MA 01026 or leave it in the drop box, marked GWM located in the back entryway of the Village Church. Please include a contact number.

Visit our website at [cummingtonvillagechurch.org](http://cummingtonvillagechurch.org)

## Special Joint Greenwood Service with West Cummington Church

On Sunday, July 31 at 10 AM, three of Cummington's venerable institutions—its two churches together with the Greenwood Music Camp—come together to celebrate spirit, music, and reflection. Co-led by Stephen Philbrick and Jon Rehmus, this service on the theme of Love will be an important way for us to express our shared sense of community. Your attendance will affirm the growing collaboration between the two churches: let us mix with one another in the pews! Fellowship will follow the service, and if you wish to help in that regard, contact Kathy Harrison (413-634-5631; [bruchrrsn@aol.com](mailto:bruchrrsn@aol.com)).

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## Ministry Hours in July

From Rev. Jon: After a family vacation July 2–9, I will be in Cummington intermittently during the following weeks in addition to each Sunday. I do not hold regular office hours. Do however feel free to call me at home (413-624-3025) if you would like to talk or meet; my home-phone message machine is the best way to reach me since I check email less often.

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## Summer Stargazing with Ron & Jon

Saturday, July 23 (Sunday, July 24 cloud date)—8:30 PM at the Church; late arrivals can come to Harrisons, 28 Main

Come enjoy the turn of the seasons and the wheeling of the heavens: this summer, Mars and Saturn progress across the southern night sky in company with the constellation Scorpius. With an eye to these and other wonders, Ron Woodland and Jon Rehmus share telescopic equipment as well as learning about the celestial sphere and its lore. Feel free to bring binoculars; people may find a pillow helpful. Even in summer, dress in sufficient layers to prevent chill.



Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July!

## From the Librarian's Desk

First of all, congratulations to all the members of the Cummington Historical Commission and the featured speakers for the splendid dedication of The Old Parsonage on June 18th. The weather cooperated nicely and everything went quite well. I particularly liked hearing the rooster crowing as we listened to the speeches. It was a pleasant reminder of our rural setting.

The 2016 Summer Reading Program will be held at the BFL on Tuesday afternoons in July; the 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, from 1:00 to 2:30. This year's theme is On Your Mark, Get Set, Read! There'll be readings, crafts, and light snacks. It should be fun.

We have a single pass for the Clark Museum in Williamstown, and we should be receiving our multiple-person Smith College Museum of Art pass any day now.

See you at the library!

Mark

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## Westhampton Woods Senior Housing

The waiting lists for Westhampton Woods Senior Housing are now open!

These are affordable one-bedroom single level apartments in a rural location. All units are mobility adaptable. Applicant's household must have at least one member who is 62 years of age or older. Income restrictions apply and this is an equal housing opportunity.

Applications can be mailed or emailed, or found at local town offices and libraries or on our website at [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org). Applications received by August 1, 2016 will be randomly ordered and added to the existing waiting lists. Applications received after August 1 will be added to the end of the list.

Please contact Cindy at 413-296-4536 x105 or [CindyT@HilltownCDC.org](mailto:CindyT@HilltownCDC.org) for more information, or visit [www.HilltownCDC.org](http://www.HilltownCDC.org) for an application.

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## Call for Submissions

The fifth edition of Stone Walls II, the literary and arts journal dedicated to capturing the history and character of the Hilltowns of Western Massachusetts, is scheduled for release in November. The submissions deadline for this Winter 2017 issue is September 1st. See [www.stonewallstwo.com](http://www.stonewallstwo.com) for submission guidelines.

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## Living Fully, Aging Gracefully Discussion Group

A Community discussion group, sponsored by the Council on Aging focusing on Living Fully, Aging Gracefully and Befriending Death is forming and is open and welcoming to all residents of the Hilltowns.

The group will meet once a month on Tuesday afternoons, the second Tuesday, from 1-3 PM at the Cummington Community House Library, Main Street starting Tuesday, May 10th.

For further information or to RSVP please contact Wynne or Lucy 413 634-5576 [wynlucy@verizon.net](mailto:wynlucy@verizon.net) or Annie [annieb@crocker.com](mailto:annieb@crocker.com).

Visit VC Church website at [cummingtonvillagechurch.org](http://cummingtonvillagechurch.org)

## Bryant Day at the Homestead

Agriculture in the Hilltowns at Bryant Day will be Saturday, July 16, from 10:30 AM—4 PM at the William Cullen Bryant Homestead, 207 Bryant Road, Cummington. Celebrate the theme this year with an Old Growth Forest walk, a historic quilt show and handmade quilt raffle, spinning demonstrations, tours of the Homestead, children's activities, local historical societies, and agricultural products of cheese, maple syrup, honey, cider, sheep, and timber framing on display and for sale. Storey Publishing will be there with "How To" Agricultural books.

At 1 PM come hear guest lecturer Brian Donahue speaking on his book "Wildlands, Woodlands, and Farmlands: A vision for New England Conservation." At 1:50 PM local authors Frank and Stephen Philbrick will speak on their book "The Backyard Lumberjack. And you won't want to miss at 11:30 AM Dennis Picard and his walk and talk "Keeping Things Cold—Ice Harvesting."

To close the day at 2:45 PM there will be a Contra dance: Muddy Roads String Band with Sadie Stull.

If you would like to display a historic quilt please contact Martha at 413 634 2158. Raffle tickets for the handmade quilt are available at the Old Creamery Co-op in Cummington or at the event.

The William Cullen Bryant Homestead is a property of The Trustees. Admission for members is \$5 ; non-members \$10

For more info: [westregion@thetrustees.org](mailto:westregion@thetrustees.org), 413 532 1651x3110

Sponsored by the Cummington, Williamsburg, and Worthington Cultural Councils

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## Lunch Bunch

Ladies Lunch Bunch will be going to the Fish Hook restaurant on July 13. Leaving the church at noon. Fish Hook is on Damon Road, in Northampton. Contact Edith for more info.

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## Veterans Community Art Show

Please join us for the opening of the Solider On Veteran's Art Show on Thursday, July 7th from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at the Hilltown Community Development Corporation on 387 Main Road, Chesterfield, MA. There are 45 pieces of work being show by 12 Soldier On Veterans. Soldier On's Veterans Community Art Initiative engages homeless veterans in the arts and cultural activities to promote healing and expand veteran's social and personal networks of support. Soldier On's Mission is to end homelessness among veterans by providing transitional and permanent, sustainable, safe, and affordable housing that veterans own and operate with support services. Soldier On fosters an environment of integrity, dignity, and hope. The ultimate goal is to help veterans to become fully enfranchised and contributing members of their community. Hope to see you there!

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## Watch Found

I found a woman's watch, Sunday, June 19th, on Windsor Bush road, not far up from Main St., West Cummington. It has a clasp on it. If someone lost a watch in that vicinity, you can contact me at 634-5071. Susi Westwood

For personal, church needs or questions please contact one of the Deacons, John Maruskin at 634-5320, Susan Riley at 634-8055, Kathleen Knox at 634-8041 or Josh Wachtel at 634-5005 or leave a message at the church 634-5508.

## Friday Night Café



Louise Mosrie—photo by John Maruskin

The last featured performer for this season at the Café was Louise Mosrie, on May 27, late of Nashville, TN, now living in Williamsburg, MA. She is a Southern poet and storyteller, and a nationally acclaimed, award-winning performer. It was a real coup to get her for the Café!

On June 10 the Café celebrated the 50th year anniversary of Simon and Garfunkle's recording, *Sounds of Silence*. This may make some of us feel kind of old to think about, but there it is. A crowd of performers came, including John Bye and Peg Cowen, Josh and Kim Wachtel, Rachel Laitman, Sean Kimball and Heather Cupo, James Kitchen and Mike Metger, Daniel Plane and Tatiana Berendi, Jonathan Rehmus and Michael Jennings.

The Café is taking a summer break and will return on September 9. Remember it's here, it's near, and it's Free! See you then!



*Sounds of Silence* photos by Ellen Metzger



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*Schedule of Ongoing Events – all at the Community House unless specified*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Admin. Assistant Hours 9–11 AM	Admin. Assistant Hours 9–11 AM	Family Center Play Group 9:30–11:30 AM	Finance Office (Tax Collector, Treas., Acct.) open 6–7 PM	Admin. Assistant Hours 9–11 AM	Transfer Station open 7–11 AM
Veterans Agent 9–11 AM	Board of Health 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues. 7 PM (2nd floor)	Council on Aging Office Hours 9–noon (C.H. Annex)	Town Clerk 6–7:30 PM (2nd floor)	Family Center Play Group 9:30–11:30 AM	Bryant Library open 8:30 AM–12:30 PM
Assessor Office Hours 9:30–11:30 AM (upstairs in C.H.)		Bryant Library open 6–9 PM	Selectboard meets 7 PM		
Bryant Library open 6–9 PM		Transfer Station open 5:30–7:30 PM	Building Inspector 7–9 PM (upstairs in C. H.)		
		Planning Board 2nd, 4th weeks 7 PM	Board of Assessors meets 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursdays 6–8 PM		

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**Free computer services offered by Ken Graf to Cummington senior citizens**

634-8860

<http://kensstuff.blogspot.com>

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