

The Goodwill Messenger

Published by the Village Church of Cummington

Minister: All of Us Service 10:00 AM, 1st & 3rd Sundays Church Office: 634-5508

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cummingtonvillagechurch.org

Village Church—Open and Affirming—You are welcome here

Minister's Message

Dear Friends,
May God bless, sustain, and continue to make fruitful the Village Church, Cummington, and this beautiful community of communities we share in the hilltowns.

In faith, gratitude, and service,
Jon

Ministry Hours in July

From Rev. Jon: until August 6, I will be in Cummington as appointment calls for in addition to the final 2017 Greenwood service. For months after that date, I will be largely incommunicado but for family/emergencies but also must heed protocol recommending periods of separation between congregations and departing ministers. As of August 6, please refer all ministry-related questions to the deacons or moderator.

August 1–5, do call and leave a message if there is a pastoral emergency or you seek 24-hour turn-around (413-624-3025). I do not check email every day.

Living Fully, Aging Gracefully and Befriending Death.

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

The group—always open to new members—meets at the Cummington Community House library, Main Street on the second Tuesday of each month from 1–3.

Next meeting: Tuesday August 8th. For further information please contact: Wynne or Lucy 634 5576, or wynlucy@gmail.com or [Annie annieb@crockers.com](mailto:Annie_annie@crockers.com)

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

To rent the church space for classes, concerts, meetings, etc., please call Scott at 634-5084. The church charges a very nominal fee to cover upkeep & heat. We love having the building used!!

The Goodwill Messenger, deadline for the September issue is August 25, 2017. Any personal news, events, a business promotion with paid advertising etc., please send to John at mrblooz@verizon.net or Pat at 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 be sure to include all the details, and a contact number.

August At the Village Church

August 6—Service 10 AM. Last Greenwood Sunday

August 20—Service on the Hill with West Cummington Church, 10 AM

Village Church on Facebook

The Village Church's Facebook page has been especially active the last few weeks with Greenwood postings and photos.

If you use Facebook, please take a look and consider getting regular updates from us via at the Village Church, Cummington.

Facebook keeps track of a number of factors to give us a better idea of how effectively we spread our message.

On a rolling basis we can track the number of folks who open our page and when you click "like" or "interested" or "attending" we can tap into that feedback.

Chi Gung

Hilltowns resident Michael Alterman will be teaching a weekly class in Taoist Water Method Chi Gung this fall at the Village Church in Cummington. The Taoist Water Method is an ancient system for developing internal awareness, which includes chi gung, tai chi, and meditation.

Opening the Energy Gates, the chi gung set Michael will be teaching, helps people to maintain healthy posture with greater ease, and to release old patterns that cause pain and illness. Consistent daily practice of this form can renew all the major systems of the body, while calming and stabilizing the mind.

Class meets on Tuesday nights, beginning September 5th, from 6:30 to 7:45 PM. The fee for a seven-week session is charged on an affordable \$20-\$65-\$110 sliding scale, with no one turned away for lack of funds.

Beginners are also welcome to drop in at any time and try a class for free. No pre-registration is required, but it's helpful if people let Michael know in advance that they are planning to attend.

For more information, please contact Michael at 413-358-6919 or alterman@speakeasy.net, or visit his website: gyef2017.tumblr.com.

Goodwill Messenger, Abbreviated

It's summertime folks, and the news around Cummington is kinda thin, what with people attending to warm weather chores and being too busy to make news. So this month's issue is kinda thin also. We hope there will be news of August happenings or September comings-up so the next issue can return to the four page format we all know and love.

From the Librarian's Desk

Old friend and longtime patron of the Bryant Free Library, Barbara Goldsmith, recently passed away out in Colorado, where she had been staying with her daughter Linda. One of our great town historians of memory, she shared the cover of the 2014 Cummington Town Report with fellow town historian, Stephen M. Howes. It was Stephen who came into the library to inform me of her passing, and I asked him to put together a brief summary of her service to the town:

Barbara served the town in elected or appointed position for more than 60 years, and probably longer than any other elected or appointed official. She was auditor, treasurer, town clerk, library trustee, member ex-officio of the finance committee, and commissioner of trust funds. She was an original member of the Cummington Historical Commission of 1966, and served for 33 years in various roles including chairman, treasurer, and secretary. Some of these offices she served concurrently. Later, after her active service, she also assisted the CHC with special projects. She also was the historian for the Village Church, worked for many years in the head office of Central Berkshire, and was a member of the Mayflower Society, having traced her ancestral lineage to the Mayflower.

One thing I remember about Barbara is that no one went over the annual town report with a fine-tooth-comb like she did! Thank you Barbara for all you did for our fair town. You'll be missed.

—Mark DeMaranville



Visit our website at cummingtonvillagechurch.org

Lunch Bunch

On August 9th we will be going to the Cold River Cafe, 31 Main Street, Charlemont. We will leave from the church at noon. Hope to see you there.

Council on Aging Director Job Opening

Part-time Position. Candidate must have ability to work with elders and have knowledge of available resources; respect and preserve confidentiality; have effective management/organizational and leadership skills. CORI required. Two years elder experience preferred. Application is available on the Cummington town website or at the Community House on Main St., Cummington. Application must be postmarked no later than 9/15/17.

New Driver

The new Neighbor to Neighbor driver is Karen Barker, 413-335-0578.



cooperatively owned,
everyone welcome

Summer Hours

Sun-Thurs 7:30 – 7:30

Fri & Sat 7:30 – 8:00

Your Hilltown Community Market

www.oldcreamery.coop

Tel 413-634-5560

Visit www.facebook.com/CummingtonVillageChurch/

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