

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

April/May 2016



THE PASTOR'S CORNER

This past weekend I had a chance to get out and walk around in our yard to survey just what it was that had to be done in regards to a spring cleanup. As I made my way around, a cool gentle breeze greeted my face as I observed that there were lots of fallen branches and leaves scattered about with our flower beds in dire need of some tender loving care. The air was filled with some sweet smells, and the chirping birds that we had fed during the winter brought about music to my ears. Being outdoors for a while helped to awaken my spirit, energize my body, and it helped to uplift my soul. How precious the moments in our lives can be at times. I just love spring!

Spring is such a glorious time of the year. It's a time of rebirth, new beginnings, fresh starts and growth, and yes, even indoor and outdoor cleanups. But while you're raking your yards, cleaning up your flower beds, cleaning out your closets and vacuuming under your furniture, remember please that it's also a great time for a spiritual cleanup. So you might want to start by dusting off your Bibles and removing the spiritual cob-webs off of your minds.

God's word encourages us to draw close to Him on a daily basis and allows our hearts and bodies to be cleansed. **Psalm 51:10** comes to my mind when it says, "Create in me a **clean heart** O God; and renew a right spirit within me." You see, as spring brings about the urge to clean our homes and yards, we sometimes neglect to do the same thing with our spiritual lives. We think nothing of turning our homes and yards inside out and upside down, but we neglect our very own spiritual homes.

Spring is a great time to evaluate the areas in our lives that need to be cleaned up to be improved. It's a great time to get rid of the junk that clutters up our minds like anger, gossip, foul language and any other bad habits that you might possess. Spiritual cleaning requires some deep cleansing and goes beyond what others see and hear. It's a cleansing that starts from within inside and works its way out. And guess what? It doesn't require rakes, shovels, spades, vacuums, dust cloths or any other special cleaners. All it requires is the forgiveness of God and the determination to keep our spiritual lives clean and strong by the reading of God's word on a daily basis. I challenge you all to try it and in doing so, you'll taste God's goodness.

May you all find new growth and beginnings this spring through the reading of God's written word, and may the wondrous glory of His creation remind you all of the loving hands of our God that created it. Our church service is 9:30 every Sunday morning and we would just love to have you join us. May you all have a happy spring!

Pastor Earl

AT A GLANCE

APRIL

6	Garden Meeting
9	Movie Night
16	Large Trash Day
17	Fire Dept Breakfast
18-22	Spring Vacation SJA, MCS
18	Stuffed Animal Sleepover
22	Movie Night
23	Earth Day Clean- Up
30	4H Fashion Review

MAY

6	Princess & The Pea
8	Mother's Day
21	Town Wide Yard Sales
21	Large Trash Day
30	Memorial Day No School

INSIDE

GARDEN CARE	2
EARTH DAY	2
4-H	2
MOVIE NIGHTS	2
LARGE TRASH DAYS	2
TOPS REMINDER	2
PRINCESS & THE PEA	3
DEATH CAFÉ	3
FIRE DEPT BREAKFAST	3
FIRE PERMITS	3
STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER	3
TOWN YARD SALES	3
SCHOOL OPENINGS	4
FUTURE DATES	4

TOWN GARDEN CARE "CLUB"

Several former Garden Club members have continued to keep the gardens around town looking good. Here's your chance to help out! Come to the library on **Wednesday, April 6 at 6:30 PM**. We'll discuss what needs to be done this year and divvy up responsibilities. If you want to help out but can't make it on the 6th, contact Barbara Farr at 638-2612 or Jessica Sherman.



EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

The snow has melted and the roadsides need some help! Let's meet at the park (near the library) on **Saturday, April 23 at 9am**. Many hands make lighter work! We'll divide into groups and work to clean up as many of the town roads as possible. If you can't make it that day, you can still help out by picking up litter along your road frontage or while you are out for a walk. Rain Date will be April 30.

HUNT MTN 4-H

It's not too late to join us! Projects this year include crochet, painting, scrapbooking, cooking, sewing and outdoor/nature. Contact Jessica Sherman or Lacy Lapete if you are interested.

Come join Grafton County 4-H members on **Saturday, April 30** at the Town Hall for their

FROM THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

The Town Clerk's office will be closed all day on **Mondays April 4th and 11th**. We will be attending Workshops in Concord. The office will also be closed on May 30th for Memorial Day. All dogs should be registered/licensed by **April 30**, with no exceptions.

LARGE TRASH DAYS REMINDER

If you're like us, you never remember a big trash day is coming up until it has just passed! Here are this year's dates again:

- April 16th
- May 21st
- July 16th
- September 17th

All run 9-3, please, no early birds or trash pickers.

PHONE HOME . . .

E.T., that is. The PTF will be showing the movie E.T. on **Saturday, April 9th, at 7 PM** in the Town Hall. Popcorn & drinks will be for sale and support the PTF.

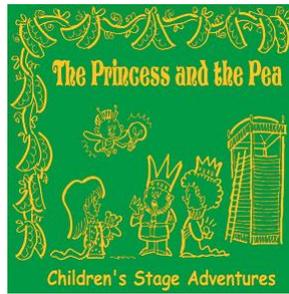
AND ANOTHER MOVIE NIGHT!

The Monroe Church is sponsoring a movie night on **Friday, April 22nd, 6-8 PM**, downstairs at the Village Church. The movie is "[A Shine of Rainbows](#)", rated PG. Great reviews and beautiful footage of Ireland; a nice way to finish off Spring Vacation week.

If you want a brand-new fix, join TOPS in the Library Thursdays @ 6!

We are the local chapter of the national TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) organization. We meet weekly for weighing (using a digital scale), support, education and encouragement toward our mutual goal of taking off pounds sensibly. The weigh-in starts at 6:00 pm followed by a meeting at 6:30. Goal weights are determined by your medical provider. We do not promote any products, diets or exercise regimens. Our chapter dues are \$3.00 a month; national membership is \$32.00 a year, which includes the national magazine. We welcome men, women and teens to our group. Join us!

CHILDREN'S STAGE ADVENTURES RETURNS TO MONROE



The Monroe PTF is sponsoring a week-long theater workshop with Children's Stage Adventures. They will be working with MCS students the week of May 2nd, and will end the week with a free performance at Town Hall on **Friday, May 6th**. (Sorry, as of press time we do not have a confirmed start time!) We can't wait – we especially like the way Children's Stage Adventures finds a role for every child, whether it's on the stage or behind the scenes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BREAKFAST

The great cooks of the Monroe Fire Department will hold an all-you-can-eat breakfast in the Town Hall on **Sunday, April 17th, from 7 am – 10 am**. Please come out and support these great guys who work to keep us all safe.

AND GET A FIRE PERMIT TOO!

Yes, no more snow means no fire without a permit. You can get one for free from a Fire Warden (see the list on monroenh.org or monroetown.com – [General Info](#)), or get one [on-line for \\$3 from the state](#) (google NH Online Fire Permits)

TOWN-WIDE YARD SALES

Cindy Guibord has been busy gauging interest in another round of town-wide yard sales, and it looks like enough people are interested that we will give it a go. The date will be May 21st, and Cindy is asking for a \$3-\$5 contribution toward an ad. You can sign up with Jessica at the Library (638-4736 or monroepubliclibrary@roadrunner.com). She will be creating the ad and the map. Please be kind to your neighbors who DO contribute to the ad and don't just throw up your yard sale next door to theirs without chipping in. That's . . . not nice. (It also means we don't have an accurate # of sale count for the ad, either!)

Death Cafe

From Jessica Sherman: I'm sure you are wondering what this is all about, right?! On the Death Cafe website, it is stated that "at a Death Cafe people drink tea, eat cake and discuss death. Our aim is to increase awareness of death to help people make the most of their (finite) lives. There is no agenda, objectives or themes and no intention of leading people to any conclusion, product or course of action." Feel free to learn more at www.deathcafe.com

We will meet on a Tuesday evening in April or May at the public library. Check for announcements about the exact date. If you would like to be put on an announcement list, call the library at 638-4736 or send us an email at monroepubliclibrary@roadrunner.com

WHEN THE LIBRARY LIGHTS GO OUT! A STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER . . .

Have you ever wondered what happens when the library is closed? Drop off your stuffed animal or doll on **Monday, April 18 between 9:00 am and noon** and they'll tell you all about it. Pick up your friend on **Tuesday between 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm** and create a special memory book of their time at the library.

SUMMER PREVIEW!

Save these dates – more info coming soon!

- Free swimming lessons (for ages 3 up through 8th grade) at SJA Pool. Bus provided. Dates this year are **6/20-6/23**, and **6/27-6/30**.
- Vacation bible school at the North Monroe Church will be **July 18th-22nd**.
- The North Haverhill Fair will be **July 27th – 31st**. Full details at nohaverhillfair.com.

AND DON'T FORGET!

The Summertime Marching Band is always looking for new members – any age! We practice one Sunday a month. More info on FB at [Summertime Marching Band](#), or call Mary Choate, 638-4903.

PLEASE CALL SHELLEY JEWELL

For any or all of these! (638-2800, ext 48)

- The School Board is seeking a community member and a parent to serve as volunteers on the MCS Athletic Committee. This committee serves in an advisory capacity to both administration and the School Board. The committee will consist of 7 members and will meet on a monthly basis or as needed.
- The Monroe School has the following openings for the 2016-2017 school year. You can find more details at monroschool77.com or call Shelley:
 - Special Education Paraprofessional
 - Elementary Teacher
 - Athletic Coordinator
 - Various Coaching Positions

NOPE, THIS ISN'T JUNK MAIL!
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