

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

August/September 2015



PASTOR'S LETTER

Just this past week, Diane and I had the opportunity and pleasure of escaping to Ogunquit, Maine for a few days, where we sat on the beach and enjoyed the beauty and power of the ocean which is all part of God's magnificent creation. And whenever we lounge on the beach, it always means a book, magazine or newspaper in hand, as it's a great way of relaxing and getting caught up on some reading.

The motel in which we were staying had an old Time magazine featuring an article on The World's Most Outrageously Expensive Vacations. "Why rent a motel room", implied one writer, "when you can lease a whole island in the Bahamas for a mere \$37,500 a day?" A London travel agent had a better idea: offering a two year trip of a lifetime costing \$1.5 million with stops in 150 different countries. You could select from a thousand different "bucket-list destinations!

The funny thing is that most of us can have just as much fun at a campground with our loved ones as the super-rich can with their lavish trips. A Christian who appreciates God's creation, can have a greater experience in a canoe, than a non-Christian man on a yacht. At any rate, a little planning for sure can enhance your vacation experience no matter what your budget may be. And as autumn approaches, a lot of our Monroe folk will be looking back with pleasure at even the simplest trips of this summer. Every family needs an occasional break, whether we plunk down at the ocean, camp out in a tent, or tour in an SUV.

Vacations and the busyness of life can interfere with our spirituality and in the worshipping of our Lord, and church attendance sags. But with fall just around the corner, it's a great time to rekindle our love for Him. This is when we slow down, when we're at home a few more hours of the week and it gets darker earlier. I've noticed from my own personal experience, that when the Holy Spirit controls our schedules, He always leaves time for us to serve Him in a personal way; and as He finds the work for us to do, we'll also find that we love doing it because it's an expression of our rekindled love for Him.

So let the "S" of September stand for **Savoir** and **Service**, as we make it a month of resting in Him and in rekindling the Holy Spirit's fire in your life. And may it show up in how we raise our children, care for our neighbors, and in the work in which God gives us to do. May you all have a Blessed summer!

Pastor Earl

KEY DATES

AUGUST

10	Emergency Plan Meeting
22	Block Party
24	SJA New Student Orientation
25	SJA First Day
26	MCS First Day

SEPTEMBER

7	Labor Day; MCS/SJA Closed
9-11	Town Clerk's Office Closed
12	Lord's Acre Auction
19	Big Trash Day
23	Autumn
25-27	Harvest Festival
28	MCS Half Day

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BECOME AN EMT!

The Monroe FAST Squad needs more members, so we are pleased to share the news of two new EMT courses starting up nearby. One is at the Littleton branch of White Mountains Community College, on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6-9:30 pm, with occasional Saturday classes. Classes start on August 31st. This class costs \$799. The other course is being held at St. Johnsbury Academy, September 1st – December 10th, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-9 pm. This class costs \$500. For more info on either course, you can call the Monroe FAST Squad Chief, Maynard Farr, at 638-2612, or Training Officer, Eileen Brown, at 638-3002. For either class, EMT's who complete training and all testing and licensing requirements, join and participate on the FAST Squad as a volunteer are eligible to have their tuition refunded.



LORD'S ACRE AUCTION

This year's Lord's Acre Auction is on Saturday, September 12th, 9 AM until sold out (come hungry for the fresh donuts, hot dogs, and chicken BBQ!)

A friendly reminder, **please do not donate used electronic equipment such as televisions or computers, and make sure items you donate are in good condition.** Each year, volunteers end up hauling many broken or soiled items to the last Big Trash Day – so please, if it's not something you would buy, do not leave it for the auction! (There is one remaining Big Trash Day on 9/19.) If you need help dropping off an item, or if it is something that should not be exposed to the elements (i.e., furniture), please call Winston at 638-2331.

FROM THE TOWN CLERK . . .

First of all there are a few new fees and requirements for both vital statistics and motor vehicles that I have to mention. The fee for Marriage licenses has risen to \$50 as of July 1st. Susan Price, my new Deputy Clerk has just returned from her week's training in Concord and she also has refreshed me on the laws and regulations that are in place with Motor Vehicle or are going to be in the near future.

Please do bring in your driver's License every time you come in and offer it to me or Susan each time you do a registration or renewal. In about a year, the license numbers are going to change and we will definitely need to see your license every time you do a registration. The numbers will be random and not based on birthdays or names like they are now. If you are doing a new vehicle and it has two owners on it such as a husband and wife, you both must come in together to do the title application process and the the first time registration/transfer on that vehicle. After the 1st time, one or the other may renew it. There can be NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule from now on. If only one person shows up, I cannot finish the registration. You both need to be present, please keep this in mind when purchasing a vehicle or trailer.

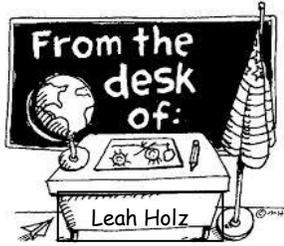
Also, this is a reminder to bring in your existing registration or a photo-copy of an old one. This is a requirement from the State of New Hampshire Motor Vehicle division as a way to prove ownership and your right to be registering/renewing this vehicle.

In September, my office will be closed Sept. 9th thru the 11th for the Town and City Clerk's Conference. Both Susan and I will be attending to keep up-dated on all the rules and regulations.

Thanks, Marilyn Bedell



Last "Big Trash Day" is September 19th! Please call the Selectmen's Office with questions.



Students' first day of school is Wednesday, August 26th. MCS will host our annual Back to School Breakfast for students and families starting at 7:50am that day. Families are invited to join their children for breakfast, a welcome, and to see their students off for a great first day of school.

Sports permission slips will be going home in the first few weeks of school, with practices beginning as soon as possible. Deb Fiske is also looking for referees for soccer and basketball. Each game you referee earns you \$35, plus the fun of watching great kids have fun. Anyone who is interested or wants more info can call Deb at 603-616-2690, or e-mail her at dsf101366@aol.com.

The school is also trying to fill two part-time jobs:

- 1) **Driver** needed to transport students to out of district schools using a school vehicle. This is a part-time position of 180 days, approximately 3 hours a day, transporting in the morning and afternoon. Training and motor vehicle checks are required. Please contact Leah Holz at 638-2800 if you are interested.
- 2) **Special Ed Paraprofessional** is needed to provide academic and behavioral support for children with special needs. This is a 4-hour a day, 183 day a year position. High School graduates who have the ability to work with others and take direction can get in touch with Teri Gaston, Special Ed Director, 638-2800.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school!

BLOCK PARTY TIME!

It's almost time for the Block Party co-hosted by the Spences and the Valcourts! This year's fun will be on Saturday, August 22nd, starting at 5 pm. As always, your hosts provide the burgers/hot dogs/sodas, and ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to share, as well as any "adult beverages" you might want.



FARM TO FIRE

GREAT NEW BUSINESS IN TOWN!

Jeff and Paula Geil are so pleased to announce the start of their new venture, Farm to Fire. This is a mobile wood-fired pizza oven that they bring to YOU – to your party or event. They debuted their mobile kitchen at the recent "Jerry Jam" over in Bath, and then turned out 60 pizzas in just over an hour in Monroe on Thursday, July 29th! They have plans in the works to open their pizza oven in front of the old "Monroe Store" one night a week – stay tuned for more news. To get on their mailing list and be the first to know when and where they will be, go to www.farmtofire.pizza and sign up (note it's a "dot pizza", not a "dot com"), or visit them on Facebook at facebook.com/farm2fire. They also want to pass on a big "thank you" to everyone who came out for their first Monroe night, and apologies to those who could not get a pizza because they sold out!

And yes, those rumors are true. Jeff and Paula have recently purchased the old store. They're open to ideas for the space – you can reach them via the Farm to Fire site.

The next "Emergency Planning" meeting will be on Monday, August 10th, at the Fire Station, 6-8 pm. **All citizens are welcome** and encouraged to attend - the Town actually benefits from more participation due to matching grant money. For more info, call Maynard Farr, 638-2612. You do not need any special experience to join in - just be an interested citizen!

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2015 IS COMING SOON!

Save the dates! This year's Harvest Festival is on Friday, September 25th, Saturday, September 26th, and Sunday, September 27th. The parade theme is "Celebrating the Farmer in All of Us". If you have ideas or want to get involved, let one of the core team know – Steve & Jess Sherman, Cindy Frazer, Cindy Guibord, Eileen Brown, or Katrina Wildenstein.



Would you like to stay up-to-date on news and events BEFORE the next August/September newsletter? Sign up for bi-monthly e-news at www.monroetown.com. Your e-mail address is ONLY used for the newsletter, and you can always unsubscribe if you find them too boring!

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