



Greensboro Gleanings

January 2010

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ...

Dear Friends,

Our beloved and long-time Music Director, Bronwyn Potter, has announced her retirement. She informed her choir of this decision just prior to worship on Sunday, December 20. Then, at her request, I repeated the basic information of that announcement to the congregation at the end of that service. After the announcement, the congregation started to clap. Then something especially touching took place unexpectedly and spontaneously. Our Church Moderator, Paul Fixx, stood up from the pew where he had been sitting, and started walking up to the altar/choir area. As he did so, the others in the congregation began to follow him, until all of us were crowded around close to the organ giving Bronwyn a standing ovation. This was an exceedingly moving moment, one that will remain in my memory always, and one that will stand alongside many other special times that Bronwyn has given us over the years as a musician and as a friend.

Bronwyn's retirement is effective at the end of calendar year 2009. Her last major services playing the organ and directing the choir took place on Christmas Eve this Thursday night, and on Sunday the 27th when we had our annual carol sing during regular worship. In the short term future, Bronwyn's daughter, Bronwyn Masse, will be playing the organ and directing the choir in the next few weeks. The Deacons have created a Search Committee to look for a new Director, and we will keep you informed about future plans for the music program as they develop.

The Diaconate is also planning a community reception to honor the many gifts Bronwyn has given to this church and area for the last 62 years through her considerable musical skills. This will take place on Sunday, February 7 [see box on p 2.] In the meantime, our sadness at the prospect of losing Bronwyn's music leadership is tempered by the deep gratitude for all the love, inspiration and enjoyment she has given us for such a long period of time. I know I speak for all of us in saying to Bronwyn: Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! You have been--and will continue to be--a true treasure among us.

Tony Acheson

MAKE MUSIC TO THE LORD

"...the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the Lord; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the Lord, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: ... then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the Lord; So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the Lord had filled the house of God."

II Chronicles 6:13-14



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THANKS LUNCH LADIES!

Thank you to all who helped make our Christmas Ladies' Luncheon a huge success! Everyone worked hard, but especially Anne Pinkney who searched high and low to track down that ever-elusive peppermint ice cream! The Hot Flashes, singing group, musical touch and their per-enjoyed by all who helped of the lunch truly embodied the Christmas spirit and created a festive atmosphere that we all enjoyed. Thank you!



Merrill Hurst's added a lovely to the festivities performance was The many folks with all aspects



PIANO CONCERT JAN. 17

Cody Michaels will be performing in a Piano Concert in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 17, at 4 p.m., admission by donation. He will be performing selections from his latest CD, *Winter Suite*.

For the Hardwick-based piano soloist and composer Cody Michaels, "the piano is a way to connect with the mystery of creation and every song is a prayer".

A former park ranger and farmhand, Michaels' unique musical expressions inspire comparisons to the likes of Keith Jarrett, George Winston, and more. Also a storyteller and poet, his passionate performances celebrate the wonders of nature, simple living, and the human spirit.

MILESTONES & MISCELLANY

Happy January Birthday to:

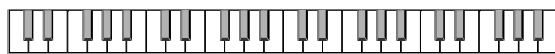
Alma Rowley, Anne Harbison, Drex Wright, Janet Long, John & Jane Teevan, and Martha Rose ... and happy Anniversary Lawrence & Sherral Lumsden!

Is your birthday listed this month when it shouldn't be? Have we missed you in our celebrations? Contact the church office and let us know if your birthday is listed incorrectly or has been missed completely. You can call 802-533-2223 or email gucc@guccvt.org to update your birthday info.

We send our condolences to Lacey Smith on the loss of his wife, Jean Smith. She died on December 17th at the age of 73 after a long illness. Plans for a possible service later in the year are incomplete.....Congratulations are due to Alma Rowley, pre-

paring to celebrate her 90th birthday on January 3. If you haven't already done so, she'd would love to get a card [PO Box 132, Greensboro, VT 050841.].....It's also a

treat to have Alma's granddaughter, Anne Nisbet, and her three boys [Norman, Casey and Tyler] newly in our region after their recent move from NY state..... Janet Long is coming along well after shoulder surgery on December 11. Let's keep her in our prayers for continued good recovery.



SAVE THE DATE!

There will be a reception to honor our long-time Music Director, Bronwyn Potter, on Sunday, February 7, from 3—4:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Join us for delicious refreshments and for our tributes of appreciation to Bronwyn.



occasion. I deeply appreciated every single card, gift, and visit. Friends are indeed a blessing."

Madeline Gebbie writes:

"Thank you all very much for making my birthday such a glorious

Dear Friends, Below are some beautiful words [slightly revised] from someone in Nancy's and my extended circle of friends. We share them with you as bearers of good hope for a blessed new year!

'May this season can be a wonderful awakening for you, and the beginning of a year that offers peace, appropriate abundance, and great community. For many, this past year was a difficult time. Many of us feel fragile, and have a heightened understanding of how delicate our earth is. Old ways are not working, and new patterns have not yet set in. We all need courage, compassion, faith, and patience.'

Rev. Tony

January 2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>Thank You January Coffee Hosts</p> <p>Jan. 10—Paul Fixx</p> <p>Jan. 24—Anne McPherson</p>			<p>Jan. 3—Beth LeCours</p> <p>Jan. 17—Janney & Ken Johnston</p> <p>Jan. 31—Cathy Pollard</p>			<p>1 Happy New Year!</p> 	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>4 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 4:30 — Trustees Meeting, Library</p>	<p>9</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>11 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 3:30 — Strong Living, FH 4:30 p.m. — Mission Board, FH</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	
<p>17</p>	<p>18 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>19 7 p.m.— Diaconate Meeting, Library</p>	<p>20 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	
<p>24</p>	<p>25 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 3:30 — Strong Living, FH</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	
<p>31</p>							

NEWS FROM
THE GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Upcoming Lectionary Readings:

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Jan 3 ~ Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12~Psalm
147:12-20 or Wisdom or Solomon 10:15-
21~Ephesians 1:3-14~John 1:1-18

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Jan 10 ~Isaiah 42:1-7~Psalm 29~Acts 8:14-17~Luke
3:15-22

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Jan 17 ~Isaiah 62:1-5~Psalm 36:5-10~1 Corinthians
12:1-11~John 2:1-11

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Jan 24 ~Nehemiah 8:1-10~Psalm 19~1 Corinthians
12:12-31~Luke 4:14-21

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Jan 31 ~Jeremiah 1:4-10~Psalm 71:1-6~1 Corinthians
13:1-13~Luke 4:21-30



Christian Ed and Youth News

As all of our community is busy, so are we in Christian Education. Church School is bringing in fairly consistent numbers right now. Our mission to bring Stockings to the Greensboro Nursing Home Residents was very successful thanks to many community members.

Thanks to Irene Nagle and Alma Rowley who got all the stockings sewn and ready for us in very short notice. We have spoken about making a whole lot more this winter so we aren't caught short next year! Thank you ladies. Also a thank you to our supporters in the community who gave money for us to get the stocking stuffers with. Deb Holmes went so far as to do the shopping herself! Thanks for your help Deb. Glad you and your family are with us.

December 20, the children and their grownups went to the nursing home and sang carols for the residents after we gave out the stockings. So nice to have such musical talent in our community. Tony received an email from a community member saying how wonderful the children's choir sounded! Maybe we should have a more formal group! Let me know what you all think.

Thanks to Martin and Peter Gilmartin for playing along on their saxophone and trumpet that day. The residents enjoyed it I'm sure.

Meetings for our Youth Group have been going very well. We need to reach and stay in touch with these young people more effectively. We are looking for ideas if any one would like to come to that planning session. Please contact Cara Hill for details.

Youth have met 4 times since September. Our church has joined with Hardwick UCC, Craftsbury UCC, and now with the Presbyterian Church in East Craftsbury to serve all of the area youth. We have had a bonfire, met for game night and joined Hardwick UCC for caroling this year. Next year will be even busier. If you know of any youth who might enjoy spending some time with us please let us know and we will be in touch with them. Thanks to this strong community who sees all these children for the wonderful people that they are. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cara Hill, Christian Education Director