

Word From the Pastor

Dear Members & Friends

I hope that you have been able to relax a bit, "re-create", and enjoy the wonderful weather of these summer months.

While summer is a time when we break out of our normal routines, it is always a busy time. The same is true with our Church. Although attendance decreases because of travel and vacations, the ministry of the Church continues.

For example, nineteen people are busy preparing to return to Oaxaca, Mexico next month. While we are returning to the same city, that is where the similarity to prior trips end. This year we will not be staying at Casa Hogar, the orphanage with eighty children. We will visit a few times in the evening to rekindle friendships forged with many of the children, but the first three days of the trip we will be constructing the new base camp for the Simply Smiles operation in southern Mexico. This new facility will be critical to their attempts to create a coffee cooperative for the people who farm small plots of land in the surrounding mountains. Years ago, the fertile but hilly soil of the region made it a major coffee producing region of Mexico. But large coffee companies found it easier and more economical to deal with large coffee plantations, and the majority of coffee farmers have lost their livelihood. Simply Smiles intends to provide a means for the farmers of small plots of land to sell their coffee.

Due to the inability to market their crops, thousands of people in the mountains live at a level of poverty unimaginable to most of us. The second half of our trip will consist of transporting 12 tons of food into the mountains 8-9 hours away from Oaxaca City. We expect to provide 3,000 people with a month's supply of flour, sugar, salt, oil and beans. Most of the food will be in hundred pound sacks and prior to the food distribution we will package the staples into smaller bags. On the day of the food distribution, we will play games with the children and serve a meal to the people. Many will have walked 8 hours to the distribution site. Many of the children have deformed appendages and distended stomachs because of malnutrition and parasites.

Back at home, a group of dedicated teachers will staff our summer Sunday School program, others will be working on projects in and around our buildings, and still others will work to ensure that the Children's Discovery Center is prepared to open in late August.

The Long Range Planning Committee will begin working with the Property Maintenance and other Church Boards to develop a comprehensive plan to keep our facilities in good order. As you may know, we continue to have problems with water entering the building, the stonework of the tower of the Church building is in desperate need of pointing, as are the steps leading into the building. The sidewalks, driveway and parking lot are nearing the end of their useful lives, the louvers in the tower have disintegrated, and the wood trim of the Church building needs replacement. Years ago the Church embarked on a stained glass window restoration project, but only phase was completed. Work needs to be done soon to preserve those beautiful windows.

All this may, on the surface, seem to be overwhelming. However, we have faith that God will lead us in the same way our Church has been guided over the last 200 plus years. We have confidence that we will continue our numerous ministries and also overcome any challenges we face in the future.

May God bless you and be with you throughout the summer months,

Mike



JULY 2010
Father's Day Issue

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Bible Verses for July - Independence Day

Psalm 118:5

In my anguish I cried to the LORD, and he answered by setting me free. (NIV)

Psalm 119:32

I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free. (NIV)

Psalm 119:45

I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts. (NIV)

Luke 4:18-19

*The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to release the oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. (NIV)*

John 8:32

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (NIV)

John 8:36

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (NIV)

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (NIV)

Galatians 5:1

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (NIV)

Ephesians 3:12

In him [Christ] and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. (NIV)

Prayer for Independence Day:

Dear Lord,

There is no greater feeling of liberation than to experience this freedom from sin and death that you have provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this I am very thankful.

On this Independence Day I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that my freedom was purchased with a very high price. My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty meet their needs and watch over their families.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone else's life today. Amen.

Board of Christian Education News...

- Summer Sunday School "Growing Faith" June 27 – August 29
- Sunday School Teachers needed for fall. We are in need of help in the nursery, K-1 and 2-3 grades this fall. If you can volunteer even one Sunday a month to teach a class or you want to know more about it please contact Tanya Mongitore at 860-738-2279 or email at tmongitore2144@charter.net.
- Board of Christian Education meeting Tuesday, August 3rd at 6:30
- Children's Discovery Center still has fall openings for preschool call the center at 860-379-4838 to register or for information on the program.

CDC RAFFLE Winners!

GRAND PRIZE: *J&L Lennon*

Getaway for two to Marco Island, Florida. Includes 4 day/3 night accommodations at a condominium from 09/03/10 to 09/06/10, and round-trip airfare.

2nd PRIZE: *Timothy Orid*

32" FLAT SCREEN TV

3rd Prize: *Eugene Allen*

\$25 Gift Certificate redeemable at Gilson Café & Cinema, \$50 Gift Certificate redeemable at Getting Off, \$50 Gift Certificate redeemable at Sweet Peas Restaurant, \$13 Gift Certificate redeemable at ABC Pizza.

4th Prize: *Jessica BeZio*

Week of Day Camp for 1 to Colebrook, CT (Mon.-Fri. 9am –4pm; includes lunch and activities basketball, arts & crafts, canoeing and fishing) at CAMP JEWELL.

5th Prize: *Holly Cassaday*

\$25 Gift Certificate redeemable at Passiflora, \$15 Gift Certificate redeemable at Health Food Corner, \$60 Gift Certificate redeemable at Pat Lunan, LMT, \$18 Gift Certificate redeemable at Natural Wave.

Congratulations to the Winners!!

EVERY SUNDAY THIS SUMMER, FROM 2 TIL 4 PM

PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD ON THE GREEN OR IN THE COURTYARD

VISIT WWW.RIVERTONCT.COM FOR A COMPLETE LISTING

- June 6 Harmonious Brass Choir
- June 13 Collette Hurst Jazz Quintet
- June 20 Cindy Rines - singer/songwriter
- June 27 Litchfield Dance Party - pop, disco and funk
- July 4 - no show today - Happy Independence Day!
- July 11 - Special Double Header:
 - 2pm Dark Horse - easy rock & bluegrass
 - 3pm Doug Mahard - singer/songwriter
- July 18 Resonant Experts - saxophone quartet
- July 25 Kristen Graves - singer/songwriter
- August 1 Opening Night - classic rock 'n' roll
- August 8 Greg Hoffmann - folk & blues
- August 15 The Rivertones - vocal harmony
- August 22 Travelin' Trout - folk, blues, country
- August 29 Jeannine - sings the American songbook
- Sept 5 Jukebox Surprise - singalong w/AM & FM favorites
- Sept 12 C Side Alley - country, blues & folk-rock
- Sept 19 Valley Swing Shift - big band music

PRESENTED BY THE TOWN OF BARKHAMSTEAD, DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

RIVERTON SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

Birthdays



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 03 – Justin Richards
- 04 – JR McCaw
- 05 – Derek Storrs
- 06 – Bill Hassig
- 06 – Gail Roberts
- 07 – Christine Smith
- 10 – Ash NeJaime
- 10 – Brenda Sherman
- 12 – Kristine Ohotnicky
- 14 – Adam Bensle
- 14 – Chaz McCaw III
- 19 – Kendra McCaw
- 20 – Peter Toomey
- 20 – Ken Storrs
- 21 – Gary Storrs
- 23 – Barbara Woodard
- 25 – Denise Jones
- 29 – Gretchen Fredericksen
- 31 – Meghan Kane

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 19 – Jay & Lisa Nanni
- 29 – Mike & Tricia Wu

July 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Artist: Karen Delton				1	2	3
4 Worship Service 9:00 am Cindy Rines	5	6 Property Maint 7:00	7 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	8 Concert East End Park 7:00 pm	9	10
11 Worship Service 9:00 am	12	13 Chris Ed 6:30 Coe Park: Patty & the Guys 7:00	14 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	15 Concert East End Park Joe Firecrow 7:00 pm Praise Fest Church of Christ 7:00 PM	16 Coe Park: Night Moves 7:00	17
18 Worship Service 9:00 am	19	20 Deacons 7:30 Coe Park: Day Break 7:00	21 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	22 Concert East End Park 7:00 pm	23 Coe Park: T-Bone Stankus 7:00	24
25 Worship Service 9:00 am Frank Artruc	26	27 Cabinet 7:00 Coe Park: Leo Liddle 7:00	28 AA/Alanon 7:30 pm	29 Concert East End Park 7:00 pm	30 Coe Park: Breakaway 7:00	31
Aug 1 Worship Service 9:00 am Terry O'Neil	Aug 2	Aug 3 Coe Park: Torr Civic Symphony 7:00	Aug 4	Aug 5 Concert East End Park 7:00 pm	Aug 6 Coe Park: Queen of Hearts 7:00	Aug 7