

# The Beacon

Sunday Worship: 9:25 am (through 9/6); 10:25 am (beginning 9/13)

September, 2009

Breaking From Labor - Sunday September 6

Does it feel like life is non-stop? Are you retired, yet busier than ever? Do the kids seem to pull you always in countless directions? With the cell phone, laptop, voicemail, e-mail and more does it feel like the workday and work-week never actually come to a close? God has something better in mind than the non-stop life that heightens anxiety and wears us down. Join Pastor Michael and your faith family for worship the Sunday (September 6) of Labor Day weekend as we celebrate the gift of God's call to break from labor. Worship that day is at 9:25 AM.

**TWO WORSHIP SERVICES RESUME ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 -  
10:25 AM (Sanctuary Worship) and 6:30 PM (Sunday Night Alive Worship in the CE Center).**

Notice of Special Congregational  
Meeting  
Sunday September 20, 2009  
Following Worship

See Pages 2 & 3 for more information!

We are back on line!!!  
Check us out at [www.egchurch.org](http://www.egchurch.org)

#### Serving EGCC

Ministers - All our members  
Senior Pastor - Michael T. Bush  
Email: [mbush@egchurch.necoxmail.com](mailto:mbush@egchurch.necoxmail.com)  
Transitional Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries - Sara Worcester  
Email: [SWorcester@egchurch.necoxmail.com](mailto:SWorcester@egchurch.necoxmail.com)  
Transitional Pastoral Assistant for Discipleship - Lewis Vissia  
Email: [LVissia@egchurch.necoxmail.com](mailto:LVissia@egchurch.necoxmail.com)  
Moderator - Jim Pestana  
Church Secretary - Sharon Morey  
Email: [Office@egchurch.necoxmail.com](mailto:Office@egchurch.necoxmail.com)  
Music Director - Randy Stuck  
Organist - Dick Daggett  
Sexton - Ann Caye  
Nursery Attendant - Kimberly Rodriguez  
Marianne Klein

*The Beacon* is published monthly by  
The East Granby Congregational Church (UCC)

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Bulletin Information is due by Wednesday.  
All Beacon articles are due on the 18th of the month. All articles  
are subject to editing.

If you would like to schedule meetings, events or make any  
changes to the church calendars, please call Sharon, or leave a  
note on the desk in the church office.

## *The Beacon*

### Notice of Special Congregational Meeting Sunday September 20, 2009 Following Worship

**The Motion: To move from a staffing model utilizing a single full-time Associate Pastor (AP) position to a staffing model utilizing multiple part-time ministry positions.**

The Transitional Staffing Evaluation Team (Debbie Paskiewicz- chair, Jan Gibson, Dave Hasenbalg, Ruthie Holton, and Adah Dionne) was charged to use this transitional time following the departure of our AP (in May of 2008) to prayerfully discern whether the previous full-time AP position, the current transitional multiple part-time ministry positions, or something else would best fit the current staffing needs of EGCC. The Team had conversations with current transitional staff, the Senior Pastor, each of the six Ministries within our church governance, the Church Council, a variety of church members at two open forums, the high school youth group, and welcomed input through written communication and one-on-one conversations. They were thankful for the feedback from many members representing different areas of our common life – which included an overwhelming affirmation of the multiple part-time ministry staffing model we have been utilizing during this transitional time. Church members and leaders reported experiencing great value in the division of responsibilities that have allowed for greater attention to, growth within, and strengthening of specific ministry areas - - especially in regard to spiritual formation with children and families, and the visitation ministry. Many church members also expressed gratitude for the gifts and willingness of Sara Worcester and Lewis Vissia to serve in this challenging time of change.

The Transitional Staffing Evaluation Team recommends that we continue with the basic model of multiple part-time ministry positions we have been utilizing through the transitional time, with some modifications and additions that address “gaps” that were discerned in conversation with church members and leaders. This staffing structure would include a Director of Ministry with Children and Families, with primary focus on a comprehensive spiritual formation ministry for preschool through Confirmation students, as well as responsibilities in Abundant Life Ministry areas. There would also be a Pastor for Caring Ministries with focus on ministries of visitation and care, as well as supporting worship and adult spiritual formation ministries in coordination with the Senior Pastor.

The Team also discerned that it would be helpful to have focused staff support in the area of youth ministry (middle and high school youth groups), and so is recommending a third part-time position of Coordinator of Youth Ministries to work with our youth and their volunteer adult leaders. As this position is new in our model, there would be intentional evaluation of this position after one year.

Please see next page for outlines of the responsibilities of the three positions. Also, please note that estimated funding for these three positions is similar to the cost for the previous single full-time AP position. If we move forward with the proposed staffing model, the Human Resource Ministry is responsible for hiring for these part-time positions.

The Human Resources Ministry and the Church Council discussed and approved the Team’s proposal at their meetings this past Spring and Summer, and now the Council forwards the above stated motion to our

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

membership to seek affirmation from the Congregation. Please join us following worship on September 20 in the CE Center for the Special Congregational Meeting to consider this motion. Childcare will be provided for younger children.

Yours in Christ,

The Church Council of East Granby Congregational U.C.C.

Jim Pestana, Bryant Waller, Kathy Mock, Kristen Hardendorf, Karen Pestana, Chip McIsaac, Ruthie Holton, Pastor Michael Bush

### **Outline of Staffing Model Supported by Motion**

**Pastor for Caring Ministries** (part-time) responsible for:

1. Support caring ministries through pastoral visits and visitation ministry team
2. Being present for Sunday morning and evening worship and leading some worship services (including 12 Sundays preaching) as scheduled by Senior Pastor
3. Adult Spiritual Formation ministry opportunities as coordinated with Senior Pastor.

15 hours averaged per week

**Director of Discipleship for Children, Youth, and Families** (part-time) responsible for:

1. Sunday School Pre-K thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade (and summer children's ministry)
2. Development and leadership in Confirmation ministry with oversight of the Senior Pastor
3. Liaison to Spiritual Formation Ministry and Abundant Life Ministry
4. Children's Worship elements
5. Teacher training/spiritual growth

22 hours averaged per week

**Coordinator of Youth Ministries** (part-time) responsible for:

1. Develop, support, and participate in youth groups for MS and HS, including planning and spiritual growth with adult leaders.
2. Support and participate in Confirmation ministry in coord with Dir of Discipleship for purpose of relational connection with youth.
3. Support ecumenical youth ministry opportunities (HUH, Emmaus, etc)

8 hours averaged per week (potential to grow with these ministries)

No Devil - - Yes God

*When the devil had finished every test, he departed from Jesus until an opportune time. –  
Luke 4:13*

A woman named Lisa was telling a group of us about a “dry time” in her life. She said, “The devil had kept me away from the Lord and from the body of believers.” Someone asked somewhat-jokingly, “You mean he held out a little pitchfork and kept you from praying or something?” Lisa regarded her with a “are you even remotely serious” look and responded, “Of course not. I don’t think the devil is a person, but if you don’t take seriously that there are powers at work that separate us from God, then you’re gonna get tripped up, too!”

Devil-talk was not common among the folks of this study group at First Congregational Church -- modern Congregationalists are usually suspicious of folks who throw around words like “devil” or “Satan.” While Lisa was attending this study at First Congregational, she belonged to a different church and did not know the unspoken “Congregationalist don’t talk about the devil” rule. This was really helpful, because once she brought up the idea, people wanted to talk about it. They kept asking her questions as to what she meant and what she believed.

She explained, “For many years I had been committed to Jesus, and loved praising my Lord and sharing His love with everyone. God has been so good to me! But then, my sister threw a baby shower for our cousin. It was held on a Sunday morning. How could I say ‘no’ to my own cousin’s baby shower? So, I went, and did not worship with my community. Then my nephew had games on the same night as my Bible study. How could I say ‘no’ to my darling nephew? And then there was a family reunion and BBQ another Sunday. And then I was sick for a bit and felt too weary to pray and study the Word in the morning. And before I knew it, I just had developed a habit of saying ‘no’ to all the ways I used to be with the Lord. I soon felt like I was on my own. I had forgotten God. I kept finding more reasons to stay away from church, from prayer, from the Word.”

Someone asked, “Where does the devil come in?”

Lisa said, “The devil is that voice that told me that other things mattered more than the LORD. I listened to that voice, and I got lost. Maybe you call it temptation. Maybe you call it your shadow side. Maybe you call it meeting expectations of others. Whatever you call it, it is the voice to rebuke, to say, ‘hush, be still!’ and then turn back to the Lord.”

I find spiritual wisdom in Lisa’s call to recognize that there are things at work within us and those around us that do separate and divide us, that leave us lost, diminished, less than what God intends. We can rebuke and turn from those voices, images, temptations, and then turn to God -- opening, receiving, sharing, and shining again. We can walk with Jesus in the Way that helps us each day to know ourselves as God’s beloved sons and daughters, living immersed in God’s Spirit, awash in God’s love, and sharing and embodying these gifts of life with God’s other sons and daughters in the world. When we follow in Jesus’ Way, we are saying “Yes” to God!

Love in Jesus,  
Pastor Michael Bush

**SMALL GROUPS BEGINNING THIS MONTH**

**You may sign up on the bulletin board OR by e-mailing [office@egchurch.necoxmail.com](mailto:office@egchurch.necoxmail.com)**

**Sunday Nights**

**NOOMA3** - If you are looking for a fresh approach to spirituality, check this out. Each evening we begin with a short film (less than 15 minutes) from the **NOOMA\*** series that speaks to an issue of faith, life, and spirit. We will then spend time in conversation around the ideas presented. See Pastor Michael with questions. (\*The name **NOOMA** is an English phonetic spelling of the Greek word pneuma, which is commonly translated to "spirit" or "breath".) Meets beginning September 20 at 7:20 PM (following Sunday Night Alive Worship). Please sign up so we will have enough materials

**Forgiveness: Letting Go** - Why is it so hard to forgive? Christians talk a lot about forgiveness, but our actions don't always measure up to our words. In this study, authors Susan Pendleton Jones and L. Gregory Jones help us face that question honestly and, together, work toward embodying God's gracious forgiveness of us. Topics include: The Heart of Christian Living, Crafting Communities of Forgiveness, The Dance of Forgiveness, and Challenges to Forgiveness. Pastor Sara encourages you to give yourself this gift! Minimum 8 people to hold this class. Please sign up by September 9 to order books (\$10). Class will meet Sundays, September 20 - October 25, (5 sessions) from 7:20-8:20 pm.

**Weekday and Weeknight Groups**

**New Women's Bible Study - "Living Above Worry and Stress" - Starting Tuesdays September 22<sup>nd</sup> for 12 weeks from 12:35-1:35pm** in the Buttaro Room. The focus using scripture and down-to-earth illustrations will help us seek that place of peace that God promised. If you ever worry, struggle, or have fears, come take the time with other women to pray, study, and discover a place of calm within you that is God-given! *Pastor Sara* will facilitate the Women of Faith series and all you need is an open heart and an open Bible. Please sign up near the office by Wed. September 9<sup>th</sup> so that \$10.00 study guides may be ordered in time...(shared potluck lunches will happen again on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tues. of the month)

**Early In The Morning Prayer - Wednesdays 6:30-7:00 AM in the Sanctuary** - In the Scriptures we read that Jesus spent time with God "early in the morning." In that spirit, come join a group for a time of mid-week prayer in the sanctuary.

**Matthew Group on Wednesdays 9:15-10:15 AM in Buttaro Room (Childcare Available!)-**

"Do Unto Others"      "Blessed are the poor"      "Seek ye first"      "Wise men from the east saw a star"  
Have you heard any of these before? These are all quotes from the story of Jesus told in the Gospel of Matthew, the subject of our exploration on Wednesday mornings. If you have been looking to grow in connection with God and with others in your faith community, this is a great opportunity. We meet 9:15-10:15 AM, and childcare is available. If you have any questions, please speak with Michael Bush who facilitates this group. Resumes September 9.

**John Group on Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 PM** - This story of Jesus offers familiar phrases, developed theologies, and deep insight into the nature of who God is, who we are, and what difference that makes. Come discover together. This group also offers a monthly potluck meal prior to the study for those who are able to join us. If you have questions, please talk with Pastor Michael Bush who will facilitate this group. Resumes September 9.

**Luke Group on Thursdays 10:45-11:45 AM** - This story of Jesus offers a picture of Jesus full of God's Spirit who calls us to awaken to God's Kingdom and Spirit with us, among us, and within us. If you have questions, please talk with Pastor Michael Bush who facilitates this group. Ongoing.

News and Notes from Pastor Sara

Dear Friends and Members,

As I continue to assist Pastor Michael and serve among you at EGCC God keeps growing deeper relationships everywhere I turn. As an example this summer I've been invited by Jan Mcissac to work on Team for the "Emmaus" group as their '**Assistant Spiritual Director**' at the November weekend. This youth program of bringing teens to Christ will allow me greater opportunity to help make God's love real in the life of our youth. It will also mean that I can potentially nurture connections with fellow EGCC folks who will be volunteering for this ten week commitment. God is good! And I'm excited to serve the larger community.

These newer relationships reminded me though that sometimes people can go through periods when they feel disconnected to others or perhaps for a variety of reasons have stayed on the edges of their faith community. There can be reasons such as the loss of a spouse, a divorce, being hurt, or other changes that cause us to isolate from those who we had once been close to in the past. I would like to offer some suggestions for healing and rebuilding bonds with people. First, know that you are not alone. Most church folk I know share about times of taking

breaks or stepping back for a while. Secondly, often I've heard how much people miss those who aren't present and that they hope they will return. The great news I believe is when we are part of God's family it's important to know as his children we can always come home again! God's house is your home no matter how long you've been away. In fact, we've been saving a seat for you because we're better off for having you with us. Think about it, pray about it, and know that someone is saving a smile just for you. Blessings to all!

Peace Always,  
Pastor Sara

**Visitation Team:** A reminder to our team of 9 volunteers that we start meeting again on Thurs. September 17<sup>th</sup> from 6-7pm and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month (Oct. 15, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> etc) in the Buttaro Room. We will have an educational piece at our first gathering and get new names to visit. If you know of anyone who could use a visit from us just let Pastor Sara know. If you cannot attend the meeting please be in touch with her the week before.

Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, is Registration Sunday!

On September 13, Fall classes begin for Preschool, Workshop Rotation Model (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade), 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade, and Confirmation. Preschool and Workshop Rotation Model classes will meet in the Christian Education Center (aka the CEC or Round Room) classrooms. The 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will meet in the Buttaro Room. All classes except Confirmation will meet after a Time with Children ends in worship. Confirmation Class meets from 8:45 A.M. to 10:15 A.M (before Worship) in the Buttaro Room. If you have children in preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, you may register them after worship on September 13 in the CEC or you may register your child(ren) online instead at [www.egchurch.org/registration](http://www.egchurch.org/registration)

## *The Beacon*

### AUTUMN FESTIVAL - 2009

**LAST YEAR'S AUTUMN FESTIVAL WAS A SUCCESS SO WE ARE GOING TO DO IT AGAIN!**

**October 24th from 11:00 - 3:00** many of us will be at church enjoying the fellowship of this fund raising activity. We hope you will join us or at least contribute your talents to our effort. There will be a delicious luncheon served beginning at 11:30 and continuing until we run out of food or people. We will also be selling homemade goodies such as cakes, cookies, breads, candy, jams and anything else delicious that YOU can make. Our wonderful EGCC crafters are also invited to make anything you think someone else will buy. Everything should be brought to church on Friday, October 23rd by 7:00pm.

Many people are needed on Friday and Saturday to contribute their time. (Talent is not necessarily a requirement.) Please contact the person listed to volunteer.

**Kitchen:** Judy Saxton (688-7419)  
Friday 3:00pm - Food preparation  
Saturday 11:00am - Food service

**Dining Room:** Barbara Skinner (658-9344)  
Friday 5:30pm - Set up (need some muscle help)  
Saturday 11:00am - Cashiers, servers and bussers  
Saturday 3:00pm - Clean up (again need some strong people)

There are many opportunities here for teenagers to be involved. We would love to have you join us.

**Food Products:** Linda Harrold (653-2677)  
Betsy Mack (653-3794)

**Crafts:** Judy Goff (653-7747)

We need lots of goodies to sell. Please contact the above people and share your talents.

**The most important ingredient is customers.** Please spread the word and bring all your friends to the **NEW AUTUMN FESTIVAL.**

Judy Saxton, chairperson

### CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

Looking for something to do that would be a help? The Craft Fair on Oct. 24 needs homemade items for its craft and food tables. Anything you can make and contribute will be appreciated. This is usually a good fundraiser for the church and a good way for new members to get involved. Judy Goff and Lois Viets are heading up the Craft Table, and Betsy Mack and Linda Harrold are chairing the Food Table. Judy Saxton will also be looking for help making and serving the luncheon that day.

Call with any questions.

Church Family Notes

Thank you - Thank you - Thank you

I am having trouble figuring out what to say and how to say it to thank so many of you who chose to attend my 80th birthday party on August 8th! Folks are telling me that they didn't think anyone could possibly surprise me but I was truly overwhelmed! Part of it was the circuitous route my sons took to get me there because I had my own agenda for that day and they had to work around it and it was not an easy task! I'm sure they went home exhausted and muttering under their breath about what a pain in the neck I was. I am truly indebted to them for not giving up and just telling me what was going on! But they gritted their teeth and soldiered on. You see, I thought they had dinner reservations and when we drove in the church parking lot I said, "why are we here?" and they dragged me out of the car and said, "just get in there." So you can imagine my amazement when I opened that door and saw a cast of thousands all shouting "surprise". I'm still reeling from it.

I kept thinking it was not possible that so many of you chose to spend that time honoring me with your presence on a Saturday afternoon, but then I remembered that I would probably do the same for each one of you! And I humbly thank you for it. I will NEVER EVER forget it.

I also want to thank those who couldn't come for the cards and notes they sent to me. I owe you all BIG TIME!

Love - God Bless,  
Edna

To a caring and wonderful congregation,

Your prayers on my behalf have been very encouraging. It is indeed humbling to know that so many of you have given the beautiful gift of caring.

Though I will be under treatment for quite some time, the course has been slowed some to allow long overdue cataract surgery...and guess what? The vision in the left eye is crystal clear. Once again, prayers were answered!

I feel in my heart so much gratitude to you my dear friends. God bless each of you.

Thank you,  
Carolyn Phillips

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To my faith family here at EGCC,

I want to thank all of you for the many prayers, calls, emails, cards, food, and flowers I received during the time of my surgery and awaiting test results. I am so thankful for your care and love. My family and I were so carried in your prayers and I am so grateful for the benign test results.

Blessings and peace,  
Martha Parrish Bush

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Dear Church Family,

You get well cards, prayers and concerns were and are appreciated. There were over seventy cards and too many "Get Wells" to thank you all individually. So collectively Thank You!!!

Regards and Love,  
Paul Ridgeway

Office Help Needed

If you would be interested in substituting in the church office, please call Sharon @ 653-2987, ext. 10. Thank you

*The Beacon*

**IHS & Heads Up! Hartford CALENDAR Fall 2009**

***"You/I/We can make a difference!"***

Sunday, September 6 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting
Sunday, September 13 <sup>th</sup> -	Immediately following morning worship in Fellowship Hall - an <b>All Family Potluck to kick off the new year!</b> ALL 9 <sup>th</sup> through 12 <sup>th</sup> graders are most welcome! Please RSVP to Gayle via email or call at 653-2460.
Tuesday, September 15 <sup>th</sup>	<u>7:00 PM</u> <b>Heads Up! Hartford</b> worship service meeting (tentative)
Saturday, Sept 19 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday, Sept 20 <sup>th</sup>	<u>8:00 PM - 8:00 AM</u> Let's get to know each other! Perhaps a movie, some games, food and fellowship! All "I.H.S.ers" are encouraged to meet at the church for a sleepover. A light breakfast will be served. Again, more details to follow!
Saturday, Sept 26 <sup>th</sup>	<u>10:00 AM</u> <b>Heads Up! Hartford</b> service "rehearsal"
Sunday, Sept 27 <sup>th</sup>	<u>10:00 AM</u> Meet in the Buttaro Room <b>Heads Up Hartford</b> Volunteers share with the congregation by leading morning worship. <b>No evening I.H.S. meeting</b>
Sunday, October 4 <sup>th</sup>	<u>7:15 - 9:00 PM</u> meeting in the I.H.S. Room
Sunday, October 11 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting
Sunday, October 18 <sup>th</sup>	<u>7:15 - 9:00 PM</u> meeting in the I.H.S. Room
Sunday, October 25 <sup>th</sup>	<u>10:00 AM</u> Meet in the church and travel to Blackwell AME church in Hartford to worship with our friends. No evening meeting.

**Future Dates to remember:**

Emmaus Reunions are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month are from 2 - 4:30 PM at Trinity Episcopal in Tariffville

**The Ivoryton Retreat will be Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> - Please mark your calendars in INK!**



## Are you Interested?

Appalachia Service Project (ASP) is a Christian ministry, open to all people, that fosters human development by addressing the housing needs of Central Appalachia. Each year through it's ministry about 15,000 volunteers repair homes for 400-500 low-income families in rural areas of Central Appalachia. ASP's goal is to make homes **warmer, safer and drier** for families in need, while offering transformational experiences for families, volunteers and staff alike.

In the past, EGCC has sent groups of adults and youth to participate in ASP. This past spring, a group of 4 adult volunteers served in Johnson City, Tennessee.

At this time, we would like to see if there are any youth and adults who are interested in the possibility of participating in this ministry in 2010. If there is interest, we'll set up a follow up meeting and provide additional information about the application process.

If you are interested or need additional information, please contact Jim or Karen Pestana at 298-8311 or via email at [jppest@Comcast.net](mailto:jppest@Comcast.net)

More information about ASP is available on their website at [asphome.org](http://asphome.org).

## Website News

On behalf of the Physical Resources Ministry and the whole Church Family, I wanted to send out a giant thank you! The EGCC Website is back up and running ([www.egchurch.org](http://www.egchurch.org)). I would first like to thank Rosa Clark, who volunteered countless hours of her time to the design of the site and offering her expert advice! Many thanks to both Pastor Michael and Lewis who met with Rosa to share ideas and thoughts about the blueprints for the site. Thank you also to Doug Comstock who was a great asset during the transition, helping out with many questions about domain hosting. Also many thanks to Lewis, Sharon and many others I am sure I may have left out who continue to update and add to the website as it grows and evolves. We invite you to jump on a computer and visit our website on the world wide web at [www.egchurch.org](http://www.egchurch.org) This is an exciting time! Come and see!

Love in Christ,

Dave Houghton, PRM Tech

Help to Coordinate CROP Walk Plans

The Mission and Outreach Ministry is seeking an organizer to coordinate this year's CROP Walk which would be held this fall on a date to be determined, usually in October.

The coordinator makes plans for the day of the Walk and oversees the fund-raising efforts of the walkers. All needed material is provided, along with guidance from those with previous experience.

If you are interested in helping with this event which supports hunger-fighting efforts through Church World Service and our local Food Pantry, please contact Kristen Hardendorf, or another member of the Mission and Outreach Ministry.

Communion Table Flowers

Thank you to the following people for offering to grace the Communion Table with flowers for the month of September.

- September 6 The Gibson Family
September 13 Dot Higgins
September 20 Maureen Brousseau
September 27 Stuart & Charlotte Babcock

Audio Tech crew for worship services in the month of September is as follows:

- September 6 Matt Short
September 13 Shelby Demke
September 20 Tom Horner
September 27 Marge Korhonen

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Adam Korhonen
2 Stephanie Crane
3 Ted Ridgeway, Dot Higgins,
5 Adam Newhall
6 Kate Hoadley, Krista Juliano, Cullen Hall
7 Beth Birmingham
9 Todd Perkins
10 Rob Wilmot, Jennifer Wilson
11 Lynda Martin, John Wiedenheft Lisa Kallen
12 Kelly Hasenbalg
13 Pat Lang, Matt Turner, Tuesday McLean
15 Sherry Smith
16 Jessica Howard, Jordin Comstock
17 Maureen Brousseau Becky Gibson
19 Steve Holton, Jim Galloway Nancy Toussaint
21 Christopher Martin
22 Debbie Paskiewicz
23 Kendall Comstock, Kim Caterino
24 Jim Farley
27 Joyce Kennedy Raymes
28 Meghan Hasenbalg
29 Julie Ridgeway
30 Bob Crocker, Paul Ridgeway,
Happy Anniversary to:
3 Bill and Wendy Bowers
4 Ginny and Dave Trenholm
6 Orlando and Denise Martinez, George and Karen Wessner
7 Chip and Jan McIsaac Heidi (Holliday) and Mark St. Jean
10 Elsie and George Tule
11 Carol and Art Schwartz
12 Liz and Rich Kellogg
22 Al & Michele Leadbeater
23 Neil and Kelly Drzewiecki
30 Lynda and Christopher Martin

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed, please call Sharon @ 653-4966.

## *The Beacon*

Save the Date ~ Saturday, October 3, 2:00-5:00 PM

A reception to honor Kathlyn Parrick in celebration  
of her many years of service to our church and community.  
and  
In celebration of her 95th birthday! (cards only please!)

A program of music beginning in the Sanctuary  
with a reception to follow in the CEC (round room).

Come and wish this special lady "God's speed"  
as she prepares to move to the Cape.

Please call Sandy Houghton @ 653-7808  
or Jeanne Daggett @ 658-1098 if you would like to help in any way.

### Healing Hands

By Jeanne Daggett

Mark 8: 25

"Then Jesus laid his hands upon the man's eyes,... and the man saw everything clearly."

God's desire for all of us is that we be whole—physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Much of Jesus' ministry, as well as that of his followers, centered around healing through prayer, command, and/or the laying on of hands. We are also called, as His disciples, to offer healing where we may. Each of us—you, me, wounded or no—possesses this gift.

Beginning in the fall, those who feel so called will offer a prayer time through the laying on of hands following our monthly Sunday morning Communion Service (first Sunday of each month). If you are interested or feel called to participate in this ministry, or if you would want to receive God's healing in this way, please contact Pastor Michael or Jeanne Daggett. (658-1098)

*The Beacon*

**September, 2009**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1  6:30-9:00 Boy Scout Leaders, F. H.	2 6:30 Early Morning Prayer  6:00 John Study Group Potluck Dinner at McCloskey's	3  10:45 Luke Bible Study  1:00-6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive	4  10-11 Food Pantry	5
6  9:25 Worship	7  Labor Day Church Office Closed	8  6:30-9:00 Boy Scout Leaders, F. H. & CEC	9 6:30 Early Morning Prayer 9:15 Matthew Bible Study 12:00 Worship Staff Meeting 6:30 John Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	10  10:45 Luke Bible Study  7:00 Senior Bell Choir	11  10-11 Food Pantry	12
13  10:25 Worship Begins IHS All Family Potluck following Worship  6:30 Sunday Night Alive	14  7:15 All Ministries Gathering, Followed by Individual Ministry Meetings	15  9:30 -12:30 Quilting Group, F. H.  7:00 Heads Up! Hartford Service Prep Meeting	16 6:30 Early Morning Prayer 9:15 Matthew Bible Study 5:15-6:15 Girl Scouts, CEC 6:30 John Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	17 10:45 Luke Bible Study  6:00-7:00 Visitation Team, Buttaro Room  7:00 Senior Bell Choir	18  10-11 Food Pantry	19  8:00 pm - Sunday 8:00 am - IHS sleepover
20  10:25 Worship Special Congregational Meeting following Worship  6:30 Sunday Night Alive 7:20 NOOMA, Buttaro Rm. 7:20 Forgiveness: Letting Go, Fellowship Hall	21  7:15 Council	22  12:35-1:35 Living Above Worry & Stress, Buttaro Room	23 6:30 Early Morning Prayer  9:15 Matthew Bible Study  6:30 John Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir	24 10:45 Luke Bible Study  7:00 Senior Bell Choir	25 10-11 Food Pantry	26  10:00 Heads Up! Hartford Service Prep Meeting
27  10:25 Worship  6:30 Sunday Night Alive 7:20 NOOMA, Buttaro Rm. 7:20 Forgiveness: Letting Go, Fellowship Hall	28  7:00 SrPRT	29  12:35-1:35 Living Above Worry & Stress, Buttaro Room	30 6:30 Early Morning Prayer 9:15 Matthew Bible Study 6:00 Nursery School Potluck, CEC 6:30 John Bible Study 7:30 Senior Choir			

East Granby Congregational Church  
P. O. Box 390  
East Granby, CT 06026

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The Beacon  
September, 2009 Newsletter of the  
East Granby Congregational Church



**PURPOSE STATEMENT:**

East Granby Congregational Church, U.C.C.,  
is called to receive the abundant Life and Love of God,  
to love the LORD our God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength,  
and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

With the power of the Holy Spirit, we will do this by:

- Seeking first the Kingdom of God
- Following Jesus Christ and being formed as disciples
- Serving our neighbors and equipping one another for ministry.