

***Acton
Congregational church
United church of Christ
Summer 2017***

Memorial Day through Labor Day
May 28 ~ September 4, 2017

*Schedule of
Supply Preachers &
Worship Team,
Pastoral Coverage,
Fellowship & Mission*

Summer 2017

Please consider this brochure as your invitation to join us for our special summer sabbatical worship, prayer, fellowship and mission opportunities.

Our Pastor, Rev. AbbyLynn Haskell, will be on sabbatical May 29-August 19. Sabbatical time is set aside for the purpose of renewal, revival and growth for both her and us as a congregation. AbbyLynn's sabbatical work will consist of interviewing colleagues to build a collection of *Sacred Stories* that she is already joyously anticipating sharing in worship upon her return. She also hopes to be doing some sailing with her husband, Bob as well as enjoying summer excursions with her sons Ben and Keenan and step-daughters Erin and Shannon.



During this sabbatical time for us, our Ministry Team has worked to fill each Sunday with special experiences of preaching, prayer and worship as well as special fellowship and mission opportunities and projects throughout the week.

We offer you this brochure as a way to prayerfully anticipate with joy the new and yet beautifully familiar ways we will be renewed, revived and grow as the body of Christ this summer.



Supply Preachers

June 4 ~ Rev. Deborah J. Blood



The Rev. Deborah J. Blood is our United Church of Christ Maine Conference Minister. Prior to becoming our Conference Minister she served in the local church setting in Connecticut for the past ten years. She was born in Massachusetts and has consistently spent time in Maine, both while growing up and returning frequently later in life, enjoying places from Monhegan Island to a cabin in Rumford Center. She has ties going back generations, her family having once farmed in Cherryfield.

Deborah has worked as a music teacher, a practicing attorney, and a local church pastor. She has had extensive training in mediation and conflict resolution for churches and has contributed this expertise in different settings. In the national setting Deborah has chaired the Wider Church Ministries and Common Global Ministries Boards, and travelled widely under the auspices of Wider Church Ministries.

In the Association and Conference settings she has served on Church and Ministry, facilitated New Clergy Community of Practice, co-chaired the Sacred Conversations on Race Ministry Team, and chairs the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Conference.

June 11 & July 2 ~ Jim Key

Jim Key graduated from USM in 1967 and taught Jr. High School Science and Math for one and a half years before enlisting in the Air Force during the Viet Nam War. In the Air Force, he became a Clinical Laboratory Assistant and served four years. In 1974 he started working for the US Postal Service from which he retired in November 2000. He served as a volunteer church youth leader for over thirty years. In 1995, he began taking courses in the "American Baptist Churches of Maine Institute for Ministry" and became a licensed lay preacher. He was ordained in January 2008 and has served a total of 15 years in part-time pastor positions including four years in UCC churches. He retired from pastoral ministry in October 2016.

June 11

Scripture: Genesis 1: 1 & 2
John 1: 1-3

Sermon: *"Trinity"*

July 2

Galatians 5:13-15

"Freedom"

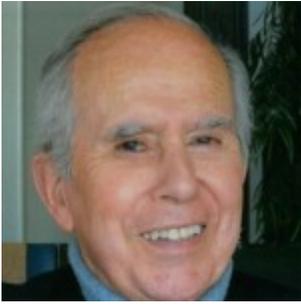
June 25 ~ Rev. John Rawson



Forty-nine years ago, Rev. John Rawson was ordained as a pastor, and he and Olga served in this church from January 1989 until the end of 1993. As pastor, John was a mentor and friend to many. He was very involved with the youth of this church, as well. The sacrament of communion has always held a place of importance for him. Rev. Rawson will lead us in a special communion

worship service on June 25.

July 16 ~ Rev. Victor Scalise

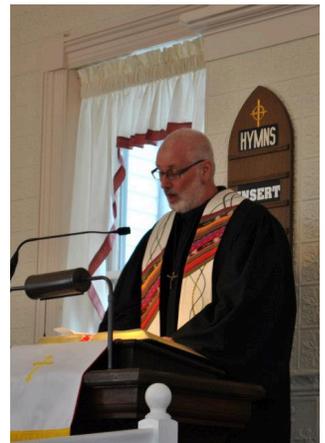


The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Scalise Jr. served as an American Baptist Pastor in Massachusetts from 1960 – 2010. He served for 17 years as the Senior Minister of The Baptist Church & The United Parish in Brookline, MA. Following this ministry; he engaged in 18 interim ministries. For a dozen years, Dr. Scalise served as President of New England Institute of Applied Arts and Sciences, Boston, MA. He lectured extensively across the country on dying, death and bereavement and founded the National Center for Death Education. He was an on-call chaplain for 40 years at Children's Hospital in Boston, one of the most rewarding experiences of his life. We have been so very blessed in that he has preached at least once each summer in Acton for over 50 years. He was inducted into the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia.

His first wife of 51 years, Mary Love Scalise, died in 2009. He is now married to Carolyn Fowler. They reside in Seattle, Washington. Vic and Carolyn are at their summer residence in Ocean Park, Maine during June and July.

July 30 ~ Rev. Bill Walsh

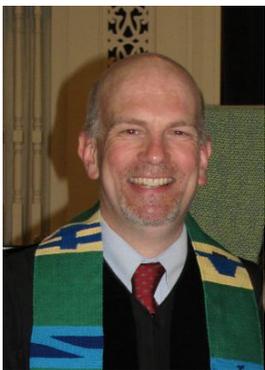
Rev. Bill Walsh is the pastor of Hampden Congregational United Church of Christ in Hampden, ME. Bill's call to serve Hampden is a half-time pastorate. Having seen the difficulty smaller churches faced in calling a pastor, Bill felt led to help address this need. To this end, his call to ministry is intentionally bi-vocational. To round out his vocational life (and income- lol) he also maintains a mental health counseling practice in Bangor, Maine where he works with adolescents, adults, and forensic populations.



In addition to his Master of Divinity degree, Bill has also earned the Master of Science in Pastoral Counseling and Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling degrees.

Bill and his partner, David Vaughan, reside in Hampden- and soon, also, Saint Petersburg, Florida. He looks forward to sharing with you today and feels greatly honored to have been invited to help fill the pulpit for his good friends, Abby and Melissa!

August 6 ~ Rev. Dr. Tim LeConey



Rev. Dr. Tim LeConey, the youngest of five children, grew up in southern New Jersey in an American Baptist church and went to Drew University in Madison, NJ. While working at Camp Oceanwood in Ocean Park, Maine, during his college years, he met his future wife, Mary, and discovered a call to ministry. Tim attended Andover Newton Theological School and received a Master of Divinity in 2000, the same year that he was ordained as a minister in the United Church of Christ.

Tim served as Associate Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction, Vermont, for five years and then Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Fryeburg, Maine, for ten years. In 2013, Tim graduated from Bangor Seminary with a doctorate in ministry. Mary is an Occupational Therapist with Androscoggin Home Health plus being with NH's Visiting Nurse program. Tim and Mary have three children: Liam is 21 and attends U Maine Farmington, Ben is 19 and will be going to University College of Dublin, Ireland in the fall, and Evan is 14 and a freshman at Telstar High School in Bethel. Tim enjoys hiking, Nordic skiing, running, reading, listening to music, and singing.



Acton Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Ministry Team

Worship Liturgists

June 4, June 25 & August 6 ~ Terry Minihan & Seth A. Hurd

Minister of Christian Nurture – Terry Minihan



In the 1990's, Terry was the Youth Group Leader here, at the Acton Church, where she directed a youth handbell choir and chorus. During that time, Terry also served the Shapleigh Baptist Church in the same capacity while working as Special Ed Tech at the Acton School. In 1997, Terry continued

her work at the Acton School and also accepted the call from the Sanford First Baptist Church to be their Minister of Music and Worship Leader. Later, during her tenure in Sanford, Terry also served as their Director of Christian Education and inserted music and drama into Bible study and Sunday School classes. In 2001, Terry resigned her church position, moved to South Berwick, and accepted a position at Berwick Academy where she was a Literacy Instructor, tutor, kindergarten teacher, first grade teacher, and Youth Drama Coach for Lower and Upper School musicals. Today, Terry is the Founder and Artistic Director of Spotlight Performing Arts. She is happily married to our Music Director, Seth A. Hurd, and they live in Acton, where they enjoy family times with their 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

Minister of Music – Seth Hurd



Seth A. Hurd is a native of Maine and resides in Acton. Mr. Hurd earned a Bachelor of Music Degree with emphases in Organ and Conducting at the University of New Hampshire and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Management at the University of Phoenix (AZ). While at UNH, he was a student conductor of the University Concert Choir and on tours in Jamaica and New York under the instruction of Cleveland L. Howard, Jr. while also studying conducting with Stanley Hettinger. He also studied with Ruth Edwards (piano), John Skelton (organ, harpsichord) and Margaret Herlihey (oboe, english horn).

After his graduate degree, he pursued a career in finance spanning private industry, public education, municipal government. He served as the Director of Finance and Operations at Berwick Academy in South Berwick, Maine from 2001 – 2013 when he took the opportunity to advance to the role of Director of Visual & Performing Arts and Campus Operations. He teaches chorus and is producer and music director for the Upper School Musicals, coaching recent productions of *“How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying”*, *“The Sound of Music”*, *“Damn Yankees”* and *“Les Miserables”*.

Mr. Hurd has worked in a number of non-profit arenas and has held positions on the local school board, finance committees, and the Old Berwick Historical Society. He is currently the Minister of Music for the Acton Congregational Church (Acton, Maine), a former Director of Music and Organist at the North Parish Congregational Church in Sanford, Maine, a former Director (1993-1998) of the Sanford Community Chorus and a former Director (2005-2007) of the Seaglass Chorale (Kennebunk) and the Granite State Choral Society (Rochester, NH). Mr. Hurd is also a member of the American Guild of Organists and the American Choral Directors Association.

Supply Preacher

Associate Pastor – **Rev. Melissa Marquis**

Pastoral Coverage

May 29 ~ August 19

Worship Liturgist

June 11, July 2, July 16 & 30

Preaching

May 28, June 18, July 9, July 23, & August 13



Rev. Melissa Marquis is the Associate Pastor in Acton.

She is originally from Rhode Island, moving to Maine in 1999. She attended under graduate school at Rhode Island College graduating with degrees in Social Work and Psychology. She works full time at the Office of Public Guardian in Concord, NH. Melissa started attending Bangor Theological Seminary in the Fall 2006. She graduated with a Master of Divinity in 2011 and was ordained in 2013. In October 2013, Melissa was commissioned as a 1 LT in the Maine Air National Guard and is serving as a Chaplain to the 101st Air refueling Wing in Bangor. Melissa is the first female military Chaplain in the state of Maine! Melissa lives in Acton with her husband Bob. She has two children, Emily-Rose and Meredith. Rev. Marquis will be on-call for pastoral emergencies and holding church office hours on Fridays from 9am-12pm

Minister of Administration & Hospitality ~ Maxine Crouch



Maxine is married to John Crouch, a retired school teacher and they reside in Shapleigh with their devoted dog, Webster (who is also the official office greeter). Her daughter Kelly gave her three beautiful granddaughters, Kaitlyn, Lindsay, and Mallory, and her son Stephen gave her two more beautiful grandchildren, Brenda and James. She grew up in the Kittery schools, graduating from Traip Academy. After attending USM, she received her Master's Degree in Art Therapy from Vermont College and worked with adults in the mental health field, retiring in 1991. Maxine has been working in the church office for 15 years this April, enjoying the friendly atmosphere of her home church.

Maxine is our front-line administrator. She sees to the behind the scene details of bulletins, calendars and schedules. Her office hours are Wednesday 9-12, Thursdays 9-3 and Fridays 9-12. She will be on vacation the week of July 23rd.

Pastor ~ Rev. AbbyLynn Haskell



Returning to the Pulpit August 20

One of AbbyLynn's deepest joys is sharing stories of faith. She is very thankful the worshipping community of Acton has and continues to nurture and support this joy. Abby first learned to love the wonder of stories and storytelling from her home church in Bangor, Maine. She studied more about this art when she attended Bangor Theological Seminary where she received her M.Div. in 1999. She began her pastoral ministry at First Parish Church in Dover, New Hampshire as an associate pastor. She has served as the pastor of Newington Town Church as well as the program developer for First Parish Church in Saco,

Maine. She is married to Bob and has two step-daughters, Shannon and Erin and two sons Ben and Keenan.



Fellowship

Chair Yoga ~ Susan Chadbourne leads this very popular activity that is every Thursday from 10:00 ~ 11:00AM. Both men and women are welcome.

Bean Suppers: Our annual suppers are hosted by our Women's Fellowship ~ a Sisterhood. They will be from 4:30 ~ 6:00PM on July 8th, August 12, and September 9th.

Party at the Pond ~ begins its third season July 6th. We will be having a great time of fun, music, fellowship and food from 6-8pm each Thursday evening through July and August. Come enjoy the concerts, food and fellowship. Invite your neighbors and friends.

Acton Pride Day ~ Acton Pride Day will be on Thursday, July 6th from 3:00-8:00. It will be held at our sweet little park, now called Friendship Park, beside the Acton Tennis Courts. There will be vendors, kids' activities and live entertainment.

Sea Dogs ~ July 23rd 1:00 game on Sunday. Each ticket is \$10. Proceeds will be used to purchase accompaniments to our new sanctuary keyboard. Please see Terry if you would like to purchase tickets!

Antique Car Show ~ July 29 ~ Smith's Red Apple Farm & Apple Valley Campground, are planning their first Apple Valley Car Show/meet 2017. There will be antique cars, live music, food, vendors, tractor rides and an oldies dance at Apple Valley Campground Rec Hall at 7:30 pm.

Welcome Back Ice Cream Social ~ August 20th Abby returns to the pulpit after a three-month sabbatical. Bring an ice cream topping to share after church. Women's Fellowship is supplying the ice cream.



Mission

Bucks for Basement ~ June ~ We are replenishing our Heritage Fund after borrowing from it to do needed repairs to the floor and beams under the Fellowship Hall and men's restroom.

Shoebboxes ~ July ~ We fill shoeboxes with toys and clothes for disadvantaged children around the world. Here is a link to the website. <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/> Last year we packed, wrapped and shipped 59 shoeboxes.

Hope Haitian Choir ~ Barb House, the director of the Hope Haitian Choir will bring in the group of about 20 children, ages 8-17, from Haiti, on Tuesday, August 8. It has been in existence since 2012, and every year. They sing and dance to a variety of music - originals, hymns, popular, French, Creole, English...but their goal is to show that there is more to Haiti than the disturbing news that people hear. Where difficulties abound, there is hope! These children have joy, excitement, and love for their LORD, Jesus Christ. The concerts are lively and inspirational. Please consider attending and supporting this group. There will be opportunities to host some of the children, as well. More information about what's involved can be found on our tour schedule website. ~<http://www.hopehaitian.com/tour-schedule.html>

Forgotten Initiative ~ August ~ Rev. Melissa is our liaison to provide books, stuffed animals, and care packages to give to Social Workers for children that have been displaced from their homes. Often times children have to leave with just the clothes on their backs, and this gives the social workers some items of comfort for the children.

Backpacks of food for Acton kids ~ September ~ We collect meals and snacks for Acton school children who have food

insecurity. The food is simple for them to fix themselves on weekends when cafeteria food is not available.

Notes