

West Church News

The folks at West Congregational Church are excited to announce their first Annual Lenten Fish Fry. It will take place on Saturday April 13, 2019 at Tenney-Roper Hall just behind the Sanctuary located at 499 North State Street, Concord New Hampshire. Food will be served from 4:00PM until the fryer is shut off at 6:30 PM.

Along with the usual fried foods there will be non-fried and non-fish entrees. Several fresh salads will be offered as sides. Gluten free options will be available.

For those curious, the sanctuary will be open and guides will be available to conduct a brief tour of the beautiful stained glass windows. There is no cover charge and the event is being hosted by volunteers from the church. Donations will be accepted and all will be forwarded to the homeless shelter.

Remember the fun you had at the monthly church suppers? Don't miss out on this one!



APR
13

Free Lenten Fish Fry!

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Inside this issue

Pastor's Page.....	2
News	3
Boards	4
Calendar	5
Events.....	6

About West Church

- We meet every Sunday at 10
- Open and Affirming Church, Everyone is Welcome
- Food Pantry hours: Friday: 10-12. All are welcome.
- Our Mission: "To increase love and hope for all through growing faith in Christ"

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Pastor's Page

Isaiah 43:19 "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

Dear friends,

This line from Isaiah is part of a larger passage in which the prophet addresses a people in the midst of crisis, exiled in Babylon, separated from their land, their homes, their families, and feeling as if they are separated from their God. Yet even as Isaiah acknowledges the tragedy of the Babylonian exile, he also offers words of hope in the presence and saving power of God. We often read this passage during Lent because the poetry of the piece highlights the hope and anticipation of Easter in the midst of the darkness of the Lenten season.

I consider myself fortunate to live in a place where I can experience the changing of the seasons. I eagerly anticipate the coming of Easter, because I know that with it comes longer days, blooming flowers, returning birds, and of course warmer weather. Yet at times this change is imperceptible. In early January the meteorologist may tell me that the days are getting longer, but it sure doesn't seem like it. This week, I realized with gratitude that it was still light out at 7pm.

Sometimes, when we are in the midst of the darkness of Lent or our own personal crisis, it's difficult to believe that God is with us, or to believe in God's promise of change. When God declares, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" we want to shout *No! We don't perceive it!*

A few days ago I was ready to embrace Spring. I left my coat at home and reveled in the warmth of the sun on my face. Today the forecast is calling for snow. Change, at times, is imperceptible, but I know in my heart that April snow is fleeting and Spring is indeed coming. God has proven faithful, and every year the dead of winter breaks forth into the light and life of Spring. Whether we perceive the change or not, the darkness will not last forever. This is the promise of Spring and the hope of Easter. Spring is coming. Christ is coming. Christ is already here.

Peace, Pastor Amanda

**Sunrise Service with First Church at Eagle
Square 7:00 AM**

Egg on a muffin at West Church 8:00—9:50AM

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Christian Education

The Board has scheduled a review of the Safety Policy on April 14, 2019 after church. All who volunteer or plan to volunteer with our children are required to attend a safety meeting prior to volunteering for future classes or activities.

The safety of our children requires teachers and chaperones who are familiar with fire safety, medical safety, evacuation plans, first aid kits, understanding allergies and allergic reactions.

It is easy to insure the safety of our children when we are well informed.

Trustees

The trustees did not achieve a quorum at the March meeting, which precluded doing any business.

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee met in February. Reports showed the market value of the church's investments rebounded from the December low to values which were used during the development of the 2019 budget.

We continue to monitor the fund. The market value remained volatile within a 2% range during March before ending the month 4 cents above the beginning Net Asset Value.

By the end of 2019, the church will only be able to draw on the income from the unrestricted fund and the parsonage fund. This projects to approximately \$6000 per year. We will walk a financial tightrope with a half time pastor and a reduced music ministry.

"WAY OUT WEST"

A Mystery Dinner Fund Raiser

You are cordially invited to *Way out West*, an evening of double-dealing, intrigue, blackmail, riddle-solving and murder.



To be held at:

The "Silver Dollar Saloon" in the town of Dry Gulch

(Tenney/Roper Hall, West Congregational Church, 499 North State St., Concord, NH)

On: 5/11/2019

Starting at: 6:00 p.m.

Tickets: Adults - \$15.00 Seniors over 60 and children \$12.00

Dietary Allergies? Call: 224-4142

CACTUS GULCH GAZETTE

Friday, May 11, 1884

Cactus Gulch Celebrates 20 Years!



Railroad Prospects: Mid-West or South West Rail?

It seems certain that the rail will soon be arriving here in Cactus Gulch - but the big question on everyone's lips now is which rail company will be bringing our life line to the coast? Both Mid West Rail (MWR) and South West Rail (SWR) have sent negotiators to meet our town council and local landowners.

Final Hurdle

The final hurdle to negotiations is the area of land to the south west of town, known as Fat Bull Range and owned by Zeke Calhoun, successful prospector, landowner and founder citizen of Cactus Gulch. These are complicated by the fact that Mr. Calhoun may in fact no longer be the owner of this land! Card Game Scandal As reported in the Gazette last Saturday, Calhoun was involved in a drunken Friday night card game

Tonight ~~sees~~ celebrations begin for the 20th anniversary of the founding of Cactus Gulch town. Our town has grown from its beginnings of a few brave pioneering prospectors arriving in 1864, to the thriving community of 600 souls that it is today. With the likelihood of the railroad arriving soon, connecting us directly to San Francisco, Cactus Gulch looks all set to continue its growth and prosperity!

All townsfolk and visitors are welcome to join in the celebrations tonight, beginning at Silver Dollar Saloon at 6pm, where there will be free drinks for all - three cheers to Deputy Sheriff Fairweather and the management of The Silver Dollar Saloon - followed by an all you can eat buffet.

with the notorious gambler Doc. Faraday. Stakes increased as the night went on, and eventually Fat Bull Range was "won" by Doc Faraday. There were witnesses to the game and there have been as yet unproven accusations of cheating. Judgement Tonight "Needless to say, this scandal affects the whole town badly, especially as the outcome is so essential to the rail negotiations. I will therefore be making a ruling on the land ownership tonight at 8:00p.m." said Judge Paulson, who has been investigating the case with Sheriff Blane. The town eagerly awaits the outcome.

Calhoun's Fortunes Should the judgement go against Mr Calhoun, he will still be easily the richest man in town from his earlier prospecting - and rumor also has it that he has recently found yet another rich silver lode, on unclaimed land to the north east of Cactus Gulch. To this reporter's knowledge, the location is still known only to Zeke. Whoever else knows it when the next round of land claim staking takes place could be in the position of making themselves very rich indeed. Sinners Repent! Travelling preacher Elijah Entwistle is in town and plans to give a sermon followed by baptisms, tomorrow morning at 10am at Clearwater Creek.

Revd Entwistle declared, "I am shocked by the lawlessness and godlessness of this town." Drunkenness and debauchery are everywhere. I will be at The Silver Dollar this evening, trying to save souls." Anyone wishing to be cleansed and saved should be at the creek tomorrow morning. Stagecoach to bring new telegraph We are delighted to report that the new telegraph should be arriving on the stagecoach this evening. It will be a relief to be back in contact with the outside world, after the old machine broke down a week ago.



Financial Secretary

Hello,

I wanted to take the opportunity to let everyone know about a new online payment website that has been set up for West Church, called Tithe.ly. This website allows users to make offerings to our church with their credit card, debit card or checking account.

Some of the benefits of online giving are;

- Not having to remember to bring your offering every week / month.
- The ability to give from your smart phone immediately, instead of having to wait till next week.

Ensuring our church has a steady flow of income to operate efficiently.

You can access Tithe.ly through our WestCongr.org website, under the Online Giving page. Or by downloading the App through the Google Play Store or Apple Store on your smartphone.

Accessing through the website;

Go to <http://www.westcongr.org> website.

- Click on Online Giving.
- Follow the directions to get to Tithe.ly.
- Select either Debit/Credit or Bank Account at the bottom of the page.
 - o Please note, using your Bank Account costs less in fees.
 - o Enter the amount you wish to give.
 - o Select the Fund you wish to give to.
 - o This is a drop down menu, simply click the down arrow to see all the different funds.
 - o Enter your Banking Information and Contact Information.
 - o Enter your Member Number or Envelope Number if you know it.
 - o You can add a note if you would like, for added instruction on where your offering should go.
 - o Select to either cover the fees associated with your offering or not.
 - o Fee amount will show up under amount you wish to give and will be added to your total.
 - o Select to have your offering be automated.
 - o If you select yes, a drop down menu will appear for the frequency you wish to give.
 - o You can select Tithe.ly to securely remember your information by creating a PIN as well.

Click Give and your offering will be processed.

If you would like further access to Tithe.ly such as, giving history and additional information. You can sign up for a free account on the top left corner.

That is pretty much it. This program operates the same way as most online payment websites do, in a safe and secure fashion with little cost involved. If anyone would be interested, I would be happy to have a sit down with you to walk you through the steps involved.

Thank you and God bless,

Benjamin Mooney
Financial Secretary
West Congregational Church, UCC
499 N State St. Concord, NH

APRIL 2019

SUNDAY Gr/ Past.Rel.	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AA *q Sunday @ 7 pm T/R Hall Laurie Clark 229-7550	1 Pastor Amanda off Monday/ Saturday	2 Bible Study Tuesday 7- 8:15 pm	3 Girl Scouts 5:45- 7:15 pm JH Clara Cleveland room B Witham 978-5433	4 Pastor Office Hours 1-6 pm q Thursday	5 Food Pantry 10-12 q Friday	6
7 Diaconate Merrimack Assoc. Mtg. Meredith 2 pm	8 Mystery Dinner Plan- ning Mtg. 6 pm	9 Game Night 6:30-8 pm	10 <u>Choir Rehearsal</u> <u>q Wed. 6 pm</u>	11 Paula	12 AA *q Fri @ 7-9 CC Rm JH Dana Gourley 783- 0370 344-1619	13 Fish Fry T/R Hall 4- 6:30 pm Volunteers need- ed
14 Palm Sunday Safety Mtg 11:30 Pastoral Relations	15	16 Bible Study Tuesday 7- 8:15 pm	17 <u>Trustees 5-6pm</u> IBEW 10 am Bob McNeff McKeage Rm 753-6679 3rd Wed	18 Maundy Thursday Ser- vice 7 pm, Pot Luck 6 pm	19 Good Friday	20
21 Easter Sunrise Service 7 am Eagle Sq. Breakfast to follow	22	23 Church Council 5-7 pm Bible Study Tuesday 7- 8:15 pm	24	25 Kenny	26	27 Rev Gordon Rankin installed Conf. Min- ister Wolfeboro 1:30
28	29 Credential Committee 10:30 Con- ference Office	30			Concord Monitor Contact- debspauld- ing@concordmo nitor.com	Any questions or concerns call or email Pat Cutting 753-6648 pcutting@comcast. net



Food Pantry— Ongoing Mission

	Households	Children
April	30	14
May	20	7
June	38	13
July	23	9
Aug	32	26
Sep	26	35
Oct	35	28
Nov	29	30
Dec	22	12
Jan	28	29
Feb	27	44
March	47	21
12 months	357	268



**Game Night
and
Pot Luck
West Church
at
Hutchins Street Entrance
Tuesday,
April 9, 2019
6:30 – 8:00 pm**

