

West Church News

The Rev, Dr Rhonda MacLeod, Our New Interim Pastor Begins Her Ministry at West Church during the Last Week of August.



The Rev, Dr Rhonda MacLeod will officially start her Interim Ministry at West Congregational the last week of August with her first Sunday on September 1st. The Deacons hope you will like her as much as we do. Joy Potter.



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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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BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

From missions a few notes: first thank you to everyone that participated in volunteering at the race-track this year. I'm hoping to see a good sized check coming soon.

A reminder that school will be starting before we know it, so both our Beaver Meadow snack program and the CWS school kits will be in need of support. Thanks

I hate to mention it, but as summer comes to a close, the CROP Hunger walk will be coming to Concord; last year we had a good number of walkers and helpers so I hope we can do it again this year. This year's walk will be Saturday Sept.28th . This is CWS 50th anniversary of the walk and Concord's 35 year participating. 2018 raised a total of \$11,116.06, 25% gets returned to the area food pantry's including ours at West Church, which totalled \$2779.04. That amount was distributed to 13 area pantries, so our share was over \$200.00!! Good job to all involved.

Donna

Note: The regular meeting schedule of boards and committees skips July. No Reports.

Information from the "Pew Research Center: Religion and Public Life"

"From national laws regulating religious dress to local laws banning public worship by Muslims, religious restrictions have in recent years become more common in Europe. Indeed, while the Middle East-North Africa region had the highest levels of religious restrictions in the world, [Europe saw some of the biggest increases](#) over the last decade in certain types of restrictions. These findings come from a [recent Pew Research Center report](#) that analyzes restrictions on religion (by both governments and private individuals or social groups) from 2007 to 2017." July 31, 2019

"In U.S. places of worship, most do not hear talk about sexual abuse"

"Sexual abuse in religious communities continues to be in the news, including a new report this week on abuse within a U.S.-based Buddhist organization (see Denver Post story below). And many state governments [continue to debate a response](#). But relatively few Americans are hearing clergy talk about the issue. U.S. adults who say they attend religious services a few times a year or more often were asked in a recent Pew Research Center survey if the clergy or other religious leaders at their place of worship [have spoken out about sexual harassment](#), assault or abuse. Within this group, about three-in-ten say their clergy have spoken out about sexual abuse (29%), while two-thirds say they have not heard their clergy say anything about this topic (68%). " July 10, 2019

AUGUST 2019						
SUNDAY Church council	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Pat Cutting AA *q Sunday @ 7 pm T/R Hall Laurie Clark 229-7550		Start up this month Bible Study q Tuesday 7-8:15 pm		1 Paula	2 Food Pantry 10-12 q Friday	3
4 Eric Ekholm, preaching	5 Diaconate 6:00 pm	6	7	8	9 AA *q Fri @ 7-9 CC Rm JH Dana Gourley 783-0370 344-1619	10
11 Eric Ekholm, preaching Pastoral Relations	12	13 Game Night 6:30-8 pm	14	15 Kenny	16	17
18 Eric Ekholm, preaching First Church Visiting	19	20	21 Investment Comm. 4:30 Trustees 5-6 pm	22 CE Meeting 6 pm	23	24
25 Eric Ekholm, preaching	26 Rev Dr. Rhonda Macleod starts	27 Church Council 5-7 pm	28	29 Kenny	30	31

Our Choir returns in September



Food Pantry— Ongoing Mission

	Households	Children
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
April	26	11
May	37	14
June	30	15
12 months	362	274



GAME NIGHT

JOIN US FOR GAME NIGHT
AND POT LUCK

**Bring your favorite
game!!**

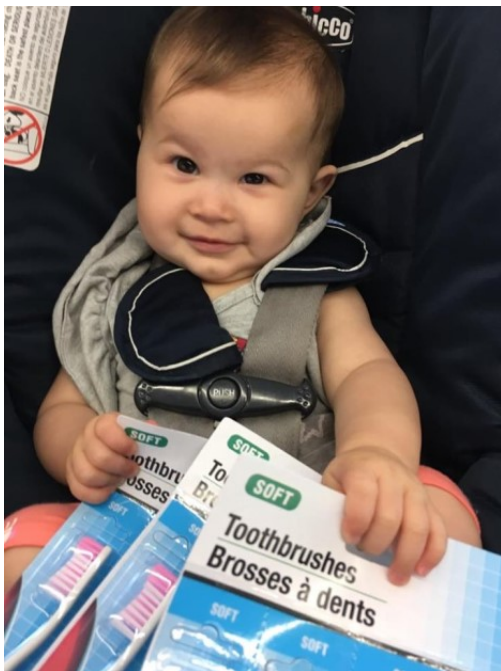
**Join us for an evening of
fun!**

Fun for All Ages

TUESDAY August 13th, 2019
FROM 6:30 TO 8:00 pm

Please use the Hutchins Street Entrance

Our youngest assistant volunteer shop-
ping for the pantry



What Jesus never said: "Feed the hungry only if they have papers." "Clothe the naked only if they're from your country." "Welcome the stranger only if there's zero risk." "Help the poor only if it's convenient." "Love your neighbor only if they look like you."

— James Martin, S.J.

