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Broad Brook Congregational Church United Church of Christ 122 Main Street Broad Brook, Connecticut 06016



May - June 2012

The Wayside BEACON



Pastor: Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Callahan

Newsletter of the Broad Brook Congregational Church 122 Main Street

Broad Brook, Connecticut 06016

http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org

Volume 65

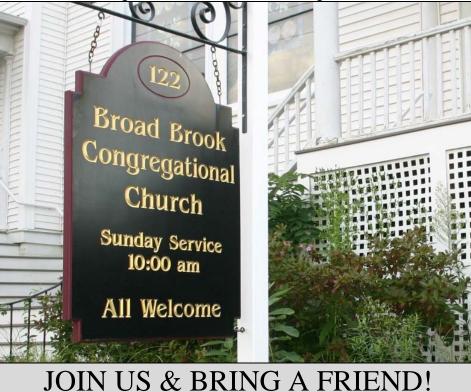
Issue # 40

May – June 2012

The Broad Brook Congregational Church

United Church of Christ 122 Main Street, P.O. Box 466 Broad Brook, Connecticut 06106 860.623.4547

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday!!



Pastor Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Callahan **Ministers** All members of the Congregation Church Clerk Kristin Curran Assistant Clerk Joyce Jordan Treasurer Robert Cormier Organist Dr. James Clark Chair, Board of Deacons Betty Stratton Chair, Board of Trustees Corin Jones Sunday School Superintendent Corin Jones, Ethan Jones Chair, Bd. of Christian Education Joyce Jordan Wade Signor Moderator Tomaca Govan Secretary Bulk Mail Manager Warren Wenz

http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org

Sunday Worship Services are held at 10:00 AM. **Communion** is observed on the first Sunday of each month. **Church Sunday School** is held from September to June and starts at 10:30 AM after the children and teachers leave the Worship Service.

Nursery supervision is provided for infants and children ages 5 and under during Sunday morning Service.

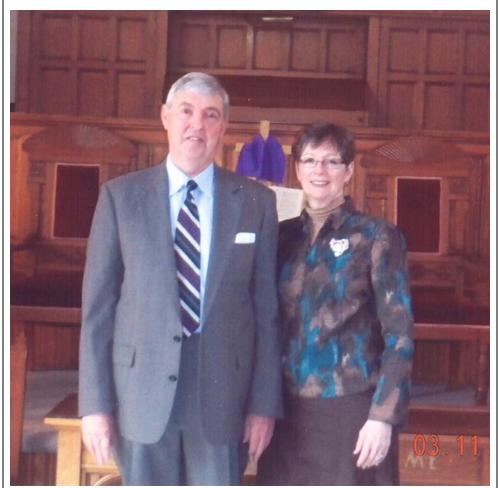
The **Choir** meets every Sunday at 8:45 AM from September through June. Adults and young adults are welcome even if you don't consider yourself a strong singer. Come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Rev. Callahan maintains **office hours** on Wednesdays from 8:00 AM to Noon. Calls for the Pastor should be made through the office at 860-623-4547. In <u>an emergency</u>, you may call Rev. Callahan at home (860) 871-8999.

Please email Tomaca, info@TGovan.com with announcements or corrections to the Beacon.



We bid farewell to Rev. Joe & Laura and thank them for all of the wonderful years of friendship and service.



ttDon't be dismayed by good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends. # - Richard Bach

Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Callahan

March 10, 2012

Broad Brook Congregational Church Church Clerk 122 Main Street Broad Brook, CT 06016

Dear Kristin,

Please accept my resignation as Minister of Broad Brook Congregational Church as of April 22, 2012.

This comes about as a result of my house selling within three days of being put on the market, and closing on April 30, 2012.

My leaving is made somewhat easier knowing that Broad Brook Congregational Church is healthy, vibrant and in the excellent care of its officers, members, friends and associates.

I have enjoyed every day of the past twelve years, serving as your minister and share in the shock of the abruptness of our leave taking. It is with ever lasting love and sadness that Laura and I bid you all good-bye.

With Christian Love and Hope,

Joseph M. Callahan, M.A., M.Div., D.Min.

Board of Deacons



The Board of Deacons regretfully accepted the resignation of Rev. Joseph M. Callahan. Rev. Joe and Laura will certainly be missed. We wish them well in their move to Iowa and their new life there by the lake and near Laura's family.

Because of Rev. Joe's leaving Broad Brook Congregational Church, the dates for the Confirmation Service and the New Member Reception both were rescheduled so that Rev. Joe could perform the services as well as a couple of Baptisms.

On Maundy Thursday, April 5th, Lacey-Jean Temple, infant daughter of Andrew and Catherine Temple, was baptized. Her maternal grandparents are Theresa and Jay Drolett.

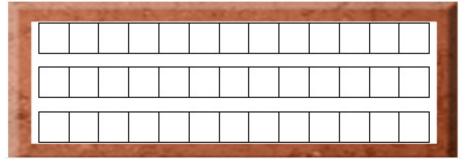
On April 15, 2012 Victoria Sweet, Chelsea Morin, Soareen Reel-Skinner, Nicholas Owens, and David Owens were confirmed during the morning worship service. By being confirmed they all affirmed their Baptisms and they all became active members of Broad Brook Congregational Church. Congratulations to all of them. A special coffee hour was held in the fellowship hall to honor them.

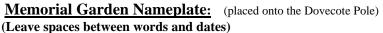
Memorial Garden Order Form

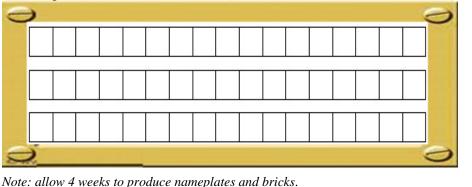
Fill out the form below with your desired inscription to purchase a Memorial Garden engraved brick and /or a Memorial Garden nameplate. Send the form along with \$35.00 for **each** item to:

> Memorial Garden Broad Brook Congregational Church P.O. Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Memorial Garden Brick: (placed within the garden, along the path on the mulch) (Leave spaces between words and dates)







Name

Contact number/email



Congratulations to our Confirmands!

April 15, 2012

David Owens Nicholas Allen Owens Victoria Sweet Chelsea Morin Soareena Reel-Skinner

Welcome to our New Members!

April 22, 2012

Cynthia Bedard Deborah Ann Breton

K

To add news and information in the next Wayside Beacon Email to Tomaca- info@Tgovan.com The deadline is June 15th.

Board of Deacons, Continued

On April 22, 2012 Cynthia Bedard and Deborah Ann Breton became active members of Broad Brook Congregational Church during the morning worship service. Congratulations to both of them.

On April 22 Brianna Cadence York was baptized. She is the infant daughter of Richard and Amy York. Her Maternal grandparents are Richard and Linda York.

The Constitution and By-laws of Broad Brook Congregational Church says that the Deacons are responsible for pulpit supply. Therefore an Interim or Transitional Interim Pastor will fall under this category. The Transitional Pastor will be employed during the Interim period, helping the church to heal after the moving on of a previous pastor (looking at the past, the present and the future). The Board has met with Rev Dr. Thomas Clough, the Interim Hartford East Minister and has been interviewing pastors to fill the position.

A Transitional Interim Pastor is hired by the church for a period of one (1) year) then he/she can be hired as a settled part-time Pastor. Rev. Clough mentioned that many small churches are "going this route."

Children's Day will be June 10th. The Deacons gave flowers to the children and teachers. Our Thanks to Mary Velazquez for her dedicated teaching of the children. Our thanks also to Corin Jones, Superintendent and Joyce Jordan, Christian Education Chair for their dedication to the Sunday School.

- Betty Stratton, Board of Deacons

From the Flower Committee

The Flower Committee thanks everyone who gave flowers for Sunday services in March and April. These included Karen Loubier, Selma & Phil Grant, Mike & Debbie Siekiera, Carolyn Feldman, Mrs. Deborah Breton, Melissa Tatro, John & Kristin Curran, the Mara & Sharos families, and Linda Bouley. The church



looked beautiful on Easter morning with the lilies dedicated by many members and friends of BBCC.

There are just a few Sundays available for flower. You can take the flowers with you after church, or they will be donated to a shut-in or someone celebrating an event that week. If the date you would like is taken, we will do a double dedication! To arrange to have flowers any Sunday, contact Corin Jones at 860.654.1877. The lovely flower arrangements cost only \$17.50. Your check should be made payable to Broad Brook Congregational Church.

Flower Donation Calendar

May 6 Alice & Warren Wenz, in Celebration of Their Anniversary May 13 Rev. Joe & Laura Callahan, in Honor of Their Mothers and All Mothers May 20 Carolyn Feldman, in Memory of Her Husband, Walt Feldman May 27 Joyce Bonelli, in Memory of Her Father, Irving Fellows

June 3 Curren

June 10 Jones & Bligh Families, in Memory of Their Brothers Jonathan & Bill June 17

June 24 Linda & Richard York, in Honor of Their Anniversary

July 1 Selma & Phil Grant, in Memory of Their Granddaughter, Naomi Audinot

July 8 Curran Family, in Honor of John's Parents

July 15

July 22 Joyce Jordan, in Memory of Her Father, Edwin Jordan

July 29



Mrs. Alice Wenz 01 Mrs. Mary Myers 03 Mr. Michael Siekiera 03 03 Mr. William Morin Miss Abigael Nodwell 10 Miss Mikaela Nodwell 10 Mr. David Conant 12 Ms. Carol Lynn Innes 13 14 Alex Velazquez Mr. Peter Pippin, III 18 Mrs. Hyla McNeely 19 Miss Ashley Fuller 20 Mrs. Alana Curren 21 Mrs. Betty Stratton 21 Miss Andrea McNeely 28

Mr. Philip M. Grant	04
Ms. Joyce Jordan	13
Miss Amber LaCross	17
Ms. Kristen Dannehey	18
Mrs. Kristin Curran	18
Mrs. Tracy Ann Snow	18
Mrs. Mariann L. Ivanisin	19
Mr. Dylan Nodwell	20
Mr. Ethan Jones	24
Mrs. Jean Bishop	25
Miss Jennifer Rae Savoie	30

HAPPY#ANNIVERSARY

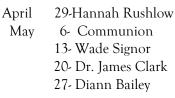
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Wenz	1
Mr. & Mrs. Craig W. Arnold	6
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Bonelli	7
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin McNeely	9
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Ivanisin	12
Mr. & Mrs. William Morin	14
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Walker	16
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Nodwell	24
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Savoie	29
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Cameron	30

Mr. & Mrs. Richard York 28

Preaching Schedule

Children's Sermons

April 29- Warren Wenz May- 6- Rev. Sara Solomons Communion 13- Diann Bailey 20- Eileen Vendetti 27- Diann Bailey





Lav Readers' Schedule

Apr. 29	Wade Signor	Ps 23
May 6	Rich York	Ps 22:25-31
May 13	Debbie Siekiera	Ps 98
May 20	Mike Siekiera	Ps 1
May 27	Kristin Curran	Ps 104:24-34,35b
Jun. 3	Tracey Morin	Ps 29
Jun. 10	Dave Conant	Ps 138
Jun. 17	Katherine Mickens	Ps 20
Jun. 24	Bob Cormier	Ps 9:9-20

To sign up, see Betty Stratton or sign up on the poster in the Fellowship Hall. Note that Readings may be subject to change

Flower Donation Calendar - continued

Aug. 5

- Aug. 12 Curran Family, in Honor of Tyler's 5th Birthday
- Aug. 19 Joyce Bonelli, in Memory of Her Mother, Justine Fellows
- Aug. 26 Sep. 2
- Sep. 9 Dave Conant & Joyce Jordan, in Celebration of Jacob's 15th Birthday
- Sep. 16 Mrs. Deborah Breton, In Memory of Her Mother, Althea H. Lane & Husband, Normond E. Breton
- Sep. 23 Carolyn Feldman, in Memory of Her Husband Walt Feldman & Their Anniversary
- Sep. 30 Siekiera Family, in Memory of Verna Gardimer & Gordon Cahoone
- Oct. 7 Sharos & Mara Families, in Memory of Their Parents, Rdell & Tom Sargent
- Oct. 14 Karen Loubier, in Memory of Ronald Osborn
- Oct. 21

Oct. 28 Laura & Joe Callahan, in Honor of Her Parents, Mary & Lee Macrander

Nov. 4 Karen Loubier, in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Osborn Nov. 11 In Honor & In Memory of Our Military Nov. 18 CORNUCOPIA Nov. 25

Dec. 2 Dec. 9 Dave Conant & Joyce Jordan, in Celebration of Grace's 11th Birthday Dec. 16 Mrs. Deborah Breton Dec. 23 POINSETTIAS Dec. 30 POINSETTIAS

Name:	
Address:	
Dedication:	

Enclose your check for \$17.50 payable to: *Broad Brook* Congregational Church and mail to us at: Broad Brook Congregational Church, P.O. Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Christian Education Committee



What a wonderful Easter service and how nice to see so many of the children present. The younger ones participated in an Easter egg hunt and the older ones enjoyed a scavenger hunt. Both events were held after Sunday service. Thanks to Linda York, Corin Jones, and Tracey Morin for helping with the egg hunt. Special thanks to Mary Velazquez for organizing the filling of the eggs and putting together the scavenger hunt and to Ethan Jones for helping out with both events.

On April 15, five individuals were confirmed. It was nice to see such a large group taking part in this special service.

Sunday School will continue to June 10 at which time the children will have a special program in the Sanctuary. An *Ice Cream Social* will be held after services and all are invited.



Children's Sermon Schedule

May	6	Communion
	13	Wade Signor
	20	Dr. James Clark
	27	Tracey Morin (Pentecost)
June	3	Communion
	10	Children's Sunday

BBCC EVENT CALENDAR

May 2012		
5/6, Sunday	10:00 am	Communion Service
		Rev. Sara Solomons preaching
5/12,	9 am –	Plant Sale
Saturday	Noon	
5/13, Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Diann Bailey Preaching
		Mother's Day
5/20, Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service
		Eileen Vendetti preaching
5/26,		Memorial Day Weekend. Be safe
Saturday		driving!
5/27, Sunday		Worship Service
		Diann Bailey preaching
FUTURE 2012 DATES		
6/10		Children's Day
8/25		BBQ Chicken Supper
10/6		Turkey Supper
11/3		Ecumenical Bazaar
12/1		Pot Roast Supper

(Note calendar of events posted may change and you may also refer to the calendar and schedules on our website: http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org)

VOLUNTEER **AT BBCC!**

Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall or contact as follows:

- Lay Readers
- Greeters

Children Sermons Betty Stratton 860-623-2729

Refreshments Selma Grant 860-623-3542

Flowers Corin Jones 860-654-1877

Ride to Church Rich York Connie Cormier 860-623-4287 860.292.6848

Notes of Cheer, etc. Nancy Nodwell 860-623-6045

Support the Friendship Committee

There are openings for coffee hour host/ hostess. Please check the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall to see which weeks are available.





VISIT US ON THE WEB!

http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org

All calendars and scheduled volunteer lists are available on line. Please visit and offer your feedback and suggestions for the site. Also, "friend" us on Facebook!

"Yet the LORD will command his loving kindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life. (Psalms 42:8)"

Ways & Means Committee

Corned Beef & Cabbage



Wow! This supper always amazes us and is a very successful fundraiser for us. One of the things that helps is being the first to offer such a supper as Saint Patrick's Day approaches! Thank you all for making it so successful. Not only is the food so good, the volunteers are plentiful and our sell out crowd leaves with a full belly awed by good service and such. We were lucky enough

to have a little leftover to feed all the help this time. Since the cook had some of the wonderful cabbage leftover, later that week he made some homemade pierogies out of it. Can't think of a better way to use leftover soft cabbage. With that in mind, we decided to offer a recipe corner from our dinners. This month's recipe will feature the homemade pierogies. Give it a try, they are not that hard to make and worth it!

Pork Roast Supper – April 28th!



At the time of this writing the supper is still a little over a week away so we can't report on it's success yet but can let you know that the planning stages are in full effect. The sign-up sheets are filling up nicely and the meat is ordered from our fantastic butcher at "The Butchery" on Route 5 in East Windsor. If you have

never tried any of his meat there you are missing meat at it's finest. Our church cook buys all his kielbasa there to go with his pierogies since it is homemade they're and not so fatty. You can't beat the steaks there either. All of our meat for our suppers is specially ordered and purchased from there.

Ways & Means Committee - Continued

Plant Sale



Our Plant Sale is also in the full planning stages. We have plants, pots, soil, gardening accessories, etc. gathering at the church. Our master gardeners are preparing their plants in pots for the sale. The sale will be held rain or shine (plants like the rain!) on Saturday May 12th from 9 am to Noon. Conveniently, Mother's

Day is the next day. There will be flower baskets available for those special *women* in your lives. There also will be some houseplants available for those who can't garden out of doors. Joyce Bonelli is our "person-in-charge" for this event, please give her a call if you have a plant, pot, garden tray, soil or accessories to donate, her number is 860.623.7040.

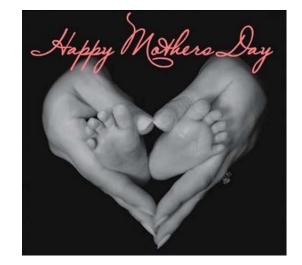
Tag Sale



Currently, the traditional annual tag sale as we came to know it, has been cancelled. A smaller less grander version may replace it this summer. More on this as we move past our busy *Spring* schedule and we find a new transitional minister. (As most of you know now that Rev. Callahan and his wife have resigned and moved to Laura's home state of Iowa - greetings to our now Iowan friends from

BBCC!!) Please continue to check our website

http://.BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org/ as our schedule of events may change. This is where we will first post any new events planned.



A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love Can understand our tears. Can soothe our disappoints And calm all of our fears. There are times when only a mother's love Can share the joy we feel When something we've dreamed about Quite suddenly is real. There are times when only a mother's faith Can help us on life's way And inspire in us the confidence We need from day to day. For a mother's heart and a mother's faith And a mother's steadfast love Were fashioned by the angels And sent from God above. --Author Unknown

Only a Dad - Edgar A. Guest (1916)

Only a dad with a tired face, Coming home from the daily race, Bringing little of gold or fame To show how well he has played the game; But glad in his heart that his own rejoice To see him come and to hear his voice.

Only a dad with a brood of four, One of ten million men or more Plodding along in the daily strife, Bearing the whips and the scorns of life, With never a whimper of pain or hate, For the sake of those who at home await.

Only a dad, neither rich nor proud, Merely one of the surging crowd, Toiling, striving from day to day, Facing whatever may come his way, Silent whenever the harsh condemn, And bearing it all for the love of them.

Only a dad but he gives his all, To smooth the way for his children small, Doing with courage stern and grim The deeds that his father did for him. This is the line that for him I pen: Only a dad, but the best of men.

Happy Father's Day!



Ways & Means Committee -Continued

Ecumenical Bazaar

The date of the Ecumenical Bazaar has been confirmed for Saturday, November 3rd from 9 am to 2 pm. Save that date for our first bazaar to be held at the Scout Hall in East Windsor. Our Ecumenical Bazaar Committee of area churches is excited about the new location and looking forward to seeing everyone there. Traditionally this event has been held at the East Windsor High School but the papering of that huge gym floor and toting our tables has been a major draw back to those churches with aging helpers! The Scout Hall has a huge hall providing the tables and a small kitchen that can accommodate our needs. We hope the change in location doesn't confuse our followers as this event has been held for 40 consecutive years at the high school. Last year, which would have been the 41st year, the event had to be cancelled due to the nasty debilitating freakish snowstorm we had before Halloween how will we ever forget that one! Even Halloween was cancelled!

UPCOMING CHURCH SUPPERS

April 28 th August 25 th	Pork Roast Supper BBQ Chicken w/homemade BBQ Sauce, Potato			
U	Salad & Corn on the Cob			
October 6 th	Turkey Breast, Mashed Potatoes, Squash, Stuffing,			
D 1 1st	Gravy			
December 1 st	Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy			
All meals include a side vegetable, salad, bread/butter, dessert & beverage.				
Adults - \$12.00 * Children 12 and under - \$5.00 * 4 and under - FREE				
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Alice or Warren Wenz at 860-623-5912				
Two sitting times available 4:30 pm or 5:45 pm				
Takeouts available after 5 pm.				



Dr. James Clark, Our Minister of Music

Picture: Dr. James Clark & his faithful friend, Koko

Broad Brook Congregational Church is fortunate to have Dr. James Clark as the Minister of Music. Jim is a multiinstrumentalist and

plays piano, organ and drums. He has played drums for almost 50 years and is a former state champion competition drummer. He has a BA in History from Central CT State University, a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Wesleyan, a Master of Arts in Music History from the New England Conservatory, and a PhD in Music History and Theory from UConn. He is president of the Connecticut Valley Field Music, which is a band that plays traditional fife and drum music. They have performed in Europe, throughout New England and also had the pleasure of performing at BBCC for the inauguration of the Memorial Garden. Jim teaches music lessons privately and is an adjunct professor at the University of New Haven.

Dr. Clark is also a music historian and can speak authoritatively about many different artists from the past and the history and development of music over time.

His poodle KoKo is brother to Magdalena, an Egyptian Mau. His hobbies, along with studying German and history, are collecting drums, books and playing tennis.

Thank You For Your Time - continued

"Now I'll never know what was so valuable to him," Jack said. "I better get some sleep. I have an early flight home, Mom."

It had been about two weeks since Mr. Belser died. Returning home from work one day Jack discovered a note in his mailbox. "Signature required on a package. No one at home. Please stop by the main post office within the next three days," the note read. Early the next day Jack retrieved the package. The small box was old and looked like it had been mailed a hundred years ago. The handwriting was difficult to read, but the return address caught his attention. "Mr. Harold Belser" it read. Jack took the box out to his car and ripped open the package. There inside was the gold box and an envelope. Jack's hands shook as he read the note inside.

"Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Bennett. It's the thing I valued most in my life." A small key was taped to the letter. His heart racing, as tears filling his eyes, Jack carefully unlocked the box. There inside he found a beautiful gold pocket watch.

Running his fingers slowly over the finely etched casing, he unlatched the cover. Inside he found these words engraved:

"Jack, Thanks for your time! -Harold Belser."

"The thing he valued most was... my time"

Jack held the watch for a few minutes, then called his office and cleared his appointments for the next two days. "Why?" Janet, his assistant asked.

"I need some time to spend with my son," he said.

"Oh, by the way, Janet, thanks for your time!"

Thank You For Your Time - continued

make sure you had a man's influence in your life," she said.

"He's the one who taught me carpentry," he said. "I wouldn't be in this business if it weren't for him. He spent a lot of time teaching me things he thought were important. Mom, I'll be there for the funeral," Jack said.

As busy as he was, he kept his word. Jack caught the next flight to his hometown. Mr. Belser's funeral was small and uneventful. He had no children of his own, and most of his relatives had passed away.

The night before he had to return home, Jack and his Mom stopped by to see the old house next door one more time.

Standing in the doorway, Jack paused for a moment. It was like crossing over into another dimension, a leap through space and time The house was exactly as he remembered. Every step held memories. Every picture, every piece of furniture. Jack stopped suddenly...

"What's wrong, Jack?" his Mom asked.

"The box is gone," he said

"What box?" Mom asked.

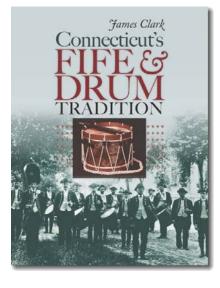
"There was a small gold box that he kept locked on top of his desk. I must have asked him a thousand times what was inside. All he'd ever tell me was 'the thing I value most," Jack said.

It was gone. Everything about the house was exactly how Jack remembered it, except for the box. He figured someone from the Belser family had taken it.

Dr. James Clark, Our Minister of Music

(continued)

Jim has published a book, "**Connecticut's Fife and Drum Tradition**" which is available on Amazon.com or by sending an email to JimClark@CVFM.us. Here is a summary:



The state of Connecticut boasts an extensive and active community of fife and drum groups. This musical tradition has its origins in the small military bands maintained by standing armies in Britain and Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries--the drum was especially important as it helped officers train soldiers how to march, and was also used to communicate with troops across battlefields. Today fifers and drummers gather at conventions called "musters," which may

include a parade and concerts featuring the various participating corps. Musician and historian Dr. James Clark is the first to detail the colorful history of this unique music. This engaging book leads the reader through the history of the individual instruments and tells the story of this classic folk tradition through anecdotes, biographies, photographs, and musical examples.

For more on Conn. Valley Field Music, visit http://ctvalleyfieldmusic.com/.

Other Fun Fundraisers!

May 12thPlant Sale, 9 am to Noon, at the churchNovember 3rdEcumenical Bazaar at East Windsor Scout Hall
Youth Center

Recipes from BBCC

The following recipe comes from a favorite cookbook called "Favorite Recipes." It was put out by the Felician Sisters from Our Lady of the Angels Convent in Enfiled, CT. Our Master Chef acquired the cookbook back in 1986 as a gift from his mother who purchased it from his aunt who was a Felician Sister. Since both family members have since passed away, this recipe book now is a treasured family keepsake and holds many happy memories of growing up in a half Polish, half Irish home. – Deacon Debbie Siekiera

Homemade Cabbage Pierogies



This recipe is for homemade Cabbage Pierogies. There are many different fillings that can be used such as potato (add some cheese, spinach, mushrooms, brocoli or onions if you like), or fill them individually or combine any preferred vegetable. Don't forget my all-time favorite filling....prunes! Be creative with the fillings! This Pierogi Dough recipe was modified slightly by our cook to incorporate the sour cream, a recipe tried and true! Serve it up with some wonderful sides such as polish noodles, ham, kielbasa, kapusta, golabki (known to most as golumpki) cukes in mayo, or even a good sour pickle. We had the pierogis with our dinner on Easter.

Thank You For Your Time

Written by Unknown, Submitted by Rich York



A young man learns what's most important in life from the guy next door.

Over the phone, his mother told him, "Mr. Belser died last night. The funeral is Wednesday." Memories flashed through his mind like an old newsreel as he sat quietly remembering his childhood days.

"Jack, did you hear me?"

"Oh, sorry, Mom. Yes, I heard you. It's been so long since I thought of him. I'm sorry, but I honestly thought he died years ago," Jack said...

"Well, he didn't forget you. Every time I saw him he'd ask how you were doing. He'd reminisce about the many days you spent over 'his side of the fence' as he put it," Mom told him.

"I loved that old house he lived in," Jack said.

"You know, Jack, after your father died, Mr. Belser stepped in to



Homemade Cabbage Pierogies - continued

Dough Ingredients:

3 cups all-purpose flour, plus flour to dust the work surface 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/4 cup favorite sour cream 1 egg 1 cup water

Cabbage Filling:

2 cups cooked chopped cabbage 4 oz can drained mushrooms, stems & pieces (or 1/2 c fresh,chopped, then cooked) dash cider vinegar (white vinegar ok too)

Preparation:

1. Combine flour, salt, sour cream, egg and water in a large bowl. Mix until dough comes together. If dough is dry, add more water but 1 tablespoon at a time, until it's moist and springy. If dough is sticky, add more flour 1 tablespoon at a time, until it is smooth.

2.On a floured work surface, knead dough till smooth and wellblended (approx. 3 to 4 minutes) until elastic. (TIP: Always rest dough at least 15 minutes before using. Softer dough makes tender pierogia, hard dough makes tough pierogi.)

3. In the meantime, in a medium bowl, chop the cabbage and mushrooms, mix together then add the vinegar, toss and coat well. Drain the mixture of excessive moisture.

4. Divide the dough and roll out thin. Using a 2 1/2 to 3" biscuit or round cookie cutter, cut out the dough for the filling. Place a tablespoon of the cabbage mixture in the center of the dough cutouts. Fold the dough over the mixture, moisten the edges slightly

Homemade Cabbage Pierogies - continued

with water and crimp the edges with your fingers to seal. Turn over to make sure edges are well-sealed.

5. In a large sauce pan, fill 1/2 way with water and a Tbls of salt, bring water to a soft boil. Drop pierogi's into salted boiling water until they float approximately 10 to 12 minutes. Lift out of the water carefully with a perforated spoon. Put under cool water, drain well in a colander. Never crowd or pile pierogi (the uncooked will stick and the cooked will lose shape and lightness).

6. Serve with melted butter or pan fry until lightly browned on both sides.

NOTE: Dough for pierogi should always be soft and well-kneaded. If planning on freezing pierogi's, only cook those with other fillings for 5 minutes, the cabbage ones can go directly into the freezer, they do not need to be pre-cooked. Cool, dry, then place in baggies or layer in a container using wax paper between layers. Freeze!



To use: remove from freezer, cook in boiling water for 5 minutes, drain and serve. Or after boil, drain, put in tinfoil in a single layer or preferred baking dish, coat with melted butter as desired, warm in slow oven of 200 degrees until ready to serve or stir-fry them to brown as desired.

CUT-A-COUPON

Making a donation as a wonderful way to remember a special anniversary, to say "thank you," celebrate a special event, or to make a donation in memory of a special loved one or a friend who has passed away. Check the appropriate box below to tell us where you would like your donation to go.

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