
SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. James W. Ferrone, Pastor

May 2011

A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING

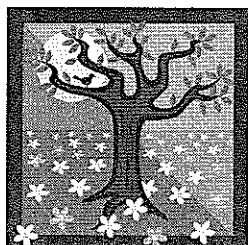
Miss the snow? I thought it would be here through May, but, as usual, spring has sprung, black flies have arrived in force, and yards are starting to look green again.

The church has a new look, too. The "side-ways" set up for the sanctuary seems to be popular with most of you; we have a new, large cross set up outside to help folks identify us; there's a new Music Committee choosing some more contemporary songs; a new Member Class is starting; another Memorial Day float is being planned; a summer Men's Study is in the works; and the Pastoral Search Committee is hard at work. I will still be in the pulpit through September, so all you "summer friends" who said "Good-bye" to me can say "Hello" again, at least for this summer.

WORSHIP

- *June 5... is Holy Communion
- *June 12... is Pentecost & Children's Day
- *June 19... is Father's Day, when 9:30 services begin & remain in effect through Labor Day, Sunday, September 4

Let me know if you have any topics you would like me to cover in my remaining messages or want to add your hymn or song preferences. I pray that your Faith in our Lord continues to grow; pray for your Search Committee and your church. Make your worship a priority; it was commanded by God, affirmed and practiced by Jesus, and is a major witness both to our children and our neighbors. Invite your neighbors to worship...it's a wonderful act of love. - *Blessings on you all, Pastor Jim*



Church Council News

It's time to put away the snow blower and take out the lawn mower. The first flowers are up and the trees are budding nicely. Spring is a constant reminder of God's promise of new life and fresh beginnings.



The Council is working on new beginnings as well. We've added a new cross to the exterior of the church and discussions are underway for new paint for the sanctuary and a new venture in service to the community; more advertisements are being placed to increase community awareness and this month marks the official beginning of the Turkey Pie Supper season.

We all look forward to the return of our friends who have escaped the Maine winter. We've already welcomed back Steve, Diane and Theresa.

Remember that Church Council meetings are always open, so if you have something that you'd like the Council to consider, please don't hesitate to come to any of our monthly meetings. They are typically scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30PM, at the church.

As always, we ask that you prayerfully consider the possibility of serving on the Church Council or one of the six committees. I've always found that the more you put into church, the more you get out of it. Please continue to pray for us as we seek to lead this church in service to Christ's ministry. - *God Bless, Carl Schroeder, President*



Pastoral Search Committee

It has been over a year since the Search Committee was formed and the work continues. We have processed over one hundred inquiries thus far and are still receiving more. We have come to the point where we are conducting interviews of those applicants who have been approved by the Committee. So far, we have interviewed three candidates and presently have plans to interview four more. One of the four will have been interviewed by the time you receive this newsletter.

Considering the amount of work yet to be done and the logistics of not only scheduling interviews, but arranging to present candidates to the congregation, the Committee voted to ask Pastor Jim if he would be willing to stay on for another three months past his June retirement date and he has graciously agreed. We all thank him for his flexibility and understanding. Please continue to pray that God will lead us to the right person and that His will would be apparent to us all. - *Respectfully, Carl Schroeder, Chair*

Communications & Outreach

Again, check out our church website at southchinacommunitychurch.org. Thank you, Lisa Montagna, for doing a super job with that site.

Our church has six "flocks" or groups of people to network with to help with Fellowship time after church and support each other if needed. Please let your flock leaders know if you need special prayers, help, have a concern, etc. It is also the method we use to let people know of prayers needed, i.e. "The Prayer Chain," to get a concern out quickly if necessary. If you are not on a flock list and would like to be, see Ron Maxwell, Bernie, or Diane.



We would like to set up a booth at the China Community Days event again this summer. If anyone would like to help with that, please see Diane. Also, we are planning to have a float in the South China Memorial Day parade again, as that went over really well last year; Faith Ames and Sheldon Goodine plan to coordinate.

The Council is working with a local food co-op so its members can use our church facility once a week as a base area to distribute food. I'm sure this is elsewhere in the newsletter, but we feel it is a wonderful opportunity as another "outreach" and to be involved in helping the community and possibly serve as an avenue to let people know about our church.

Perhaps we will have some musical event this summer with a group coming to share music at our church. If you have anyone in mind that you would like, please speak to Bernie or Diane.

We are so blessed to have an active and caring church family and it is a pleasure to be serving you and doing work for the Lord. I hope you had a Happy Easter and spring and may this summer prove to be very fruitful. - *Bernie Welch/Diane Webber Rawson, Co-chairs*

Local Food-Buying Club Meeting at SCCC

A new local food-buying club is forming in the China area. Maine foods will be bought and delivered from "Crown O'Maine Organic Co-operative," based in North Vassalboro for over 13 years. They offer a wide variety of local organic produce, grains, meats, seafood, dairy, honey, maple syrup, value added products, with much more available to buying groups at wholesale pricing.

If you are interested in buying fresh Maine produce and other Maine products delivered locally, come see what a buying group is about on **Tuesday, May 24 at**

6:00PM in Fellowship Hall at South China Community Church. For more info call Bob & Linda 445-4140. To view available products visit:

www.crownofmainecoop.com



Our Cross

A large, new cross was erected in front of the church this year to coincide with our Easter services: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. The Good Friday service completed the Stations of the Cross outside near

the large cross. Additional small, white crosses were given to those who attended for placement in their yards for display at Easter and all year. A few crosses are still available in Memorial/Fellowship Hall. Next to the crosses you will find an article written by Jim Morgan about Frankenmuth, Michigan, where the idea began. You can go on line to get more information by simply searching for "Cross in the Yard by Jim Morgan." While I was on line, I noticed Amazon was selling yard crosses for \$178.78, down from \$205. Ours are a real bargain - free and no shipping involved! - *Marge Kurtzman*



Mission & Benevolence

The church continues to assist three local families on a monthly basis as well as special occasions. The fourth family said it no longer needed the extra help and was grateful for the church's help through a difficult time. They know they can request assistance again if needed.

Our community outreach program provided Easter baskets and hams with the usual April food items to the three remaining families and continues to give birthday presents. A special thank you to Rosie and Angela for their loving efforts in this endeavor.

In April, one family had an electrical problem at home and the church was able to help resolve this issue. Thanks to Carl Schroeder and Sheldon Goodine for facilitating the resolution of that problem.

On May 5, Eddy Nichols hosted a dinner at the church for the Secret Pals group. Don provided his delicious fish chowder. This program was a great idea that Eddy began and organized; it brings joy to both the giver and the receiver of these surprise gifts. Thank you, Eddy.

In October, the Turkey Pie Supper profits will go to purchase items of need for veterans in Augusta facilities. I will be in charge of that

supper and hope you will come to work or eat or both.

Thank you for your gifts and efforts that make mission and benevolence successful. - *Jack Kurtzman, Chairman*

Building & Grounds

Thanks to everyone who showed up to do the pre-Easter clean-up. We got a lot done both inside and outside of the church.



Some pre-planning has been started on updating the sanctuary. The next step is to have a meeting with the Building & Grounds Committee, go over these plans and see if we can agree on the scope of the project, colors, cost and time table for completion. We will then present the proposals to the Church Council for approval, then to the congregation. We need help from anyone who wants to get involved.

Again, the Building & Grounds Committee welcomes all comments and ideas regarding the building and grounds. Thank you. "Teach a child to love before someone else teaches him to hate." - *Sheldon Goodine, Chairman*

Did you know?.....

**Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury*

**Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better*

**Coca-Cola was originally green*

**The State with the highest percentage of people who walk to work: Alaska*

**The percentage of Africa that is wilderness: 28% (now get this...) The percentage of North America that is wilderness: 38%*

**The cost of raising a medium-size dog to the age of eleven: \$ 16,400*

**The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer*

**The San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments*

**111,111,111 x 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321*

**What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers and laser printers have in common? All were invented by women.*



Subject: Sunday School Lessons

LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'



DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?' 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms?'

HIGHER POWER

A Sunday school teacher said to her children, 'We have been learning how powerful kings and queens were in Bible times. But, there is a Higher Power. Can anybody tell me what it is?' One child blurted out, 'Aces!'

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a

month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'

ALL MEN / ALL GIRLS

When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.'

This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing. My curiosity got the best of me and I asked her, 'Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?'

Her response, 'Because everybody always finish their prayers by saying 'All Men!''

USA MAP

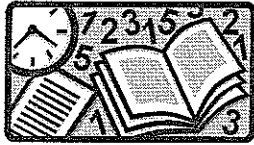
A father wanted to read a magazine, but was being bothered by his little girl. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine, on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to her and said, 'Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today...'



After a few minutes, she returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly.

'Oh,' she said, 'on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together.'





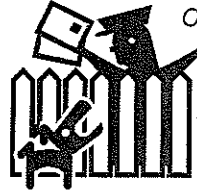
- † COMMUNION SERVICES: JUNE 5 – JULY 3 – AUGUST 7
- † MEN'S BREAKFAST - MEMORIAL HALL, 8AM
2ND SATURDAY: JUNE 11 – JULY 9 – AUGUST 13
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A – 11AM
2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS: JUNE 9 & 23 – JULY 14 & 28 – AUGUST 11 & 25
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B – 6PM
EVERY OTHER SUNDAY: TBA (NEW BOOK ON ORDER). PLEASE SEE EMILY FOR INFORMATION.
- † CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS, 6:30PM
2ND WEDNESDAY: JUNE 8 – JULY 13 – AUGUST 10
- † KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:30PM
3RD WEDNESDAY: JUNE 15 – JULY 20 – AUGUST 17
- † DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER:
AUGUST 7



FYI: ANGELFOOD MINISTRIES.
<https://www.angelfoodministries.com/>

"With a heart to help others and a generous spirit, Joe and Linda Wingo founded Angel Food Ministries in 1994 to provide food for friends and neighbors who were struggling financially. Today the Angel Food program now is helping provide food relief to more than 500,000 families each month." Use the search area in their website to find Maine location; the nearest to us is:

CHELSEA Elim Christian Fellowship 207-622-7031



On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?" So God saw it was good.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span."



The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?" And God again saw it was good

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."



The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?" And God agreed it was good.

On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years."

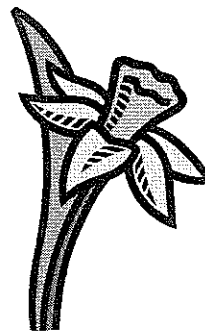


But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?" "Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone. Life has now been explained to you.

*~ Spring shows what God can
do with a drab and dirty world.*

- Virgil Kraft, Pastor, Peoples Church of Chicago



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