
SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. James W. Ferrone, Pastor

August 2011

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

This September, I will be visiting seminaries to try to find candidates for your new pastor. I understand that most of you wanted someone with experience, but a younger person or one starting a second career may be a better and more plausible way to go. Most of you also seem to be happy with the way things are done at SCCC, so having a younger person who is open to your wishes could be a positive move. Let's see what God has in mind for the future. I will be on a working vacation for part of September; please pray for success in finding a new pastor.

STUDIES: The Adult Bible Study will begin on Sunday, October 2 at 9:30AM (continuing 1: Corinthians). The Men's Study Group, open to all men in the church, is scheduled to begin Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30PM. The book is *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask*; price is \$10. Both studies will depend upon whether or not I am still your pastor. Should there be someone new by October, they are open to change. Thank you for your prayers and support. – *In Christ's Name, Pastor Jim*



Pastoral Search Committee

The Search Committee continues its quest for a pastor to succeed Jim Ferrone. The process may seem long and arduous, but the members of the Committee are willing to stay the course until God leads us to the right person. A candidate for the position, Reverend Douglas Foster, preached on August 21st and the congregation will vote on August 28th. There are three other viable candidates and applications continue to be submitted. While this

process seems long and drawn out, research indicates this is the norm, not the exception. We are blessed that Pastor Ferrone is willing to extend until the search is complete. Thanks, Jim! – *Jack Kurtzman, Acting Chair*

Communications & Outreach



The annual Rummage Sale & Chicken BBQ on August 13 was a huge success and THANK YOU to all those who donated items, helped set up and sell, and also a big THANK YOU to all those who donated pies for the pie sale. The monies raised go into our General Fund to help with the yearly budget. We made close to \$1000 on the rummage and pie sale; I don't know what the final figures were on the chicken, but they all got sold so we must have done well!

We did not have a table at China Community Days this year because things were downsized by the town for the 2011 event. We are planning a Halloween party which will be open to the community. If anyone would like to help with that, please speak to Diane Rawson or Janet Preston.

The monthly food co-op meets the first Tuesday evening at our church. If you're interested in joining, please call Linda Silvia at 207-596-0351. There is room for more people to join.

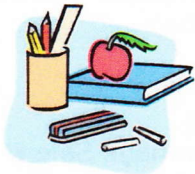
Although the Montagnas are moving, Lisa has graciously agreed to stay on as our website coordinator, so THANK YOU Lisa! Check out our site at southchinacommunitychurch.org. *In Christ's service - Diane Rawson, Elder*

We'll miss you - stay in touch!!!



Mission & Benevolence

The Mission and Benevolence Committee met on August 4, 2011 to review its budget and plan expenditures for the remainder of 2011. We continue to help three families with food items on a monthly basis and provide birthday presents for the children. In April, we helped one family who had home electrical problems and was unable to cook or refrigerate perishable items.



We plan to assist five children returning to school with funds from our budget for school supplies and clothing. Separate monies are being collected for another student

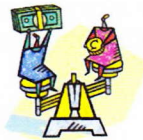
who graduated from Erskine Academy last June and aspires to attend the University of Maine at Augusta. The first announcement was made August 7 and, as usual, your generous response was tremendous. We will try to assist her with some of the ongoing costs, but not to detract from the responsibility to assist the other two families.

I thank you for your generosity and sincere caring for others in our community's needs. Christianity is well represented by our congregation. God Bless you! - *Jack Kurtzman, Chair*

Finance & Stewardship

On June 24th, I accepted the responsibility to once again "Chair" the Finance & Stewardship Committee, taking over for Carl Schroeder who resigned May 15th. I was appointed by the Church Council to complete his 3rd year term, which ends December 31st. In addition, I will serve on the Council and as Deacon for Flock #3. To round out the Committee, Don Nichols has agreed to be a "member at large" to support and assist in the challenges we face. We appreciate his experience and insightful input.

The revenue for the first six months of this year stands at \$35,859.46; expenses in the amount of \$36,702.73 reflect a -\$843.27. A meeting was called on July 19th to discuss several issues, most importantly, to assist the Search Committee with its request for our support,




advice and recommendations. The minutes of that meeting are available upon request.

It is gratifying to see both the pledges being fulfilled and the generous loose offerings supportive of our efforts in doing God's work. Our fund raisers are successful thanks to everyone who gives of their time and talent. *Respectfully submitted - Laura Wade, Finance & Stewardship Chair*

Building & Grounds

The Building & Grounds Committee has not met this summer, but work behind the scenes has been going on.

1. **Church lighting.** A plan has been formulated and cost figures are being worked on.
2. **Painting.** Some painting has been done by the sexton and sample colors have been applied to the interior walls.  The Committee will decide on colors to present to the Church Council and then to the congregation for final approval.
3. **Heating System.** Plans and cost are being developed for the heating system to see the best way to solve our heat dilemma.
4. **Ceiling in Fellowship Memorial Hall.** Cost figures are being formulated to replace the dropped ceiling with sheet rock.

The above projects will be brought to the congregation as they become available. Remember: **"Teach a child to love before someone else teaches him to hate."**

- *Sheldon Goodine, Chairman*

Mickey Farrington has been discharged from Thayer Hospital and is back at home. Please keep Mickey, Jane & their family in your prayers.



I asked God to take away my habit.
*God said, No, it is not for me to take away,
but for you to give it up.*

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.
*God said, No, His spirit is whole, his body is only
temporary.*

I asked God to grant me patience.
*God said, No, patience is a byproduct of tribula-
tions; it isn't granted, it is learned.*

I asked God to give me happiness.
*God said, No, I give you blessings; Happiness is up
to you.*

I asked God to spare me pain.
*God said, No, suffering draws you apart from
worldly cares and brings you closer to me.*

I asked God to make my spirit grow.
*God said, No, you must grow on your own, but I will
prune you to make you fruitful.*

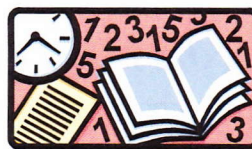
I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.
*God said, No, I will give you life, so that you may
enjoy all things.*

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as
He loves me.
God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.



*To the world you might be one person,
but to one person you just might be the world.
May the Lord Bless you and keep you,
May the Lord Make his face shine upon you,
And give you Peace.....Forever.*

*Good friends are like stars... You don't always see
them, but you know they are always there.*



- ✝ COMMUNION SERVICES: SEPT 4 – OCT 2 – NOV 6
- ✝ MEN'S BREAKFAST - MEMORIAL HALL, 8AM
2ND SATURDAY: SEPT 10 – OCT 8 – NOV 12
- ✝ WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A – 11AM
2ND & 4TH THURSDAYS: SEPT 8 & 22 – OCT 13 & 27 – NOV 10 & 24
- ✝ 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: SEPT 14 – OCT 12 – NOV 9
- ✝ KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:30PM
3RD WEDNESDAY: SEPT 21 – OCT 19 – NOV 16
- ✝ DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER:
NOVEMBER 6



Church Signs:

Jesus is an investment that never loses interest.

Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.

When you're green with envy, you're ripe for trouble.

God's purpose is greater than your problems.

To belittle is to be little.

A church is a gift from God: assembly required.

*~ Trust in the LORD with all
thine heart; and lean not unto
thine own understanding. In all
thy ways acknowledge Him, and
He shall direct thy paths.*

- Proverbs 3:5, 6



South China Community Church
246 Village Street, PO Box 335
South China, ME 04358
southchinacommunitychurch.org