



# The Rolling Stone

Rollstone Congregational Church

September 2019

## Food for Thought in a Difficult World

Have you ever found yourself in a difficult place because personal emotions/reactions go against everything we were ever taught in Sunday School or in Church? As persons of faith we do end up scratching our heads because we want to react to the things of the world, but the appropriate response would actually be inappropriate.

We are living in difficult times because of many factors that are well beyond our control. We want to react, but the reaction would go against our faith beliefs and practices. So, what should we do? We are called as followers of Christ to live our lives in certain ways. We should not judge, we should always avoid seeking revenge, we should try at all times from being angry. It is not easy so what are we to do?

We should strive to be good and better persons living in the image of Christ. Coming to church doesn't make us good, but it nurtures our souls to be better people. Church also offers us an opportunity to be in healthy conversations and dialogue where issues and struggles can be talked about. The church strives to create a community of love and care, it attempts to foster an environment of nurture and compassion where each person is valued and respected. In the world today the focus is upon "Me" or "I", whereas in the church we work to build a community focused upon "We" and "Us".

I invite each of you to gather with us for worship, fellowship, study, and fun. In our programming for the coming year we will continue to offer things that have been fruitful and good for us as a community, but we will continue to explore other ways to nurture each other through study, education, worship, and fellowship. I look forward to continuing working with each of you as we strive to build up this community of God's faithful children. Hope to see you soon!

Pastor Dave

**“When other people treat you poorly,  
walk away, smile and keep being you.  
Don't ever let someone else's bitterness  
change the person you are.**

Source unknown

# Church School News - September 2019

## {7\*UP lifting} ways to start your 1st week of school

- 1- Wake UP- and Decide to have a good day
- 2- Dress UP- The best way to dress up is to put on a smile!
- 3- Cheer UP- say nice things and have a positive attitude
- 4- Stand UP- For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything.
- 5- Look UP- to the Lord. He is only a prayer away
- 6- Reach UP- for something higher. Set some good goals.
- 7- Lift UP- be a good friend, and help those around you.

We will regather September 8<sup>th</sup> for weekly lessons from Sermons 4 Kids.

As Church School begins another school year together we share Bible Lessons and help our church grow with projects - good deeds - kind words - sharing - and caring for one another !

A little sip of 7-UP might be just what we all need for a positive start!

See you soon,



Beth and Hal

## Fake News

It is nothing new. In 565 AD, St. Columba, sent from Ireland to northern Scotland to Christianize the Picts, died for her efforts. Those asking how she died were told it was the work of "the water monster. Thus, was born belief and disbelief in "The Loch Ness Monster," pursued now (and claimed to be seen, and even photographed) for over 1450 years.

Fake news has not just great longevity, but sometimes awesome power. My travel reading has been an account by British author Stephen Clarke about the French Revolution and events leading to it. He points out that French schoolchildren learn an account much colored by hindsight and patriotic spin.

But this fake news bears nothing like the power of the fake news that Clarke reports made the changes brought about by the revolution slower in coming and far bloodier than necessary.

Our current climate of fake news from opposing sides might yet have a more peaceable outcome. Our channels of information exchange and the level of education of our masses is higher, but nearly any bit of fake news that aligns with a preconceived worldview might be believed. Only a few such beliefs can trigger a conspiracy theory, and any conspiracy theory can lead to a terror killing or even a mob uprising.

Chuck Funk

## OUR WEEK AT WELLVILLE

I did not know what to expect. How will my young grandchildren react to a place with no television, WIFI or cellphones? I am pleased to say they had a wonderful time. There were six of us: Jay and me; our son Karl and his wife, Bernadette; and our grandchildren, Ella (7) and Tommy (5). Some of you might remember them from their supporting roles in last year's Christmas pageant.

I stocked up with books and puzzles from the library. Bernadette brought games. The minute the kids jumped out of the car, their first question was: Where's the beach? Lake Winnekeag is crisp and clear and most inviting. We all hung out there that afternoon until the lifeguard went off duty. Then, we went back to the cabin for room assignments and dinner.

The cabins were cozy and squeaky clean. There was a parlor/dining room, a huge, exceedingly well-equipped kitchen, and three nice-sized bedrooms. Best of all was the large screened-in front porch that ran the width of the cabin. I had prepared a casserole of macaroni and cheese ready to pop in the oven. We grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and called it a feast. That night we played a kids' version of monopoly and the kids won.

And so it went. During the days, the children had swimming lessons and arts & crafts lessons in the mornings and spent their afternoons at the beach with other kids. There was a large stack of beach toys and a fleet of canoes, kayaks and paddleboats for everyone's use. Nights we ate well, played games or completed puzzles and drifted off to dreamless sleep in the cool mountain air. One night one of the camp volunteers hosted a scavenger hunt for the children, which was great fun.

It was all over too soon. On our last night, we sat together at the folding dinner table assembled on the porch and reminisced about the week. I asked the children to tell me what they enjoyed the most. Ella couldn't decide. For her, it was between Miss Kathy's swimming lessons, the craft classes and the scavenger hunt... oh, and the playground, she said. Five-year-old Tommy looked up with his big, dark-brown eyes and said (I am not making this up): "Being with you, Grandma."

-Eileen Berger

## Deacon's Message

Hi everyone. I hope everyone has been having a good summer. I can't believe Labor Day is almost here.

The Deacons only met once this summer. We have some plans coming up that are not finalized yet. Stay tuned for some upcoming events.

Pastor Dave has been away for four Sundays having some vacation and study time. Rev. Elaine Cavanaugh has been filling in for him. She said she has enjoyed the church and the congregation has been very welcoming to her. She told me she would like to come again. That is always nice to hear.

We have had a good number of parishioners in spite of it being the summer when a lot of people are away.

Not much else to say. Looking forward to seeing everyone back soon. I am sure we will have a busy fall. If anyone has any ideas for programs or events please see one of the Deacons or Pastor Dave.

Until next time, Linda Haas

