

BELFRY NEWSLETTER
SANBORNTON
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
AUGUST 2022



A Note from Pastor Paula

I just finished preparing the sermon for Sunday, July 24th. A big part of the focus is on the poem below by Joyce Kilmer, titled – “Trees.” It is a beautiful little poem that creates a beautiful image of nature, “trees” “lifting her leafy arms to pray.” With the recent pictures of space from the James Webb telescope, we cannot help but pause at the wonder of the universe, marvel at the beauty and intricacies of creation. This summer, pause a little bit and look at the stars at night; the blooming flowers all around; watch the birds playing in the bird bath or at the bird feeder. The wonder of God is all around us. Take a moment to breath it all in.



Trees by Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth’s sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by folks like me,
But only God can make a tree.



Search Committee Report

Your Search Committee continues to meet weekly. We are currently in the process of preparing the church profile which goes out to prospective candidates, who are vetted by the UCC Conference. One of the most important tasks we have is to make sure our profile reflects who we are as a congregation TODAY. Please continue to keep the members of the Search Committee in your prayers as we move forward to call our next pastor.

Kim Bossey

For - Laurie Greci, David Henderson, Sue Long, Cliff Mills, Polly Mills



Board of Outreach and Zim Notes for July

I am combining the Board of Outreach report and the Checheche update.

Being summer, activities are fewer than the other part of the year.

I understand the "The Got Lunch Program" has been doing very well. I appreciate all the work that the volunteers are doing. I would imagine that their reward is knowing that a child had a good lunch that day.

We had a successful Old Home Day on Saturday, July 24th. Our drinks table made a profit of \$180. We learned that we need to open at 9:45 as that is when the people are arriving for the parade. Thank you to Robert Ladew for getting the ice. thanks also to Mae Burke, Sharon Danforth, Adele Bausor, Bill Gile, and myself as coordinator.

Last month I mentioned we would be taking up the "Tool Sunday" offering on Father's Day. Our income total was \$499.

Robert and I attended the open house at Belknap house on Sunday, July 17. Bill Gile was the person who showed us everything and explained how the program works. We were very impressed.

Brendan, Matt, Wally, Robert and I from the Sanbornton Church and Pat and Phil, friends of Brendan, prepared the dinner.



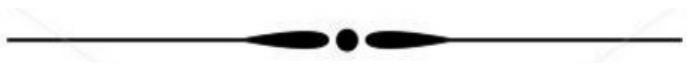
This Sanbornton Church Bread and Roses used to be a very active group. If any of you are interested in helping, please let me know. Sanbornton signed up to serve 4 x a year.

Checheche

The money (\$1,070.00) donated to Checheche has been sent and Isaac has received and it and passed it to Pastor Rev. Maposa. I learned from Rev. Maposa that they now have 440 people attending the church, so they had to expand to the other building, and we have contributed to helping with the roof.



Submitted by Marilyn Ladew
Chair of Outreach Committee



Property and Finance News

Property and Finance still has a lot of pending projects. We are currently waiting to have an assessment of the church before we begin our cleanup project. This will take place at the end of July. We will then proceed with a plan. Part of this plan will also involve ideas to “soften” the outside appearance of the building with some landscaping directly in front and some changes on the library side that might include a fence or suitable barrier between the parking spaces and the side of the church.

P&F is looking to block the basement windows on the library side of the church. These windows do not look into the undercroft but are part of the original foundation (which is larger than our actual basement). Blocking the windows is likely to permanently mitigate any flooding.

The installation of the new liner for the chimney and repointing of the chimney is still yet to happen. The staging is on location but has not been assembled yet, so only minor progress is evident.

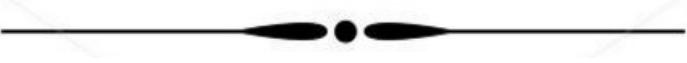
Dana Nute, who is spearheading the redistribution of the heating system as well as the solar panel exploration project, is presently away. We will wait to hear about any updates from him on these two fronts.

Betsy Akerman has retired from her position as sexton, and we thank her for her many years of service. Jen Timmons has kindly stepped in as interim sexton until P&F redefines the sexton position.

The fire detectors in the sanctuary have been inspected and should be all set for many years.

Laura Belanger, Chair

Property and Finance Committee



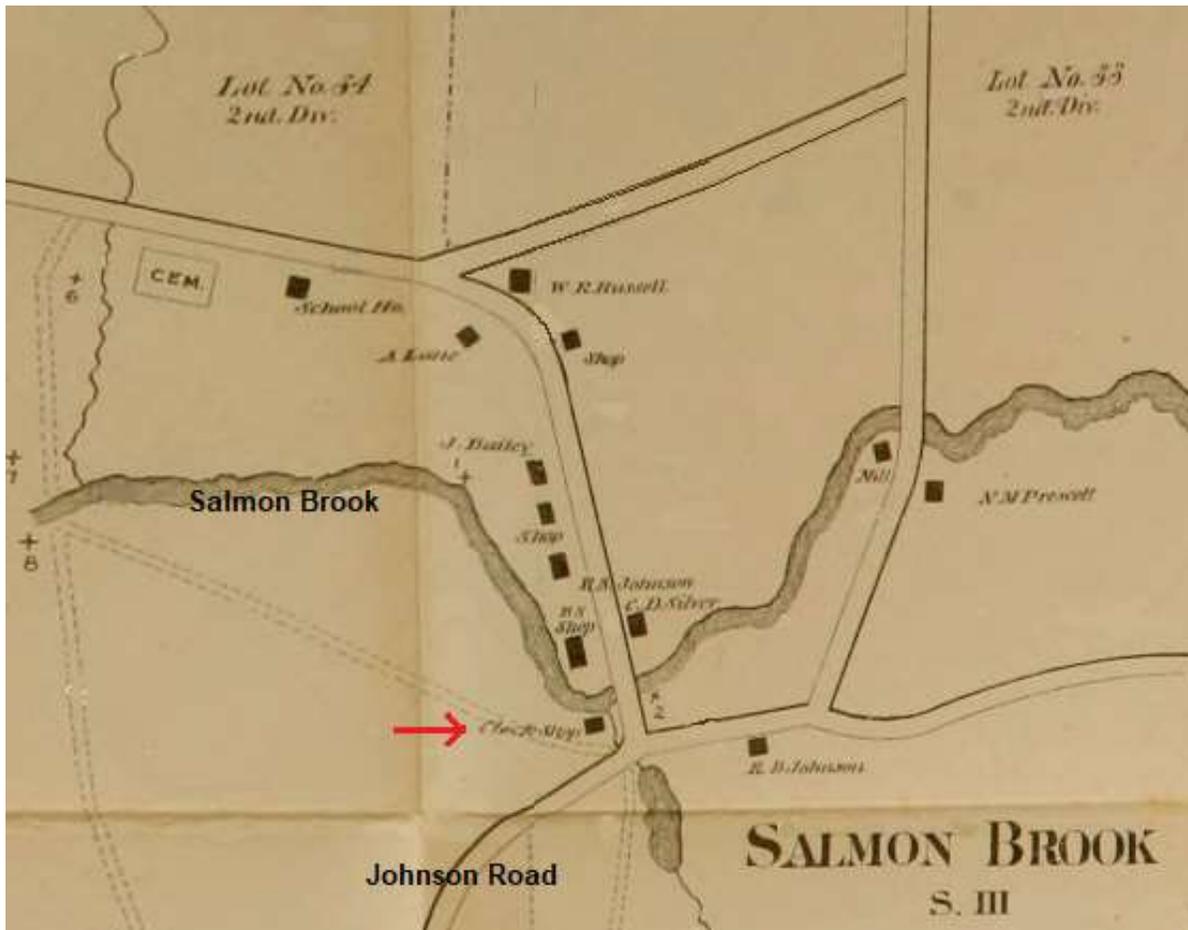
From the Historian....

The History of Our Church Clock

**From the research pages of Milly Shaw, Sanbornton UCC Historian and information provided by Dennis Akerman*

Robert S. Johnson (1832-1911) was a clock maker in Sanbornton. He inherited the clock making business from his father, Simon Johnson. Simon, being the earliest clock maker in NH, was one of the best known manufacturers in the New England states. As a young man, he learned the trade from a Massachusetts manufacturer. He started his own clock factory business in NH and employed many men. However, he only taught his sons and a daughter how to put the timepieces together. The Johnson clocks were first made of wood, but later, metals were found to be more economical. Although springs were introduced into clock making to replace the use of weights, Robert

Johnson never discarded the weights, declaring that clocks keep better and more accurate time with weights than with springs. His clocks were primarily hall clocks, but occasionally a hanging clock (which he called the "banjo clock" because of its shape) was made. When the factory was first opened, everything was done by hand. Then the little stream, known as Salmon Brook, which flows by the shop, was set up with a 6" water wheel, which supplied 3-horse power to the machinery! Formerly being a dwelling house, the building itself was 24'x18', had 2 rooms and a basement. As a matter of fact, Robert Johnson himself was born in the room that was later a storage room in the shop!



The Johnson name never appeared on their clocks, nor their movements, and the name is only known to other clock manufacturers, dealers and New Hampshire area locals. The best clock ever made by the little factory is one that was made many years ago and is still keeping accurate time (article written in 1905) in the office of the United States Clock Company of New York. There are 26 dials to this clock and the movement of this clock alone has a value of more than \$300 (figure from 1905)! Robert Johnson was also known for making clocks for his neighbors, one for the Quincy Market in Boston (purchased by Daniel Pratt, a leading merchant), and another for the Dartmouth College Observatory in Hanover, NH.



The clock that is found in our sanctuary is one of Johnson's clocks. Having once been used by our church, it was found in the church attic, in non-working condition. In a letter dated in September of 1995 from Stephen Sanborn, a clock repairman in NH, the clock is described as follows: 28" weight-driven gallery clock, dates to mid-19th century, beautiful joinery and wooden dial, high quality trapezoidal shaped movement with highly polished plates and blued screws, with work indicative of influence of fine Boston schools. He also indicated that an extensive amount of work was needed on the movement and other parts of the clock to get it back in operating condition. An estimate was provided and the cost of restoration was generously donated by Edna Hansen and Dennis Akerman. It was placed on our wall by Stephen Sanborn, on Saturday, October 26, 1996, to coincide with the **225th anniversary** of the church's organization. It now chimes the hour with a single strike.

Submitted by Karey Caldwell, historian



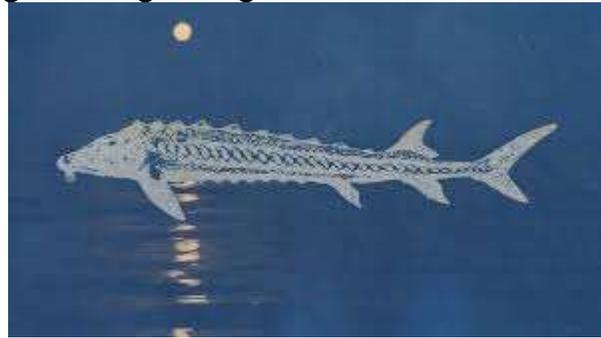
Interesting Trivia about the Full Moon: [August's "Sturgeon Moon"](#)

"Genesis 1:14 - And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years..."

Native American tribes often used moon phases and cycles to keep track of the seasons and gave a unique name to each recurring full moon. The full moon names were used to identify the entire month during which each occurred.

Although many Native American Tribes gave distinct names to the full moon, the most well known names of the full moon come from the Algonquin tribes who lived in the area of New England and westward to Lake Superior. The Algonquin tribes had perhaps the greatest effect on the early European settlers in America, and the settlers adopted the Native American habit of naming the moons. They even invented some of their own names that have been passed down through time.

The full Super moon in August: Sturgeon Moon. The fishing tribes are given credit for the naming of this Moon, since sturgeon, a large fish of the Great Lakes and other major bodies of water, were most readily caught during this month. A few tribes knew it as the Full Red Moon because, as the Moon rises, it appears reddish through any sultry haze. Native Americans also called it the Fruit Moon, Women's Moon, All Things Ripen Moon, Wheat Cut Moon, Blueberry Moon, Green Corn Moon or Grain Moon. Here are some other names: Colonial American - Dog Day's Moon, Chinese - Harvest Moon, Celtic - Dispute Moon, and Neo Pagan - Lightning Moon.



****August has a Super Moon, Planets, and Meteors! Check out these cool night sky events (from seasky.org):***

- August 12 - Full Super Moon. The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This phase occurs at 01:36 UTC. This is also the last of three supermoons for 2022. The Moon will be near its closest approach to the Earth and may look slightly larger and brighter than usual.
- August 12, 13 - Perseids Meteor Shower. The Perseids is one of the best meteor showers to observe, producing up to 60 meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by comet Swift-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1862. The Perseids are famous for producing a large number of bright meteors. The shower runs annually from July 17 to August 24. It peaks this year on the night of August 12 and the morning of August 13. Unfortunately the nearly full moon this year will block out all but the brightest meteors. But the Perseids are so bright and numerous that it could still be a decent show. Best viewing will be from a dark

location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Perseus, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

- August 14 - Saturn at Opposition. The ringed planet will be at its closest approach to Earth and its face will be fully illuminated by the Sun. It will be brighter than any other time of the year and will be visible all night long. This is the best time to view and photograph Saturn and its moons. A medium-sized or larger telescope will allow you to see Saturn's rings and a few of its brightest moons.
- August 27 - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation. The planet Mercury reaches greatest eastern elongation of 27.3 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just after sunset.

Submitted by Karey Caldwell

THE BELFRY AND THE SANBORNTON UCC WEBSITE

The Belfry Newsletter and the www.uccsanbornton.org website is published and maintained by the Sanbornton Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Sanbornton, NH.

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