



# Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC

# HELL Belfry Summer

June, 2024

As our church is in the middle of several improvements, the sign on the front of the church is currently being restored and should re-appear this month. Here is a history of that sign that I thought might be of interest. The "Pastor" section is blank for now, but it was suggested we write there "Apply Within!"

From 2017: Although our old sign was "a-peeling", it was definitely over-due for restoration. When the "insert" that our previous sign had been painted on was removed, an even earlier version of the sign was revealed. The background on this previous sign was black with gold lettering and was built from 3 planks laid side-by-side and framed in the back. It was interesting to see that there was no reference to the United Church of Christ on this version. This meant that the sign was at least pre-1960's since our church was not affiliated with the United Church of Christ until 1961.



*Before*



*After*

Upon further investigation and several coats of paint stripper, a previous pastor's name was revealed; Charles N. Davie.

Since Rev. Charles N. Davie was Pastor of our church from 1922 to 1938, this meant that the sign dates from somewhere between 79 and 95 years old. If you look in our Church History Scrapbook down in the Undercroft, you can find a picture of a group standing in front of the church in 1921 and no sign is apparent, so we can assume that the sign was created sometime after 1921, but before 1938. There were some challenging times during the tenure of Reverend Davie, including the Great Depression and Prohibition. Also during this period, "electricity" was installed in our church, which was probably a controversial issue at the time!



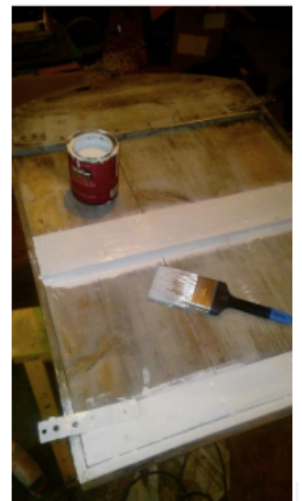
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For the restoration, it was decided to utilize paint and custom stenciling instead of a commercially produced vinyl insert. It was also decided to paint the new sign directly on the planks of the original sign instead of using the existing insert in order to obtain better adhesion for the stencil work, and to bring out the antique frame work.

Instead of using plywood for the "time" section and the "Pastor's Name" section,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ' thick Red Oak boards were utilized instead, with routed edges and oak plugs to cover the recessed brass screws on the name plate. On the "time" board, short  $\frac{1}{2}$ " dowel rods were inset into the exact center of each side, and then set to rest upon brass cup hooks. Changing the time is now a matter of simply lifting up the time board, flipping it, and dropping it back down onto the brass cup hooks; no screws involved or flapping in the wind!

Submitted by David Henderson



*From the Minister of Music*

*June 9 will be our last choir Sunday of the season. The choir has worked diligently all season, rehearsing (almost) every Thursday, and again at 9 on Sunday mornings. It is time for a break!*

*I'm sure you will all join me in extending thanks to the choir and Laura for their devoted efforts.*

*We'll be back in early September!*

*Dennis*



### **Property & Finance Update**

Here are some projects that your Committee has been working on during the month of May: Phase One of replacing the southernly entrance door. The existing piece of granite is too high for a safe entrance/exit. We will be replacing that chunk with two properly sized steps. The result will be very similar to the steps at the northerly entrance door. Any person interested in obtaining the super large and heavy historic piece of granite, please contact a Committee member!

A big thank you goes out to Clif Mills who relocated our Web Camera to the center back wall above the swinging doors to the narthex. You will see a huge difference when viewing our weekly service on YouTube. Check it out!



### **Got Lunch! Sanbornton 2024**

For the third straight year Got Lunch! Sanbornton volunteers will be gathering in the undercroft on Monday mornings to prepare lunch bags. These bags of healthy foods are delivered to families in our area so that their children are well fed during the summer months. Please spread the word so we may help every child in our area who may benefit from this wonderful program.

We will need volunteers to donate food and help pack the bags. Each bag will then be delivered requiring a driver and helper. No amount of help is too small! Please consider helping one Monday or every Monday. The talk is lively and you will be wishing for more bags to fill and places to deliver!



Any questions? See Laurie Greci or Mary Ruth Scott. Thank you!





## SUMMER CAMP!

Springtime and the Easter season are the perfect time to think about summer camp!

The Horton Center has many opportunities for campers of ALL AGES! There is a poster on the bulletin board in the Undercroft that outlines the 2024 schedule. <https://www.hortoncenter.org/summer-sessions>



The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) has summer choral residencies (for all ages) all over the United States this summer, including Washington, D.C. Visit [rscmamerica.org/2024-residencies](https://rscmamerica.org/2024-residencies) for more information.



The New Hampshire Conference is planning to have a delegation of youth from across the state attend the Regional Youth Event (for grades 7-12 and their youth leaders), July 28-31. Significant scholarship support is available. If you would like to be a part of the New Hampshire team attending the Regional Youth Event, please register at <https://www.silverlakect.org/campsession/18183657> and then please send a copy of your registration confirmation to [grankin@nhcucc.org](mailto:grankin@nhcucc.org).



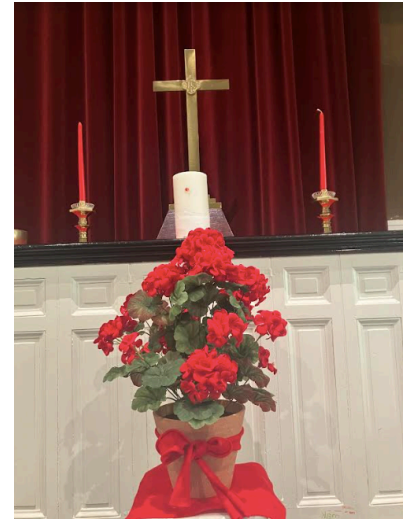
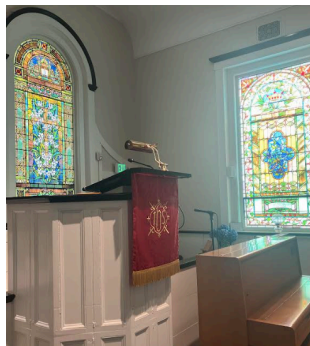
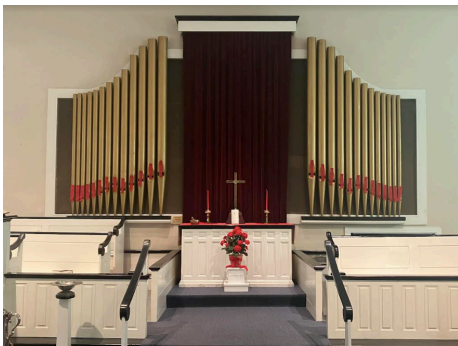


## **Church and Undercroft Use**

Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC is getting some more use as a facility in our community. This is quite exciting, especially since it was one of our goals identified as an area for growth in our Mission 2025 meeting. As more people use our building, it becomes even more important that we communicate this use, not only for folks who want to use our space, but also for those who maintain the facility. The calendar on our website is updated as soon as an event/meeting/gathering is scheduled so that individuals know when tasks can be completed. If you have any questions/needs, please reach out to Sue Long (as Church Administrator) so the calendar can reflect our building use. Thank you!

## **Spring clean up**

A big thank you to Marjory Hillman and Susan Bayer for putting on their gardening gloves and beautifying our grounds! The front entrance looks WONDERFUL. Thank you!!



Thank you to everyone who decorated our sanctuary for Pentacost!

## **Old Home Day Fundraiser Dinner at the Old Town Hall and Desserts in our Undercroft**

On May 29, 2024, all three churches came together to support the Old Home Day Committee in their fundraising efforts. The food at the catered dinner at the Old Town Hall was delicious but the dessert selection was spectacular! Many thanks to Cheryl, Mae, Barbara, Mary Ruth and Sue who helped set up and maintain the dessert buffet along with hot coffee and tea. Thanks also to folks who contributed desserts for the event. It wouldn't have happened without all of the amazing bakers at Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC, Mountain View Church and First Baptist Church. What a wonderful way for all of us to come together in support of our fabulous town.





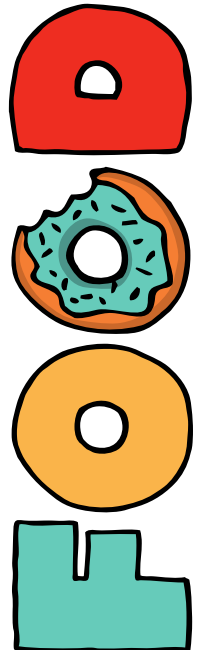
## Old Home Day - July 13, 2024

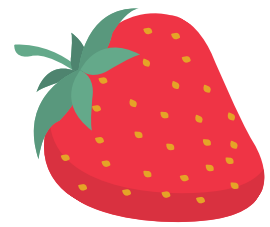
Save the date! The Square will be busy all day. There will be vendors, music, shows, face-painting, games, and if all goes well, an evening event suitable for all ages (no fireworks this year...the committee is planning something a little different...stay tuned!).

As for Sanbornton Congregational Church's involvement, Laura will be playing the organ in the morning, our doors will be open for tours, we will be selling drinks and popsicles outside along with some summer crafts and a GotLunch! Display. We will be looking for folks to help with any and all of this. Detailed information will be in the Undercroft and sent out via email as the date gets closer. Can you volunteer before, during or after the event? We hope so! We will need volunteers to pick up supplies, lend tents and coolers, sell items, give tours, greet the community and share big smiles. This is another one of the events identified as important in our Mission 2025 meeting and it's shaping up to be a big day!

## Cemetery Flags for Memorial Day

Many thanks to Brendan and the Timmons kids for taking the time to put flags in the cemetery for Memorial Day.





## Interesting Trivia about the Full Moon: June's "Strawberry 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. 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.

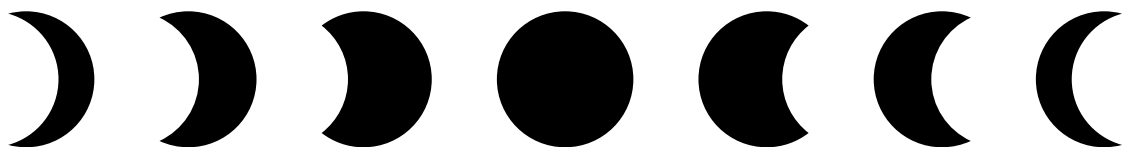


The full moon this month will fall on June 21st. It is known as the "Strawberry Moon" by folks in certain areas (like ours) that are blessed with berries. It is also known as the "Rose Moon," (Europe) or the "Flower Moon", because the first crop of strawberries is picked in June and roses are in full bloom. The Strawberry Moon was universal to every Algonquin tribe, and picking by moonlight is said to honor the crops, and insure bigger bounty next picking season. Others common names include the Honey Moon, Stockman's Moon, Hot Moon, Mead Moon, Moon of Horses, Lovers' Moon, Strong Sun Moon and Dyad Moon. Dyad is an old world term for pair. It is believed the pair refers to the Moon and Sun being of equal importance in June...with this month's full moon falling near the Summer Solstice (June 20th)!

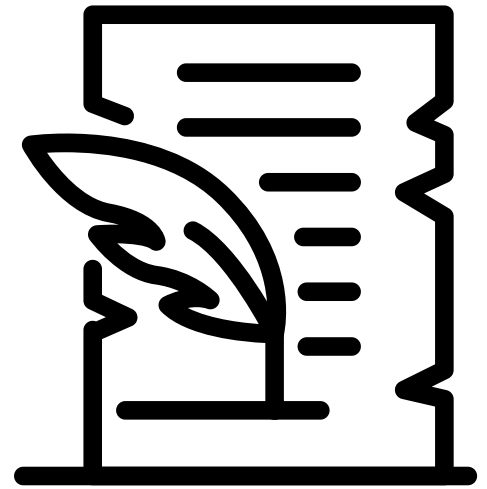
Want to see some cool night sky events in June? Check out the Old Farmer's Almanac's website for planets, stargazing tips and more!

<https://www.almanac.com/night-sky-june>

Submitted by Karey Caldwell







The Ironworks in Chancellorsville, VA, known as "Catharine Furnace", was the site where several soldiers from Sanbornton lost their lives in May of 1863, during the "War of The Rebellion".

They were husbands, fathers, sons, blacksmiths and farmers - this group the town called the "Sanbornton boys". Many of them (and their families) were members of our church congregation during the War of The Rebellion. Some died from disease (Dearborn, Huse, Pearson and Sanborn) and some were wounded (Bickford, Robinson, Sanborn). Six men (the first 3 having families in our church) lost their lives as a result of the Battle at Chancellorsville:

Charles A. Cate, Benjamin F. Sanborn, George H. Smith, Augustus L. Chapman, John G. Hodge and George W. Swain. Others casualties of the war with ties to our congregation include Benjamin W. Weeks and Joseph Wallis.

*\*Snippet of text from the History of Sanbornton, NH (Runnels):*

96. BENJAMIN F. SANBORN; private; killed at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863. (See Vol. II. p. 656-374, 4.)
97. FREEDOM SANBORN; private, Co. H; discharged for disability, at Point Lookout, Md., Feb. 1, 1864. (See Vol. II. p. 653-355, 1.)
98. OSCAR P. SANBORN; private; wounded May 3, 1863; discharged by order, at Alexandria, Va., Nov. 18, 1863. (See Vol. II. p. 657-384, 2.)
99. THEODORE SANBORN; private; died of disease, at Fortress Monroe, Jan. 28, 1865.
100. WILLIAM H. SANBORN; corporal; wounded June 3, 1864; promoted to sergeant, Jan. 1, 1865; mustered out June 21, 1865.
101. ANDREW J. SMALL; private; missing at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863; gained from missing; wounded slightly May 14, 1864; mustered out June 21, 1865.
102. GEORGE H. SMITH; private, Co. G, Sept. 9; killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863. (See Vol. II. p. 723-72, 6.)
103. GEORGE W. SWAIN; private; killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863.

"It appears from the above record that 'May 3, 1863' was the severest day of the whole war for the 'Sanbornton boys', no less than thirteen of their number being on that day wounded in the Battle of Chancellorsville, and 6 killed or fatally wounded."

This Memorial Day, and everyday, let's take a moment to remember the soldiers from our community that, over 160 years ago, made the ultimate sacrifice.

Submitted by Karey Caldwell, church historian