## Words from the Diaconate: What is God Calling Us to Do?

We are continuing our spiritual discussion and challenge everyone to answer "How do we continue to let the community know who we are as a church family"? Workgroup provided us with a means to invest our time and energy into something far greater than we could have imaged, the spiritual high is still with those who participated! So, what's next?

As we get ready to **Catch the Spirit (Sept 9**th), the Diaconate views this as another opportunity to showcase our good works to those community members not part of our congregation; if you were part of WorkGroup, wear your GRIT t-shirts as a conversation starter; if someone is walking past the celebration, greet them and invite them to look at all the committee displays that express our outreach to so many. We want our neighbors and our community to know the spiritual strength our church provides.

Celebrate Wallingford (Oct 6-7): The Trustees have suggested that our church participate more fully in this year's Celebrate Wallingford. The Diaconates own Chef Herb has agreed to make his "Heavenly Scent Lobster Mac & Cheese" and "Sinfully Delicious Lobster Mac & Cheese", which will you choose? This is in the planning stages, to make it happen we need MANY volunteers to support this 2-day event. ALL ARE WELCOME to help, you don't need to be on a committee, we just need you to dedicate 3 hrs., at the food booth AND/OR the separate show case of our many missions. Our goal is not just fundraising (but that is certainly needed!) but also to let the community know about us as a faith family. This was an attempt to wet your appetite, more to follow.

Silver Lake Men's Fellowship (Oct 12-13): October marks the 11-year anniversary of the ground breaking for the Herbie Knight III community building at Silver Lake in Sharon CT. We are the ONLY UCC Church who takes responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of any of the buildings. The fellowship is intended to provide not only the winterizing of the facility, but an opportunity for the males of our congregation to contact with one another and reflect upon What God is Calling Them to Do. This is an overnight opportunity, but staying overnight is not required. For more information on the facility needs and the fellowship, please contact Herb Knight (203-215-5100 or <a href="herb.knight.jr@gmail.com">herb.knight.jr@gmail.com</a>)

Christmas Fair meeting (Sept 11<sup>th</sup>): Cliff Castellano is heading up this year's "Christmas through-out the Year" fair and is looking for your help in the organizing and day-of support. ALL ARE WELCOME, you don't need to serve on a committee. Give Cliff a call, the meeting will be held at his house at 6:30 pm (860-417-8192 or cliffc45@yahoo.com)

We ask you all to express Christian kindness through your daily interactions with others: wait 10 seconds before you honk at a light, smile to the stranger walking past, focus on listening more than speaking, get to know your neighbor, pick up the piece of litter, extend a hand to those in need. Express your FAITH by your actions. Think about it, pray on it; What is God Calling You to Do?

The Diaconate invites you to join our committee, if this update INSPIRES you, please, join us! Respectfully Submitted,

Steve and Ellie Hazelwood, Senior Deacons

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