

THE
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH IN
KILLINGWORTH,
UCC

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Kerygma

VOLUME XLIII

ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2008

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 3, 2008 * Last Sunday after Epiphany
The Reverend Suzanne Personette, preaching
Service of Holy Communion

Exodus 24:12-18, Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday, February 10, 2008 * First Sunday in Lent
The Reverend Suzanne Personette, preaching

Genesis 2:15-17, Psalm 32,
Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday, February 17, 2008 * Second Sunday in Lent
The Reverend Suzanne Personette, preaching

Genesis 12:1-4a, Psalm 121,
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17

Sunday, February 24, 2008 * Third Sunday in Lent
The Reverend Suzanne Personette, preaching

Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95,

5:1-11,

Romans
John 4:5-42



God has poured out his
love into our hearts

Romans 5:5

PILGRIM PASTOR



*“We make our
Lenten
Journey with
Jesus, asking
God to create
in us a clean
heart - “*

Holy Kamoly, Batman! The season of Lent begins Wednesday, February 6 with Ash Wednesday. Actually, the Board of Christian Education is planning a Pancake Supper on Fat Tuesday, February 5 - the idea being to get rid of all the fats in your cupboard so you can settle in for a 40 days and 40 nights fast, attributed to Jesus' time in the wilderness, being tempted by Satan. Is the Lord your God the priority in your life, or is it pancakes?!, or fill in whatever word you like.

We make our Lenten Journey with Jesus, asking God to create in us a clean heart – which begins with Ash Wednesday, where we confess that we are ashes to ashes and dust to dust, as we prepare to follow Jesus through the Lenten stories and teachings, finally observing him kneel at the feet of his disciples and wash their feet, dine with them one last time, witness his betrayal, watch him be handed over to the authorities, where he is then beaten and tried and found guilty by the crowds, is flogged again, a crown of thorns placed on his head, is commanded to carry his own cross through the streets to the valley of crosses (the site of Golgotha), is nailed to the cross, hangs there between thieves, asks God to forgive us all, and surrenders his spirit, lays in the tomb for 3 days, whose body cannot be found, and rises again and instructs his disciples to go and tell the story that neither darkness nor death can contain the good news of love and new life.

Our Ash Wednesday service will be February 6 at 7:00 p.m. Our Lenten Services will be held each Wednesday, Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 5, 12 at 7:00 p.m. The March 12 service will begin with a Carry-In supper at 6:00 p.m. Those who are attending the service are asked to bring something hot or cold to share. The Deacons will host the dinner, setting up, and providing coffee and another beverage.

We will reprise Taize music in the services. Taize, in the south of Burgundy, France, is the home of an international ecumenical community, founded there in 1940 by Brother Roger. At the heart of daily life in Taize are three times of prayer together. Since the late 1950's, many thousands of young adults from many countries have found their way to Taize to take part in weekly meetings of prayer and reflection. Many of these prayers are meditative songs, which are sung or chanted. Alyson Somerville introduced the church community to Taize last year through playing her guitar and singing, and inviting the congregation to sing along with a Taize tape.

Palm Sunday is March 16. Our Maundy Thursday service will begin with a Seder Supper, brought to us by the Board of Christian Education, on March 20, at 6:00 p.m., followed by Worship at 7:30 p.m. The church Sanctuary will be open from Noon-3:00 on Good Friday for prayer and meditation, and Easter Sunday is March 23.

The Church Annual Meeting will be held following worship on the last Sunday in February, February 24. Annual reports will be passed out, along with our new 2008 Church Members and Friends Directory! Please stay and be a part of the work of the church, make your voice heard, and prepare to vote on some by-law proposed changes.

And, now, next in our series of the United Church of Christ's background is the Congregationalists! (As a reminder, four denominations came together to become the United Church of Christ: Christian, Congregationalists, the German Reformed Church, and the Evangelical Church. In December's Kerygma, we explored our Christian Churches denominational history.)

The Congregational stream had their origins in England. Two results of the reformation of the Church in the 16th century: some people sought to purify (the Puritans) the church from within by removing power from the bishops and giving it to the people; others separated (the Pilgrims) from the church to form congregations that were controlled by the people. Robert Browne formed the first Separatist congregation in 1581 at Norwich, England; but, the Separatists were persecuted in England and many left for Holland. Eventually, a small group of Separatists decide to leave for the New World, and in 1620 they founded the first colony in Plymouth, Massachusetts--with Pastor John Robinson's advice in tow: not to "stick where Luther and Calvin had left them," because "the Lord had more truth and light yet to break forth!"

Meanwhile, in England, some of the Puritans felt that each congregation should be governed by a committee of elders or presbyters; others felt that the total congregation should have a voice in church matters. The efforts of both groups were denied, so many Puritans followed the Separatists to the New World, where in 1629 a church was formed at Salem, MA.

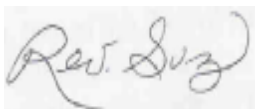
Discovering they had much in common, the Puritans and the Pilgrims held a gathering in 1648 at Cambridge, instituting a document called the Cambridge Platform. It espoused that each congregation should be free to govern itself, while also cooperating with other congregations to maintain principles, and to express their unity as all believers in Christ. This was described as the "New England Way," mixing politics and religious life.

There was a shift in theology in the 18th century when, in 1734, Jonathan Edwards brought FIRE to what later became known as the Great Awakening, the first of a revivalistic movement that encouraged thousands of believers/converts to expand their limited stance on salvation. The theological movement that swept through the country in the latter part of the 19th century is called the Social Gospel. In this "new theology," Christians were called to reform corporate life, with love and justice for family, state, and economy. The unity of all was stressed, along with a shift from "the God out there," to the immanence of God.

Some of the principles we see emphasized in the Christian and Congregational Churches are: Jesus Christ as the one true word of God; the priesthood of all believers; and that they may all be one. In a sense, there is a movement away from the individual to the collective, that covenant and transformation must occur within the structures of society (but always holding the tension of autonomous congregations). Denominations experienced a growing need to heal the divisions in Christ's church, and to cooperate with other churches on social issues. The Congregational Churches and the Christian Churches began meeting, and in 1931 the two became one. Both groups stressed democracy, congregational freedom, openness to change, and a commitment to Christian unity. Without the restraints of doctrine, believers experienced intellectual, spiritual, and emotional, yet responsible, religious freedom.

Next month: The German Reformed Church

As we contemplate the seriousness of Lent, let me take this opportunity now to wish you a Happy Valentine's Day! :)



Interim Minister



KERYGMA – to cry or proclaim as a herald, preaching good news to the poor, the blind, the captive: Jesus began his public ministry in the synagogue of his hometown, Nazareth in Galilee. He was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and read: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”* Jesus rolled up the scroll and sat down. With all eyes in the synagogue upon him he said, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” - (Luke 4:16-21).

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Meeting of The Congregational Church in Killingworth to be held according to the By-Laws during the month of February. The meeting will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2008 following the worship service.

The meeting is called for the following purposes:

1. To approve the minutes of the Fall Meeting of October 21, 2007.
2. To receive and act on Annual Reports of Boards, Committees, and Officers.
3. To approve the Amendments to the By-Laws as proposed by the By-Laws Committee and approved by the Church Executive Council. *
4. To elect Officers, Committees and Board personnel.
5. To accept the approve a financial budget for the church for 2008.
6. To affirm for membership in the church those in the current New Members ' Class.
7. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.
8. Recognition of Ministry Ending (Thanking Lay Leaders). Order of Affirmation of Ministry (Installation of Lay Leaders).

Judith Lentz, Clerk

January 29, 2008

* Those persons receiving the Kerygma via e-mail, the proposed Amendments are sent under separate attachment. Those persons receiving the Kerygma via mail, copies are available at the church office. A copy of the proposed Amendments will be included in the Annual Reports 2007 as part of the Call to Annual Meeting.

Sunday School Corner

This time of the year can seem bleak to some people, but we're hoping to keep our lessons for our new workshop rotation, entitled "Jonah", fun and interesting for our Sunday School students. We will be having science, art and cooking stations in which a sea theme will be present. Our children will learn that Jonah was at first hesitant to do what God had asked him to do. It isn't always easy to do what God asks us to do. Jonah comes to realize that God loves all people and will forgive them when they repent.

On Sunday, February 3rd the children will be making Valentine cards for the residents at The Children's Home in Cromwell. We will also have materials left out at coffee hour for any adults who might like to make a card. We hope you can attend the Mardi Gras Pancake supper on Tuesday, February 5th which will be hosted by the Senior High Youth Group. It is a fundraiser for their trip Washington, D.C. over February break. Please come out and support our Senior High Youth Group!

On a final note, I would like to leave you with some food for thought. Much time and effort goes into planning, prepping and lining up teachers for our workshop rotations. Please parents, it's up to you to get your children to church on Sunday mornings. They can't get to church on their own. So please stay motivated when it comes to church. Keeping this in mind, I hope to see many Sunday School students in the upcoming weeks.

Superintendent of Sunday School-Tina Moore
(860)345-8828
mooreavonpl@hotmail.com



February Birthdays

2/7 Kate Tucker
2/24 Abraham Peterkin-Personette

Kudos to our HK Middle School Students!

High Honors

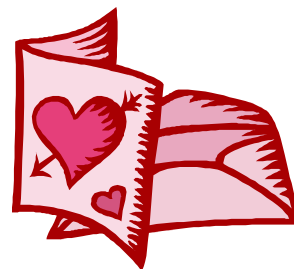
Holly Nord (grade 7), Megan Tischbein (grade 8)

Honors

Brian Saunders (grade 5), Robert Tischbein (grade 5), Katherine Civitello (grade 6), Sam Civitello (grade 6), Corey Sodergren (grade 6), Harrison Foley (grade 7), Erin Hutchinson (grade 7), Matthew Moore (grade 7), Ashley Cook (grade 8), Erin Fredericksen (grade 8), Parker Hutchinson (grade 8), Andrew Sodergren (grade 8)

The Middle School Youth Group:

Will meet at our church on February 10th from 4-5:30 p.m. All youth in grades 5 through 8 are invited and are welcome to bring a friend. The theme of this meeting is "Valentines". We will be making valentines to send to the Children's Medical Center at this meeting. The Umba family is providing snacks.



On February 24th from 4 – 5:30 p.m. we will have someone from Church World Service come to do a power point and activity presentation on "World Hunger, How Youth Can Make A Difference". In conjunction with this, there is a "Hunger Banquet" on March 7th at HKHS. We invite all youth members and their families to attend. All proceeds go to fight world hunger.

Mardi Gras
PANCAKE SUPPER
Tuesday, February 5, 2008
5:00-7:30 PM



Shrove Tuesday, sometimes called "Fat Tuesday" (or Mardi Gras) is the day before Ash Wednesday, and is traditionally the last day to feast and celebrate before we begin the season of Lent. Pancakes are the traditional meal consumed on this day. This custom arose from the need to use up certain foods in the house (fat, butter, sugar, flour, etc.) before the fasting days of Lent. Please join the Christian Education Committee and the Senior High Youth Group as we host a Mardi Gras celebration on Shrove Tuesday, February 5, 2008 from 5:00 to 7:30 pm in our fellowship hall. Bring the whole family to feast on an assorted variety of pancakes, sausage, and more in a festive setting complete with Mardi Gras beads, balloons, New Orleans jazz and crafts for the kids. Tickets will be on sale soon, at \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children 12 and under. All proceeds will help offset the cost of the Senior High Youth Group's upcoming Mission trip to Washington D.C.

1st seating 5:00—6:15
2nd seating 6:15—7:30



We love and welcome babies to our time of worship, but sometimes parents need a break! The Infant & Toddler Room will be staffed and available Sunday mornings for families.

If you would like more information, please contact Tina Moore or a member of the Christian Education Committee.

If you made a pledge for 2008, your envelopes are available in the Parish Hall for you to pick up. Please use these when making your 2008 pledges. If you are making a 2007 pledge, please mark it on the check. Pledging 2007 Financial Statements will be available January 27, 2008. To save paper, please contact me if you want a 2007 Financial Statement—663-2802 or leave a message in the church office—663-1789. We find each year that many people do not pick up or use the statements. We will not mail the statement unless you request it.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged for 2007 and 2008.—Lauren Blaha



MUSIC NOTES by Carolyn Engle

February choir rehearsals will be 6:45–8:45 p.m. on a Tuesday and Thursday evenings on the 7th, 14th, 19th, and 28th. All those interested in joining may attend.

The United Girls Choir will perform at 4:00 on Sunday, February 10th. Please attend this second concert in our church's newly revived concert series.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



We are going to try meeting during the daytime through the winter months of February, and March on the last Monday of the month. That would be Feb. 25th, and March 31st at 1:00 p.m.

In the meantime, continue working on your shawls or lap robes. Any questions or comments, call Jan Jette 663-1686.



Happy Birthday to You!

A special day

Feb. 1	Gayle Skelly	Feb. 11	Shelly Cumpstone
Feb. 2	Marilyn Campbell		Deborah Lynskey
	Tina Moore	Feb. 19	Christopher Reynolds
	James Puska	Feb. 22	Geoffrey Cook
	Kristina Morgan		Courtney Eldredge
Feb. 4	Dawn Tischbein	Feb. 23	Bruce Gagliardi
Feb. 7	Anthony Aeschliman		Kimberly Nystrom
			Evelyn Burley
		Feb. 26	Peter Cumpstone

The Congregational Church In Killingworth

February 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 7:00 NA	2 9:00 CCD 7:30 AA
3 9:20 choir 10:00 Service of Holy Communion	4	5 5-7:30 Pancake Supper hosted by Sr. High Youth Group 6:00 Trustees	6 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30 AA*	7 Choir 6:45-8:45 7:30 AA*	8 7:00 NA	9 9:00 CCD 7:30 AA
10 10:00 Worship 11:30 Music Comm. 4:00 UGC Concert	11	12	13 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 AA*	14  Valentine's Day 11:15 Staff Mtg Choir 6:45-8:45 7:30 AA*	15 7:00 NA	16 9:00 CCD 7:30 AA
17 9:20 choir 10:00 Worship	18 Presidents' Day	19 7:00 choir	20 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 AA*	21 7:30 AA*	22 7:00 NA	23 9:00 CCD 7:30 AA
24 9:20 choir 10:00 Worship 11:00 Annual Meeting	25	26	27 1:30 Wed Eves 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 AA*	28 Choir 6:45-8:45 7:30 AA*	29 7:00 NA	

MARCH KERYGMA DEADLINE

Please submit information for the March edition of the Kerygma by Monday, February 18, 2008. You may email your articles to kwconchurch@yahoo.com or bring them to the church office or office mailbox. Thanks!

Annual Trustee Committee Report

This will cover the most important projects completed by your Trustee, over the last few years. Projects that are just ahead & funded, and a few we will have to deal with in the fairly near future.

Some of our completed projects include:

- Sanctuary & Narthex interiors were re-decorated.
- Both the upper structure & steeple were re-habilitated & painted
- Safety Rails from the Pulpit to main floor were recently added
- Parsonage electrical system was upgraded
- Parsonage garage roof & siding was replaced
- Interior of the Parsonage was improved-new bathroom, wall repairs, overall clean up.
- New septic system for the Church Hall
- Church well was brought up to date
- Some parking lot repairs
- Septic system repairs to the Old Town Hall system
- New boiler in the Church Hall-oversized to heat an addition of similar size to our existing Hall.
- ADA Ramp to both the Sanctuary & the Church Hall.
- ADA approved bathroom in the Church Hall
- Replaced all of the lower level windows-Nursery School & C E areas as well as improved both bathrooms.
- Old in ground oil tanks (2) were safely removed
- AND a long list of relatively minor repairs & improvements to all 4 structures & grounds-Sanctuary, Church Hall, Parsonage, & Old Town Hall.

Projects that are just ahead of us or are on a "must do" longer term list.

- Old Town Hall front steps & rails-bid selection is complete and the work will be done as soon as a weather window gives the contractor about one full week to complete the work.
- Rear Steps from the Church Hall-we will complete removal of the current step rubble using the same contractor that is doing the OTH Steps. Re building the Hall Steps will be a volunteer project. Small deck area with steps to grade. We are hoping to get this done in early spring 2008.
- Parsonage-Interior needs some relatively minor improvement prior to being occupied by a Settled Pastor. In the meantime, we will likely rent the Parsonage on a short term lease (4-6 months).
- Parsonage-exterior-needs extensive work. This will include replacement of all windows, siding replacement, new siding using newer technologies for a more permanent paint or similar material, roof, porch repairs, and so on. This can be done while occupied if need be. Once a Settled Pastor is called, we can move forward with how to fund this.
- Sanctuary-interior still needs new carpets in the loft and main levels, completion of brass refinishing, possible addition of some new lighting under the balcony areas, replacement of book holders.
- Sanctuary-exterior improvements include re-painting of the entire building including the area re-done 4 years ago. Some window repairs and siding repairs are also needed.
- Old Town Hall-once the steps are completed, we will wait out the State for making good on the funding we were assured of receiving 2 ½ years ago. Either way, the OTH needs a lot of work—windows, siding, roof, ADA Ramp-replacement, ADA bathroom on main level, complete re-decoration of interior. If our Church is going to provide the OTH as our "Community Center" for the Killingworth, then we must provide and up to date structure that is safe, meets all codes, and clean.

- Parking lots-this is rising to the top of the list-we need to straighten the lots out, adding spaces. Then grind up the existing lots to use as a base material for re-paving all areas including both driveways and the Parsonage parking area.
- Re-habilitation of the Church Hall-floors, lighting, ceilings, walls, windows, Kitchen area & adjacent offices.

How did this all get done?

Most of what the Trustees do goes unnoticed. It is safe to say that we are never caught up and try very hard to not get to far behind.

We are very fortunate, that in spite of constant financial pressure and changing priorities, your Trustees have had your support! We need much more, however, this report is to let you know how important you are to us-not how important we are to you.

Please add to your support of our Stewardship committee and maybe consider the “financial adoption” of a favorite project. There are many to choose from—get a few people together and help us all see some of the more important project through. This does not replace pledge or Sunday loose offering, but takes your commitment to our Church a step further....

This is my final report as a Trustee (6 years). Please use this as a beginning for our future together. With a new Settled Pastor on the horizon, and a very new & exciting attitude from our Church Community, we can continue to move forward together.

Respectfully submitted: February 24, 2008

Rick Wright, Trustee Chair

Church History Books

Tom Lentz’s book ‘History of the Congregational Church in Killingworth’ is now available. Along with a detailed history of Killingworth, there are many pictures from the archives as well as many photos from not so long ago. This book is a wonderful tribute to the past and present.

Books may be purchased any Sunday during coffee hour, from the church secretary during regular office hours, Banknorth, or the Town office building. Books can also be ordered and sent first class mail. If you have any questions call the church office 663-1789 or Janet Johnson 663-1456.

.....ORDER FORM.....

‘History of the Congregational Church Killingworth’ by Thomas Lentz

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

The price is \$35 each (please add \$5.00 per book if you’d like it sent to you).

Cash or Checks only please. Total number of books ordered _____ Total amount enclosed _____

***Tom is available to personalize your book on most Sundays.**



Christians Caring for Creation

This article (written by the Rev. Gordon Bates, head of our conference's Environment and Energy Ministry Team) appeared in "Contact", a publication of "United Church News".

A Deeper Shade of Green

By Rev. Gordon Bates

The message is clear—paying attention to what is happening to our planet is critical, as a matter of eco-justice and Christian stewardship of Earth's resources. The goal of the Conference's Environment and Energy Ministry Team (EEMT) is to inform and motivate our congregations to take Climate Change seriously and to embrace the changes and the ministries that will be needed in the coming decades.

Our Conference team is part of the national network within the United Church of Christ, encouraged and supported by the UCC National Task Force on Environment and Energy.

That group was created in 2005 as a result of two Resolutions passed by General Synod XXV in Atlanta—one on Environmental Education and one on Declining Fossil Fuels. The intent of those Resolutions has been highlighted and confirmed by the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to former Vice President Al Gore, honoring two decades of work in environmental education. In his acceptance statement, Gore said, "The climate is not a political issue, it is a moral and spiritual challenge of all of humanity."

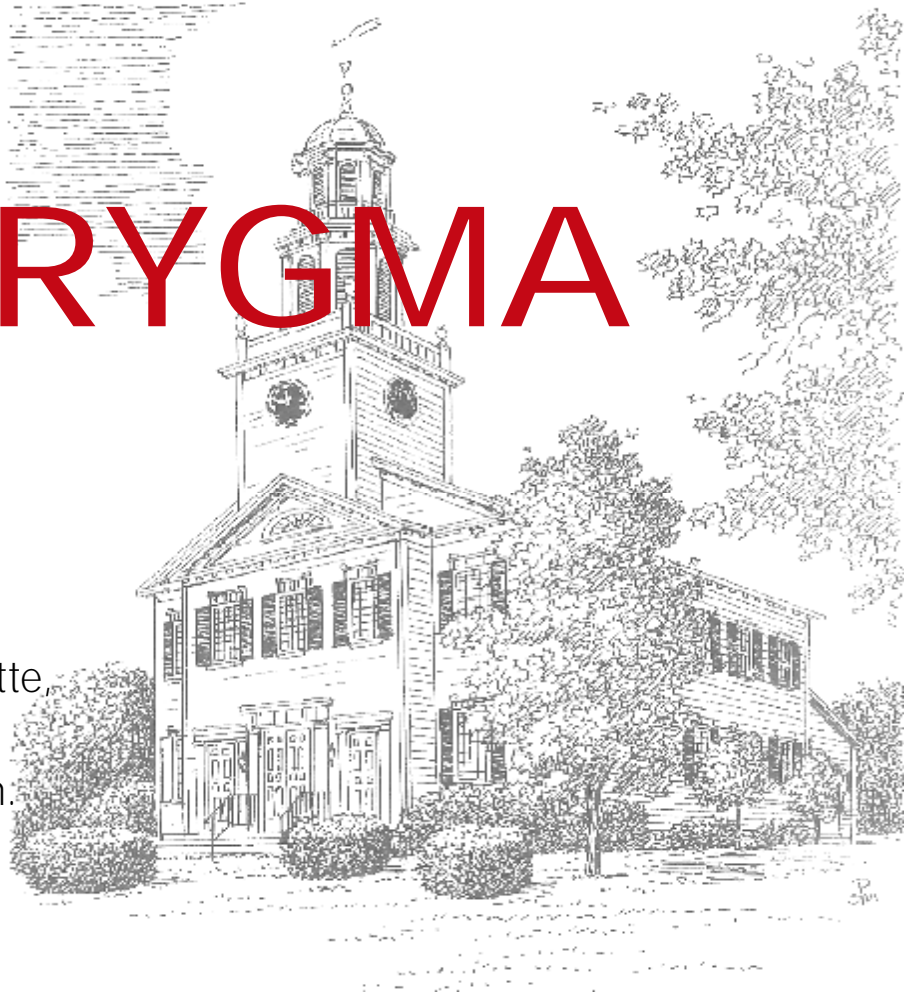
With some pride, the UCC can say that it has proclaimed that same truth for over fifty years. The crises facing our world have a scientific basis that is increasingly undeniable, including planetary temperature increases, rising ocean levels and losses in tropical forests—all related to the unprecedented accumulation of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse" gases in the atmosphere. But beyond the objective evidence of science, the work is experiencing environmental injustices that are immoral and intolerable. From toxic waste and the lack of clean water, to the prospect of tens of millions of environmental refugees as ocean levels rise, the UCC has sought ways to be a source of hope to the hopeless and a voice for the voiceless.

I invite all churches and individuals to join us in this ministry. The EEMT seeks representatives from churches in each of our regions who are willing to help our Conference become a deeper shade of green.

Contact Rev. Gordon Bates at gsbates34@yahoo.com or 860-568-8922



KERYGMA



The Rev. Suzanne Personette,
Interim Pastor
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

February 2008

The Congregational Church in Killingworth, UCC
273 Route 81
Killingworth, CT 06419

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06417

*** STAFF ***

Interim Minister	The Reverend Suzanne Personette
Organist/Choir Director	Carolyn Engle
Sunday School Superintendent	Tina Moore
Church Secretary	Maureen Alfiero
Sexton	Alyson Somerville

Church Office Hours:
Tuesday 10:15—3:15, Wed. 9-1, Thurs 10:15-
2:15-Friday, 9:00 - 12:00
860/663-1789
860/663-2942

Website: www.killingworthchurch.org

E-mail addresses:
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revsuz@hotmail.com



KERYGMA ESTABLISHED 1966

Deadline for the next issue is no later than February 18, 2008
If you do not wish to continue receiving the Kerygma, please email
or call the office. Thank you.