

## **Get to Know Christine Hoskins**

Christine and Chris Hoskin and their son, Benjamin, have been active in the church family since 2005. You may know Christine from her beautiful voice in the church choir. You may also know that Christine served on the pastoral search committee, is president of the Hanover Center Church Women's Fellowship, and co-chairs the huge book sale at the church's Old Timer's Fair each year.

Christine grew up in Claremont, NH and graduated from UNH with a major in business and a minor in French. She now owns her own business, Schoolhouse Indexing (<http://schoolhouseindexing.com/>) where she creates indexes for books in social sciences, education, travel, law, sciences, and many other fields.

We talked with Christine to get to know her better -- here's an edited version of our conversation:

*First, tell us something about yourself that most people probably do not know...*

Well, I lived on a boat in the Caribbean for two years.

*You must really love the ocean!*

Actually I'm kind of afraid of water. (Laughs). But my husband Chris was running a scrap metal business in St. Thomas, and I was a conference coordinator in St. John, so I took a boat to work every day, too.

*You've lived in several different places, haven't you?*

Yes, after St. Thomas we lived in Florida for eight years, then in Canada, north of Toronto, for seven years. Benjamin was born in Canada, so he has dual citizenship.

*What brought you back to New Hampshire?*

We loved Canada, but as Benjamin was growing up we wanted to be near our family - my mother, Arlene, and Chris's parents, Garlan and Heidi. So we decided to move back here, and it's been a great move. We couldn't ask for better neighbors, and it's been a blessing for Benjamin to grow up with three grandparents.

*How did you become a professional book indexer?*

I have this organizational gene, which goes down through all my jobs over the years - I like to look at the big picture and then narrow it down and organize it.

*As someone who looks at the big picture, what do you think our church does really well?*  
Our church is very good at being welcoming to people; if there are new faces out there, people make an effort to greet and acknowledge them. That's an important outreach.

*What's something we need to work on?*

I think we're doing much better at it, but we need to work on letting people know what's going on in the church. Marjorie's weekly email is great, and Mike and Susan are good at wanting to involve people, but some people may be a little shy or they may not be sure what they should do to get involved. We need to make continued efforts to let people know how they can participate. The fair is one example. It may be hard for a new person to know where to jump in, but help is always appreciated.

*What's the biggest impact the church has had on your life?*

I think the biggest thing is that it's created a sense of community for us and given us the opportunity to know our neighbors. When we moved back here, we knew a fair number of people, but not as adults, not as parents. Finding a community of people where we feel welcome has been very important.

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