



The Outreach

The newsletter of the Milford United Methodist Church
April 2022, Milford, NH, Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

Pastor's Corner

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Siblings in Christ,

I've been thinking a lot lately about time and timing. As the popular saying goes, "timing is everything"—and there's a lot of truth to that, I think. I've been teaching my youngest daughter, Sybil, how to ride her pedal bike over the last few weeks without any training wheels and I've been trying to be very conscious of her timing while doing that. Pushing too hard too fast could leave her bruised up, anxious, traumatized; allowing her to remain forever attached to those old training wheels could leave her insecure, stunted, overly attached, and unwilling to venture out bravely later in life. The right timing, though, can really nurture confidence and personhood and allow that little face to smile with the joy of what she can accomplish. Finding just the right balance between pushing and encouraging and knowing when to back off and take a break is everything. Timing is everything.

We are nudging just a little closer to Easter as we enter into April and Easter has something profound to say about timing. Easter reminds us that there's something theological about good timing. Paul wrote to the Romans: "For while we were still weak, at just the right time Christ died for the ungodly" (Rom 5:6). At just the right time—the word in Greek there is *kairos*, which is often contrasted with *kronos* (regular chronological time). There's regular old time that marches by at its regular pace whether we like it or not, but then there's also the right time, the opportune moment, the time when everything seems to have aligned and become ready to go forward and thrive. That, Paul tells us, is just exactly when Christ died and rose on Easter—at just the right time. A large chunk of the Christian year is based around Easter in terms of *kronos*-time: Easter always comes on the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after March 21 (called the Pascal Full Moon). From there, we can count back 46 days to Ash Wednesday and you have Lent, or forward 49 days and you have Pentecost. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Ascension, Trinity Sunday—all of those are based on the date of Easter in a chronological sense. But the BIG question is whether Easter will fall this year at just the right time—when hearts are ready to receive it. Is your heart ready? There's still time to make ready. There's

still plenty of time in Lent to slow down and prepare. There's a lot going on at the church during Holy Week to find your way toward Easter's rhythm—Pot Luck on Holy Wednesday (6:30pm), our Maundy Thursday service (6:30pm), a Good Friday cantata led by our choir and for which we'll be joined by the First Congregational Church, Easter Sunrise service (at MUMC 6:30am), and, of course, our Easter services at the normal times. All these events are coming with the regular march of the calendar. How will you make sure, though, that it's arriving at the right time?

God's richest blessings!

Pastor John

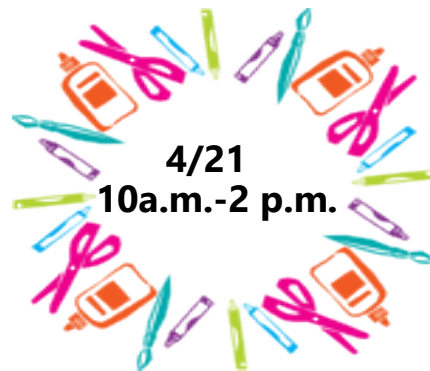
Crafting Workshop Revived From Pat Rafter

We had a very successful craft workshop on 3/17.

About 8 women gathered over the 4 hours and nearly completed 12 stuffed snowmen for our Christmas Fair. These little guys have always been a great part of our inventory that fly off the shelves. Super thrilling to get them cut, sewn and embellished in 1 session. We are off to a great start!

Thursday April 21 10am-2pm will be our next workshop and we will again include a lunch of soup and bread. Just bring your scissors and we will find a project for you.

Hope to see you there!!



From the Pastor's Book Pile

Here is a book that will greatly enrich your reflection on and engagement with the coming Easter season.

N. T. Wright, Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church.



In April Share is collecting:

Toothbrushes & paste, Deodorants, Shampoo & Conditioner, Bar Soap, Feminine Hygiene Products, Diapers, Wipes.
Share is taking donations at Columbus Ave.
To be sure, call ahead for times, 603-673-9898, and they will direct you.

SHARE
Collection

Can Goods Drive for Share

Continuing through April there will be a plastic container outside the doors of the church for the collection of can goods and non-perishables for Share. Please leave your donations there and we will get them to Share as soon as possible.



Wicked Awesome Yaard Sale

From Pat Rafter

I've been getting loads of inquiries ... "Are we having a yard sale this spring? What can I donate? Can I help? Are you taking clothing?"

Yes we will be having a Yard Sale. May 21 8-1.

Drop off dates are 4/30 and 5/7 from 9-11. If these dates and times do not work for you, please speak with Pat Rafter or Tom Knapp to arrange a time.

We take most items as long as they are clean and working. Things we do not accept are electronics, furniture, exercise equipment, stuffed animals unless with original tags, musty books, encyclopedia sets, or magazines.

Yes we will be doing a gently used clothing sale as well. And of course we want your help!!

Proceeds will go towards the youth mission trip and other mission opportunities.



Music Notes From Jenn Erdody

Choir rehearses on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 8:30. New members are always welcome!

The spring music program will take the form of our Good Friday service, on April 15th. Handbell Choir and the Chancel Choir will be presenting a Tenebrae Service, titled "It is Finished". The songs in the cantata reflect the progression of Holy Week, ending with a combination of "It Is Finished" and "Were You There". Visuals on the screen will enhance the service.

"It Is Finished"- A Tenebrae Service, by Mary McDonald

- Meditation on What Wondrous Love
- When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
- I Am Light, I Am Life, I Am Love
- As You Will, It Will Be
- O Sacred Head Now Wounded
- Let Him Be Crucified
- t Is Finished w/Were You There



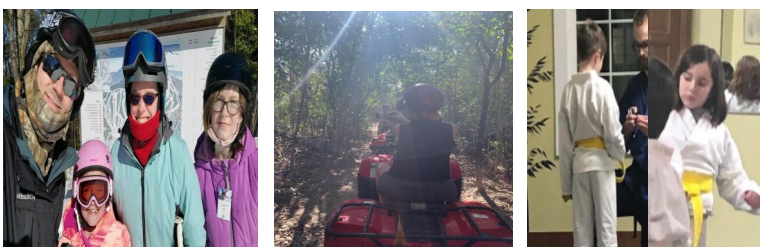
Our MUMC Family Out in the World

March, spring, aah!

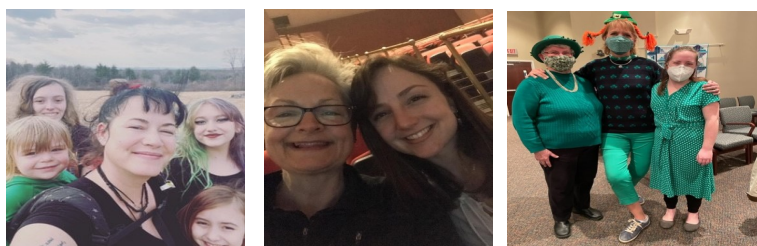
Here is a sampling of the joy some of our MUMC family shared last month.



Above some of our music folks shared the joy. L, Bronwyn Tyler-Wall at her Junior recital at UMASS; M, Naomi Cohen in *The Philadelphia Story* at the Amato Center which was directed by Roger Hurd, and finally R, Jenn Erdody finally taking a rest.



Here folks share some fun and accomplishments L, the Lambert Family got in a great ski day, M, Kerri-Lynn Kimner somewhere warm in March, and R., Josh & Madison Muller get yellow belts!



Here we see folks just enjoying life and each other L. some of the Harvey-Olson gang. M. Kara & Jamie Ammon. R. 3 St Patrick's day spirit, Janet Johnson, KL Kimner, & Naomi Cohen

Have you got pics of you and yours sharing the joy? Let's share here. Send to me; at office@milfordumc.org, or friend me on Facebook and share what you're up to.

Lamplighters

From Carol Rowlette

Mark 14:3 *Meanwhile, Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon, a man who had previously had leprosy. While he was eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard. She broke open the jar and poured the perfume on his feet.*

Matthew 27:55 *And many women who had come from Galilee with Jesus to care for him were watching from a distance.*

Mark 16:1 *Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Solome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body.*

Mark 16:9 *After Jesus rose from the dead early on Sunday morning, the first person who saw him was Mary Magdalene, the woman from whom he had cast out seven demons.*

Beginning on the first Wednesday in April we will study the words of Jesus in the scriptures which angered the Pharisees, priests, and Sadducees. The very words that so angered them caused the arrest, torture, and crucifixion of Jesus. We will follow with the Resurrection. Glory to God, Christ is Risen! Thank you, God for your son Jesus Christ.

Peace, grace and love.
Happy Easter!



Why Christ Calls Us to Worship

Easter services are usually well attended, but what about other weeks? What draws you to worship on an “average” Sunday, and what might Jesus have in store for people in the pews?

Consider this from Pastor Charles Aaron: “Did we come to church this morning thinking it was a safe thing to do? Did we come with some expectation of receiving a blessing, a bit of comfort, but no real challenge? Did we think about the possibility that encountering Jesus would rearrange our lives, explode our priorities, cause us to give more than we ever expected? Did we think we could get a little something from Jesus, a dose of grace to help us through the week? Did we come for the fellowship, the music, the spiritual boost? No one can argue with those reasons.”

He continues: “The risen Christ, however, may have had other plans for this worship service. Christ may want to come under our skins and transform us. Christ may see through us so that something we have well hidden comes to the surface. Christ may kick out from under us the things we use to prop ourselves up but that we don’t really need. Are we ready for that? Did we bargain on that when we walked through the door today?”

—from *The Wired Word*



Easter Flowers & Mission Shares

This Easter, as we did at Christmas, you will be able to honor or memorialize someone you love by buying one of 10 tulips or the single lily we have ordered for the altar for Easter, or by giving a donation to MUMC’s Mission Shares fund



The cost for flowers or the Mission Shares donation is \$17. Donating to our Mission Shares adds another opportunity to participate without the church having too many flowers, which although appreciated and beautiful on the altar, do not have the lasting effect that a Mission Share donation will have and it will not end up being tossed out.

Please consider participating!

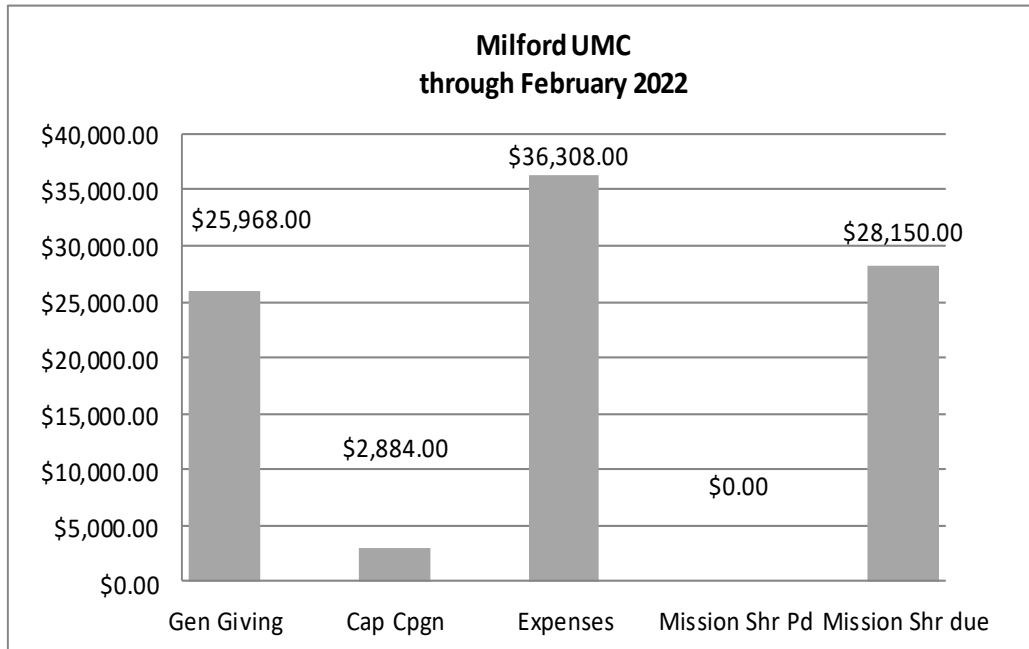


Peterborough UMC is hosting Open Mic Night starting April 8, 2022, 7-9:30 p.m. They have invited any one who would like to come and play or just listen. It will continue the 2nd Friday of each month.



Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



YTD Financials Thru February, 2022

General Giving	\$25,968.00
Capital Campaign	\$2,884.00
Expenses	\$36,308.00
Mission Shares Paid	\$0.00
Mission Shares Due	\$28,150.00





Birthdays & Anniversaries

2022

If you see any of these folks around town, be sure to wish them a happy day!

April Birthdays:

- April 1:** Alexis Eaton
- April 2:** Devin Holland
- April 3:** Natalie Lawton
- April 4:** Marley Gale
- April 5:** Ruth Ann Paden
- April 6:** Nancy Rousseau
- April 18:** Haylee Lambert
- April 18:** Teresa Randlett
- April 20:** Aimee La Riccia
- April 21:** Lily Ayotte
- April 23:** Abby Tobbe
- April 26:** Grace St. Jean
- April 26:** Aaron Leach
- April 28:** Leila Whitley
- April 28:** Kerri-Lynn Kimner
- April 29:** Heather Savage
- April 30:** Lincoln St. Jean

Anniversaries

- April 17:** Kaleen & Jim Fortunato

Happy Birthday! Happy Anniversary, if we missed yours! When we know yours, we'd love to mention you! It's always nice to be remembered, please e-mail the office your special dates at office@milfordumc.org.



This Month's Lectionary

April 3: Isaiah 43:16-21, Psalm 126, Philippians 3:4b-14, John 12:1-8

April 10, Palm Sunday: Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, Luke 19:28-40, Luke 22:14-23:56

April 17, Easter Sunday: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839), Acts 10:34-43, 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-18

April 24: Psalm 150 (UMH 862), Acts 5:27-32, Revelation 1:4-8, John 20:19-31



Driving Ministry

If you are in need of a ride and have no place to turn, call the office and we will notify the driving ministry to help you out.

This program is primarily directed to our handi-capped and seniors, but anybody who needs a ride and can't find one is eligible. There is no charge for this service. Office 603-673-2669 Steve Takacs 603-672-5118 office@milfordumc.org trumpetchoo@msn.com

We could use someone to fill in for Steve while he recuperates. Let the office know if that's YOU! Calls are few.



Quilts for Ukraine From Carolan Robinson

The Quilt group will be starting up again!

We will be making quilts and quilted items to be sold with all of the proceeds going to the Ukraine through UMCOR, Advance 982450, which goes to aid the Ukraine.

If you are interested in joining this group, call Carolan at 603-672-8833



Need Yardwork Help?

The Youth Mission team would love to help you with your yard work for a donation to their trip to Port Huron this year. If you have work you need help with, contact Tom Knapp.
tknapptime@hotmail



Save the date

Levi Sunday

May 22, after services



Why is Friday Good?



To participate in the sacrificial life and death of Jesus Christ is to live already in his kingdom. This is the essence of the Christian message, the heart of the Good News, and it is why the cross has become the chief Christian symbol.

A cross of all things — a guillotine, a gallows — but the cross at the same time as the crossroads of eternity and time, as the place where such a mighty heart was broken that the healing power of God himself could flow through it into a sick and broken world. It was for this reason that of all the possible words they could have used to describe the day of his death, the word they settled on was "good." Good Friday.

—Frederick Buechner

"Lent is spring training. Easter is opening day!" seen on a church sign



Holy Week Schedule Of Events

Thursday, April 14, Maundy Thursday, Service at the church **6:30 p.m.**

Friday, April 15, Good Friday, Service at the church with "It Is Finished" **7:00 p.m.**

Sunday, April 17, Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service, at MUMC, **6:30 a.m.** (coffee & light breakfast fare to be served)

Spirit Celebration 8:30 a.m.

Traditional Service 10:30 a.m.

Volunteers Needed

Looking for Volunteers to bake or otherwise donate supplies for the light breakfast fare to be served at the Sunrise service on April 17., Easter Sunday. MUMC is hosting this event that we share yearly with our friends from the Milford Congregational Church.

Some ideas:

muffins, pastries, juice, fruit salad, yogurt with granola, or any food that would be easy to hold while standing as we will probably not set up tables.

Please call the office (603-673-2669) or sign up in the Narthex on the next 2 Sunday's.



Holy Week Pot Luck Supper



Wednesday April 13,

6:30 p.m.

Jesus, may I follow you throughout Holy Week with its complicated emotions, for you promise to meet me at the empty tomb.



Committees, Groups and Ministries

If you are interested in becoming involved with, or learning more about, a committee or group on the calendar, here's who to talk to.

Administrative (Ad) Council: Callie McMahon

Reviews monthly committee meetings, discusses pending issues and votes on church-wide decisions.

Adult Mission Trip Steve & Pat Rafter

Bell Choir: Mary Tyler-Wall

For adults and older kids interested in hand bell ringing.

Christian Aftercare Ministry: Callie McMahon

Serving primarily men leaving prison, helping them settle in new homes and productive, positive lives.

Chancel Choir: Jennifer Erdody

Open to adults and teens interested in singing in the Chancel Choir at the second service.

Community Supper: Kerri-Lynn Kimner

*A supper we host at SHARE in Milford every 6-8 weeks. Volunteer to help bake or prep ahead of time, or to work at the supper itself. **Restart Coming Soon***

Driving Ministry— Steve Takacs

Provides transportation for those in need of help.

Finance: Andy Baver

Oversees church financial commitments

Home Groups: Steve Rafter (Thursday) or Callie McMahon (Friday) *hold due to covid*

Expands spiritual experience in a social context, meeting at a host's homes.

Lamplighters: Elaine Driscoll & Carol Rowlette

A Bible-study group for women.

Nominations: Pastor John. Matches people with the committees they might be interested in serving on.

Outreach:

Focuses on ways our church can reach out to the local, regional and international community.

Praise Band: Steve Rafter, Lisa Payne, Rudy

Rumohr

Contemporary Christian music that plays at the first service on Sunday.

Staff Parish Relations (SPR): Steve Kimner

This committee acts as liaison between our staff and the congregation.

Stephen Ministry: Callie McMahon

Provides confidential one-on-one Christian care with trained lay ministers.

Sunday School/ Education Team: Elizabeth Whitley

Chooses curriculum, helps prepare teachers, runs the Sunday School from September-June.

Trustees: Steve Rafter

Oversees and facilitates the care and keeping of the church building and parsonage.

White Tops: Everett Gale

A social group for retired men of all denominations.

Worship Committee: Cyndi Geiger & Carol Rowlette

Plans and facilitates Sunday service needs and organizes special Sundays

Worship Design: Steve Rafter

Plans music and worship for the contemporary Sunday service.

Vacation Bible School: Vacancy

Plans and hosts VBS, which runs one week during the summer.

VOICE Giving voice to the marginalized in our

community. Janet Hromjak, Claire Holston, Callie McMahon. Esther Thayer, Kerri-Lynn Kimner

Youth Group: Tom Knapp

Organizes and hosts Youth Group for middle and high school kids in our congregation. Runs September-May.

Youth Mission Trip Tom Knapp



For Virtual Services starting at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, join Us On-Line from our Facebook page Milford United Methodist Church, A Reconciling Congregation or YouTube milfordumc or from the Website milfordumc.org Masks required in the building.

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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3 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:35 Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	4 6 SPR	5 7 Praise Band	6 7 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	7 5:45 p.m. Hand bells 7:-Chancel Choir	8	9
10 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:35 Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	11 7—Trustee's Committee	12 7 Praise Band	13 14 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	14 5:45 p.m. Hand bells 7: Chancel Choir Maundy Thursday 6:30	15 Good Friday with "It Is Finished" Tenebrae service 7 p.m.	16
17 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:35 Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service 6:30a.m. Sunrise Service Easter Sunday	18 6– VOICE 7—Finance Committee	19 7 Praise Band	20 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	21 5:45 p.m. hand bells 7-Ad Council 7:—Chancel Choir	22	23
24 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:35 Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	25	26 7 Praise Band	27 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	28 5:45 p.m. Hand Bells 7:Chancel Choir	29	30 Yard Sale Drop Off 9-11 a.m.



Milford United Methodist Church

327 No. River Rd
PO Box 476
Milford, NH 03055
(603) 673-2669
www.milfordumc.org

April, 2022

Sunday Worship Times:

8:30 Spirit Celebration, 10:30 Traditional Service
or Watch Us Online Facebook & YouTube @10:30
Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

Milford United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Church

Discover the Joy!

Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

Our Mission:

The Milford United Methodist Church exists to help **all** people discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ.

Our Vision:

We will help all people discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ by:

- Providing joyful and meaningful worship experiences.
- Establishing and encouraging small groups for study, support, prayer, fellowship and service.
- Empowering people to discover, develop, and deploy their gifts for ministry.
- Reaching out beyond our congregation in Christian love and service.

Our Values:

We commit ourselves to:

- Know scripture and live it.
- Act with integrity.
- Be faithful to Jesus Christ, our families, and our church family.

- Strive for excellence in all we do for the Lord.
- Celebrate the ministry of all Christians, lay and ordained.
- Treat all people with respect and sensitivity.
- Encourage people to grow in Christ.
- Care for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of all people.

Welcoming & Inclusion Statement:

Milford United Methodist Church is a welcoming and inclusive church which celebrates that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth. We welcome and serve persons without regard to age, race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, family configuration, religious background, economic status, or developmental and physical abilities. Milford United Methodist Church recognizes the diversity of the Body of Christ and gives thanks to God for this divine gift. We invite ALL to discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ.