



The Outreach

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

Pastor's Corner

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Dear Siblings in Christ,

Happy New Year MUMC family! As we start to look ahead to all that 2022 might have to offer, I want to take just a moment to thank our church staff, our music staff, our sound booth volunteers, our committee members, lay leaders, and all of you, the members of this church, for all that you have done through 2021 to keep our church moving and thriving and worshipping and serving. A great deal of effort, commitment, and love went into making this past year the success that it was and, from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you all for the way you have hung in there and demonstrated the strength of your faith through another challenging year. This past year we made hard decisions together and walked ahead bravely in an environment where it hasn't always been easy or obvious to know what the next steps ahead should be. We sent our youth back into mission and a very successful and safe venture as well as a powerful experience of the God who declares that we're 'worth it.' We brought back in-person worship as well as events like our Christmas fair that root us back again in the rhythms of home. We finished strong in our capital campaign bringing our building mortgage down to our target amount of \$200,000. We've tried and succeeded, tried and learned, tried and failed sometimes—but we have definitely been a church to try. I don't know about you, but I'm really, really proud of that. If the past is prelude, then 2022 is already shaping up to be a pretty great year. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

May God's richest blessings spring up in your life in this new year!

Pastor John

Musically Speaking

From Jenn Erdody

Thanks to all who participated in and attended our December Christmas Concert! It was so wonderful to be back together again, celebrating the season with beautiful and exciting music! Thanks also to Lisa Payne and the tech crew. We couldn't have done the concert without you!

Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 8:30. We would love to have you come sing with us! Speak with a choir member, Nancy Tong, or Jenn Erdody if you have questions.



Special dates

New Year's Day, *January 1, 2022*

Epiphany, *January 6, 2022*

Baptism of the Lord, *January 9, 2022*

Religious Freedom Day, *January 16, 2022*

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 17, 2022*

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January*

From the Pastor's Book Pile

This month's book from the Bishop's recommended reading list for 2021-22. We'll be forming a group to read this together in the New Year.

Brian D. McLaren, *Faith After Doubt: Why Your Beliefs Stopped Working and What To Do About It.*



NEW Picture Directory
Look for a PDF Copy in
your email
this month!



Can Goods Drive for Share

Continuing through January 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.



Lighting the Way for Others

When Ida Nelson, head tribal clerk of a remote Alaskan village, heard an airplane flying low after dark, she knew something was wrong. Igiugig (l-g-g-y-yaw-gigg), population 70, isn't normally a nighttime destination. Indeed, the medevac flight was coming to pick up a sick child.

Because the local airstrip's lights had been vandalized, the plane was having trouble landing. Nelson began alerting neighbors, and within minutes, villagers lined the runway with their vehicles, headlights blazing. The pilot was able to land and then safely deliver the sick child to an Anchorage hospital. The airlift service praised the residents' determination, but Nelson describes their effort as "normal" and "ordinary."

What everyday actions can you use to provide light amid darkness? How can you shine Jesus' light in a world that needs him?



Youth Mission News

From Tom Knapp

There will be a youth mission trip meeting on Sunday, January 16, at 7 p.m. to discuss plans for the trip to Port Huron Michigan.

Please let Tom, at tknapptime@hotmail.com or the office, office@milfordumc.org, know if you want to be on the email list for information on these meetings or information for the trip itself. We hope this meeting will be live and zoom but will maintain safe practices based on the status of COVID-19 cases.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

As of this writing, the number of ringing hours is not known but \$8082 was raised through our efforts this year, just slightly under last years total. God is good!



Our MUMC Family Out in the World

December is always a busy month and for some families it's gets even more hectic but, joy is still spread. Here are a few examples.



Paula, Madison & Josh Muller, ran the Santa Shuffle and Madison had a piano recital.



Gage Tlapa Inducted to National Honor Society



Grace St. Jean most Improved Cheer Team



Jason, Libby & Linc new Christmas attire

Loving in our own ways with our families Christmas



The Harvey-Olsons gang cuddles.



The Houstons Puzzle.



The Tyler-Wall girls huddle.

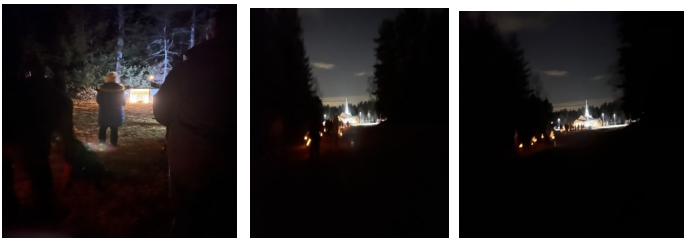
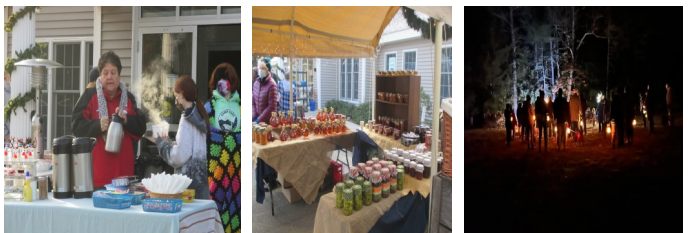
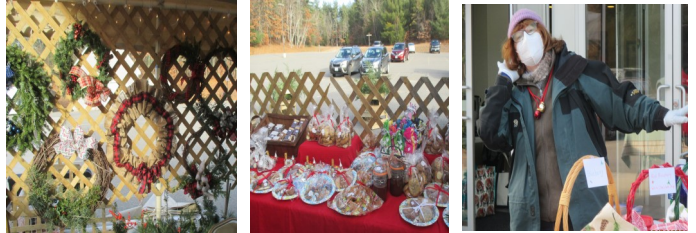
Wishing you all a New Year filled with blessings and loaded with opportunities to bring light into your word!

Have you got pics of you and yours sharing the joy? Let's share here. Send to me; office@milfordumc.org

Christmas Market & Lantern Walk in Photos



A whirlwind of a start but the recovery was a suc-



Special thanks to all who helped make this Christmas Market and Lantern walk a great success. The inspiration to try something different (thanks Elizabeth) was a well embraced effort by all. We raised about \$ 6500 to be used for mission shares and a small amount to replenish supplies for more crafting for next year. We are Blessed!

Lamplighters

From Elaine Driscoll

Mary is visiting her cousin Elizabeth. Luke 1:46-55

"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me --holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.

We will finish the study of the book titled "The Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream and follow up with discovering lesser known women of the bible.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy New Year!!



So help me God

No matter how firm our resolutions, we can't make ourselves better people *by ourselves*. God empowers our good works when we rely on his aid.

H.P. Nichols, a 19th-century poet, wrote:

If I resolve, with the new year, a better child to be,

'Twill do no good at all, I fear, but rather harm to me,

Unless I try, with every day, no angry word to speak;

Unless, each morn, to God I pray to keep me mild and meek.

Then let me try with all my might, and may God help me too,

Always to choose the way that's right, whatever act I do.

In January Share is collecting:

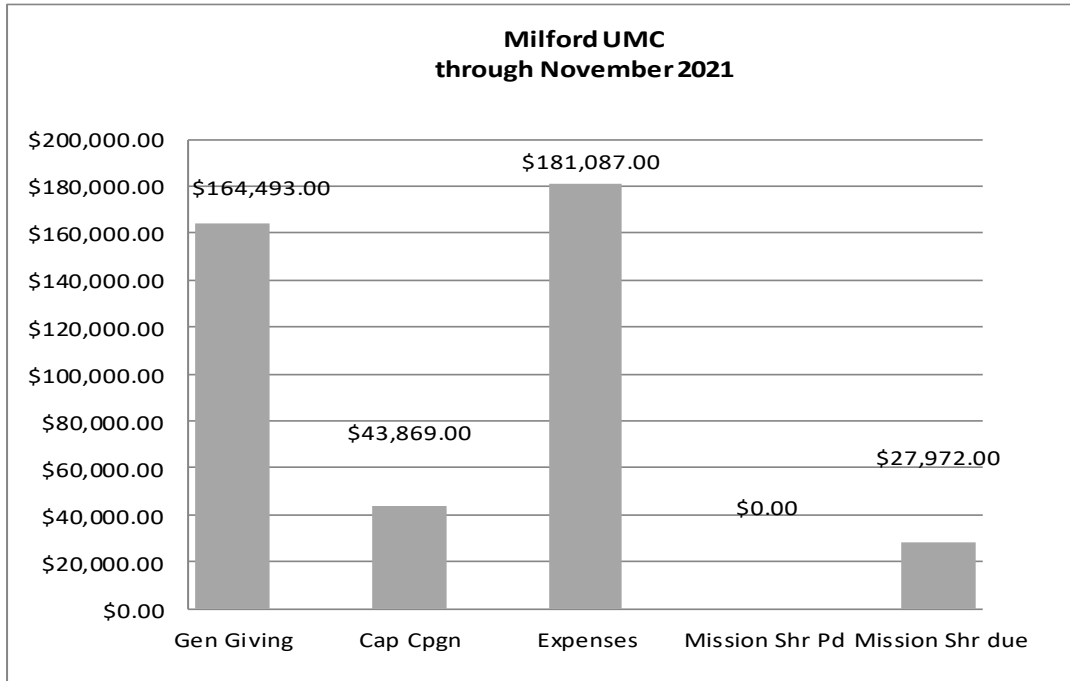
Canned Ham, Canned Meats, Side Dishes (seasoned pasta mix, hamburger helper, etc.), Ravioli & Beefaroni

Share is taking donations at the Columbus Ave. However, call ahead times, 603-673-9898, and they will direct you donation specifics.

SHARE for
collection di-

Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



YTD Financials Thru November 2021

General Giving	\$164,493.00
Capital Campaign	\$43,869.00
Expenses	\$181,087.00
Mission Shares Paid	\$0.00
Mission Shares Due	\$29,972.00



2022
Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

January Birthdays:

- January 1: Beverly Gagnon
- January 8: Don Gutterson
- January 10: Harry Tong
- January 11: Jimi Eves
- January 11: Callie McMahon
- January 13: Steve Kimner
- January 13: Jean Wood
- January 14: Anita Merrill
- January 15: Jillian Rafter
- January 17: Betty Herlihy
- January 19: Heidi Rocha
- January 21: Gerrie Hopkins
- January 21: Nancy MacKay
- January 26: Nadia Tlapa
- January 26: Ryder Tlapa

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

January 2: Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20
 Ephesians 1:3-14. John 1:(1-9), 10-18

January 9: Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16: Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

January 23: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Psalm 19,
 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21

January 30: Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30



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



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. **hold due to covid***

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: Doris Houston
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



JANUARY 2022

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
						1
2 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	3 6 SPRC	4	5 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	6	7	8
9 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	10 7 Trustees	11	12 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	13	14	15
16 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	17 6 Voice 7 Finance	18	19 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	20	21	22
23 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	24	25	26 8 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	27	28	29
30 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	31 7 Outreach					



Milford United Methodist Church

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

January, 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.