



# The Outreach

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

## Pastor's Corner

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### Siblings in Christ,

As I sit down to write, I just witness the very last leaf from the sugar maple outside of our front window fall to the ground. The very last one—they're all gone now, all strewn about on the lawn and matted down wet. The wind and the rain lately have ensured that at least this tree's yearly crop is finally fully surrendered, a bit early maybe, so that the tree can get on with the rest of its yearly business. To look at it against the backdrop of all of the Fall color that remains, somehow the tree looks less dead or dormant than it does happy to turn the page—an overachiever, an early bird. It has lain down its multicolored leaves almost as an accomplishment. It has made its way successfully through another year, it has taken full stock, and has handed in its end-of-year report early. Its report tells the story of sunny days and rainy days and droughts, all somehow encoded within the color and crispness of each little leaf.

It's November and the leaves aren't the only end-of-year reports coming due—there are real ones, literal ones, as well. Some painstaking. Some that will require a little research. There is one, though, that I would submit is the most vital of all and not just for knowing clearly where we've been. This one also sets the tone for where we're going. It's Thanksgiving, of course, and not just the day itself but the season, the attitude, the spirituality of being thankful people. Thankfulness is its own report of a kind. It requires us to look back and bring to mind specific events and occurrences. It requires that we think closely enough about those events and occurrences to appreciate them as things that we owe thanks to God for. It may require even, that we do enough data analysis to appreciate what our lives may have been like otherwise, without those gifts and blessings, in the absence of those events and occurrences that prod our hearts to render thanks. Thankfulness is its own end of year report and the best kind really. This one asks for your thoughtful attention to blessing and to grace; to the good things of your life. Every moment of research pays dividends in recognition. Can you see just yet just how good God has been to you this year? Have you crunched the numbers, discerned the shape of this year's story? Don't wait until November 24!

## Pastor Con't

Don't be the one who writes their report thoughtlessly on the fly! The leaves are falling. The day and season are coming. Let's start looking behind and ahead so that we can be ready to rejoice in what God has done!

God's richest blessings are still to come!

*Pastor John*

## From the Pastor's Book Pile

The book that we'll be diving into together as part of the Wednesday night study is as follows:

L. Gregory Jones, *Embodying Forgiveness: A Theological Analysis*. (only \$15 if you order through the church!)



## MUMC Christmas Band

MUMC Christmas Band will be rehearsing for our Christmas Concert on Sunday's from 11:45a.m. -1p.m., starting November 27.

Contact Nancy Tong with Questions.

### In November Share Is Collecting:

Pancake Mix & Syrup, Condiments, Cooking Sauces & Seasonings, Cooking Oil, Jelly, Cold Cereal

Share is taking donations at Columbus Ave. To be sure, call ahead for times, 603-673-9898, and they will direct you.

**SHARE**  
Collection

## Exercise Classes

Starting on November 7, providing we have participants, the Voice team will be providing exercises to help to improve your strength, balance, agility and coordination to reduce the risk of injury. Registration is available in the Narthex and it is important to fill out the form as it asks for any limitations you might have so that the exercises can be adjusted for your needs. Register by Nov. 5.

Claire Holston is our trainer. Claire has many years of experience as a trainer. She currently runs Physically Speaking.

Although we plan for Monday and Friday through November, we are also seeing the last week of November as the preparation week for the Christmas Fair and cannot meet that Friday and we see that Monday as being iffy. The question will be discussed with the participants at the start of classes.

Sessions are \$5 each. Dress in comfortable clothes appropriate for movement, sturdy shoes (sneakers).

## Our Privilege to Vote in Upcoming Midterm Elections

### From the UMC Church & Society

In a few days, we in the United States are entering another season of voting. It may not be a season of the church calendar, with liturgical colors, but it is a sacred season nonetheless.

As United Methodists, the right to vote is something we hold and view as sacred. It is our voice and representation while attempting to improve our country, participating in our communities, and making a difference for our families.

We affirm that "the strength of a political system depends upon the full and willing participation of its citizens" (**Social Principles ¶ 164.B**). Our Social Principles assert the belief that to have a viable, strong, and equitable government, the people must

Voting cont'd from page 2

participate without unnecessary hindrances and obstacles.

Our vote is one of our strongest vehicles to help express the hopes we have for our children, our grandchildren and for us. It is a mechanism by which a government can truly be made up of by and for the people. As a democratic nation, to vote is to express trust in the processes and structure of the system.

However, a growing number of eligible voters don't vote because they view it as irrelevant, an unnecessary burden and just not worth the time to participate. This is partly because of unfounded "voter fraud" claims eroding trust in the government. Claims that create suspicion in the democratic process and second guessing the validity of systems to manage fair elections. On the contrary, in America, the election process has the most stringent structures, safeguards and protections in the world.

Even worse, we are living in a time when the right to vote is under attack. Insidious tactics to suppress voter turnout and disenfranchise communities of color have been implemented in multiple U.S. States. One of the biggest barriers to suppress the right to vote in the U.S. is "voter ID" restrictions. Confusion about voter ID can easily turn into disenfranchisement. Eligible voters must understand ID rules to cast a ballot within their State. View the Vote Riders site here to see the ID restrictions in your State.

During the upcoming midterm elections in the United States and elections taking place in parts of the world, we encourage United Methodists and people of faith to do what it takes to cast your votes and to root voting decisions in the principles espoused by the Author and Finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ. Might justice and peace guide you in your political activity and may your Christian witness be evident to all in your advocacy.

Election day in NH & Maine, November 8.



## Looking for Salvation Bell

### Ringling Coordinator

From Pat Rafter

An opportunity to Serve!

Looking for someone to step up to fill the Salvation Army Bell Ringer Coordinator role for this year. Pat will coordinate with both stores ahead of time (Market Basket Saturdays, Shaw's Sundays). Just need someone to fill the ringing slots, send reminders the night before, collect money and get the money to Tom Knapp the end of each ringing day. Bell ringing starts the Saturday following Thanksgiving and runs every Saturday and Sunday thru Christmas Eve. A schedule is posted in the Narthex for MUMC members/visitors to fill in. The last 2 years has been pretty streamlined ringing 4-6 hours each ringing day. Coordinator does need to keep track of volunteer hours to be submitted to the Salvation Army office and Pat is happy to collect that info from you and send to them.

Please let me know if you have interest and I will give you some helpful hints passed on by Tami Betelak and Liane Wright.

## Sing & Share

From Sally Landis



We are continuing the gathering time on the first Wednesday night of each month that we started during the pandemic except that we can now be indoors (hooray!) and changing it from a "Love Feast" to a time of singing and sharing or music and musings that will begin about 6:45 pm and last until about 7:30pm. There will be hymn singing from the red or black hymnals and a theme each month to help us focus our thoughts and songs. As a congregation that loves to sing, this will be an opportunity to do so in a more casual setting. And as a people who care about and want to know each other, it will be an opportunity to do so. On November 2 our thoughts will revolve around personal prayers answered or unanswered. Please join us and add your voice to the gathering.

## Our MUMC Family Out in the World



The Eves' shared plenty of smiles this month between the Pumpkin Festival and soccer. Kim, Lily, Jimi, & Jameson!



Sylvia & Joe Buttemeier out loving God's Beauty!



Andrea & Andy Bayer on the town for their 39th anniversary!



John & Sylvia Farwell on the Cog railroad!

The Harvey-Olson annual pumpkin picture!  
L-R Neva, Ivy-Rose Martin & girlfriend, Patrick, F, Kevin, Matty, & Karin



Lincoln & Libby St. Jean enjoy time in Conway!

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.

## Youth Mission Team From Tom Knapp

The team had a successful fundraiser with the bean bag toss at the Pumpkin festival and now they are looking forward to some weekend yardwork gigs! Have you got some work you need done that the youth can help with? You decide what your donation will be.

The yearly gift card fund raiser will be running this month as well. The form is included in this newsletter.



## Lamplighters

From Carol Rowlette

Jesus Tells the Parable of the Hidden Treasure  
*"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Matthew 13:44. (NIV)*

This parable tells us about the Kingdom of God, more valuable than anything we can have. The blessings that come from our study and discussions of the parables are surely a gift from God.

Peace and love.

Happy Thanksgiving!



## ***Choir Notes: Christmas Concert***

*From Jenn Erdody*

The Church Christmas Concert will be held on Sunday, December 18th at 4:00 pm. We hope you'll join us for some wonderful music!

If you would like to sing in the choir for the concert, our first concert rehearsal will be on Thursday, November 10th, from 7:00 to 8:00, with rehearsals on the 17th, December 1st, 8th, and 15th from 7:00 to 7:45.

Anyone is welcome to join our Chancel Choir at any time! We rehearse on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30. See any choir member or Music Director Jennifer Erdody for more info!



## ***Share Christmas***

*From Pat Rafter*



MUMC will once again be supporting SHARE for Christmas through the Adopt a Family for the Holiday program. SHARE will be choosing 2 families for MUMC with 3-5 children each. This year they will be giving us a list of items and gift cards for the children. A "Giving Tree" with tags will appear in the Narthex the end of November. Unwrapped gifts will need to be returned to the church by Wednesday Dec 15. Thank you in advance for your support. SHARE has seen an incredible spike in families with needs more than doubling in the last 2 years.

## ***Christmas Fair***

*From Callie McMahon*

Christmas Fair team has been meeting every 2 weeks to try and keep the fair on track.

The December 3 fair will need help from all of you.

By November 1 we will send our Sign Up Genius Requests for help with all of the items and tasks we will need to make the fair a success.

This email will come to you from the office and will give you many opportunities' to sign up for baking, crafting, helping with set up and tear down, working the day of the fair as a cashier or wait staff, everything ! Keep your eyes open for this and please sign up. I will also keep a live sign up sheet going for those of you who are computer challenged.

We will sell cookies and fudge by packed quantities instead of serve yourself or serving on demand.

We will have music during the event. If you are interested in that, contact the office or Kerri Lynn Kimner to get a slot.

PLEASE! We would love your help.

The Fair Team



## A Good Contagion

Thanksgiving is key in Christian prayer, but often our requests outweigh our thanks. By contrast, 85% of prayers in the Jewish prayerbook are blessings of thanks, according to Rabbi Evan Moffic. Noting that the Hebrew word for a Jewish person —

*Yehudah* — means “one who is grateful,” he states, “Gratitude is at the core of how Jews pray.”



Someone once asked Moffic if he might know about a blessing he'd overheard at a restaurant. After a man proposed to his girlfriend and she said yes, he walked quietly to a corner, put on a yarmulke (a sacred Jewish head covering worn in prayer) and spoke a blessing. His fiancé teared up. The rabbi said the prayer was surely this: “Blessed are you, O God, sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this joy-filled moment.”

Why was this person so interested? “I am planning to propose to my girlfriend,” he shared with Moffic, “and I want to say this prayer with her.”

Unbeknown to the newly engaged pair, their gratitude transformed another couple's life. When we give thanks to God, not only is our faith strengthened but our thanksgiving may inspire others. Gratitude is contagious!

—Heidi Hyland Mann

## Living with God in a one-story house

We often think of the universe as a two-story house, notes Orthodox Christian priest Stephen Freeman. “We live here on earth, the first floor, where ... everything operates according to normal, natural laws, while God lives in heaven, upstairs, and is largely removed from the story in which we live.” Most of the time we feel like we're all alone on our level of the world.

But, Freeman adds, God is “everywhere present and filling all things.” Not that God's kingdom has fully come; we know that's not so. And not to discount the promise of eternity. But we don't live apart from God, even now. As Jacob said, “Surely the Lord is in this place. ... This is none other than the house of God” (Genesis 28:16-17).

How might our perceptions and behaviors change if we expected to run into God frequently, conversing and enjoying his company not only in prayer and worship but while working and relaxing? What a difference it makes when we live as roommates with God in a one-story world.

—based on *Hunting Magic Eels* by Richard



Family Order Form MUMC Youth Mission make checks payable -  
 Tom Knapp put in memos for Youth Mission START OCT. 30 -  
 NOV. 22

START OCT. 30 - NOV. 22

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
99 Restaurants \$25.00	13%		\$	Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$	Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$
adidas \$25.00	13%		\$	Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$
aerie \$25.00	10%		\$	CVS Pharmacy \$10.00	6%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$	CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$	Panera Bread \$5.00	8%		\$
Amazon \$10.00	1.7%		\$	Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
Amazon \$100.00	1.7%		\$	Denny's \$10.00	7%		\$	Pizza Hut \$10.00	8%		\$
Amazon \$25.00	1.7%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
AMC Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$	Disney \$25.00	3%		\$	Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$
AMC Theatres \$50.00	8%		\$	Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$	Rite Aid \$25.00	4%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$	Domino's \$25.00	8%		\$	Sephora \$25.00	5%		\$
Applebee's \$10.00	8%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$	Shaw's Supermarket \$100.00	4%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$	Geek Squad & Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$	Shaw's Supermarket \$25.00	4%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		\$	Home Depot® \$100.00	4%		\$	Shell \$25.00	1.5%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$	Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
Athleta \$25.00	14%		\$	IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$	Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
AutoZone \$25.00	7%		\$	iTunes & App Store \$15.00	5%		\$	Starbucks \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Bahama Breeze \$25.00	8%		\$	iTunes & App Store \$25.00	5%		\$	Starbucks \$25.00	4.5%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	8%		\$	JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$	Subway Restaurants \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Jiffy Lube \$30.00	8%		\$	T.J. Maxx/ Marshalls/ HomeGoods/ Sierra \$100.00	7%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$	T.J. Maxx/ Marshalls/ HomeGoods/ Sierra \$25.00	7%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$	L.L.Bean \$100.00	16%		\$	Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$	L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$	Taco Bell \$25.00	5%		\$
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$	Little Caesars Pizza \$20.00	8%		\$	Taco Bell \$5.00	5%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$	LongHorn Steakhouse \$10.00	8%		\$	Tanger Outlets \$25.00	8%		\$
Blaze Pizza \$25.00	10%		\$	LongHorn Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$	Target \$10.00	2.5%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10.00	8%		\$	Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$	Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$	Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop® \$25.00	8%		\$	Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$	TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$	Nike \$25.00	12%		\$	Uno Pizzeria & Grill \$25.00	12%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	10%		\$	Old Navy \$100.00	14%		\$	Walmart \$10.00	2.5%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$25.00	10%		\$	Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$	Walmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Circle K \$25.00	1.5%		\$	Olive Garden \$100.00	8%		\$	Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
				Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$				

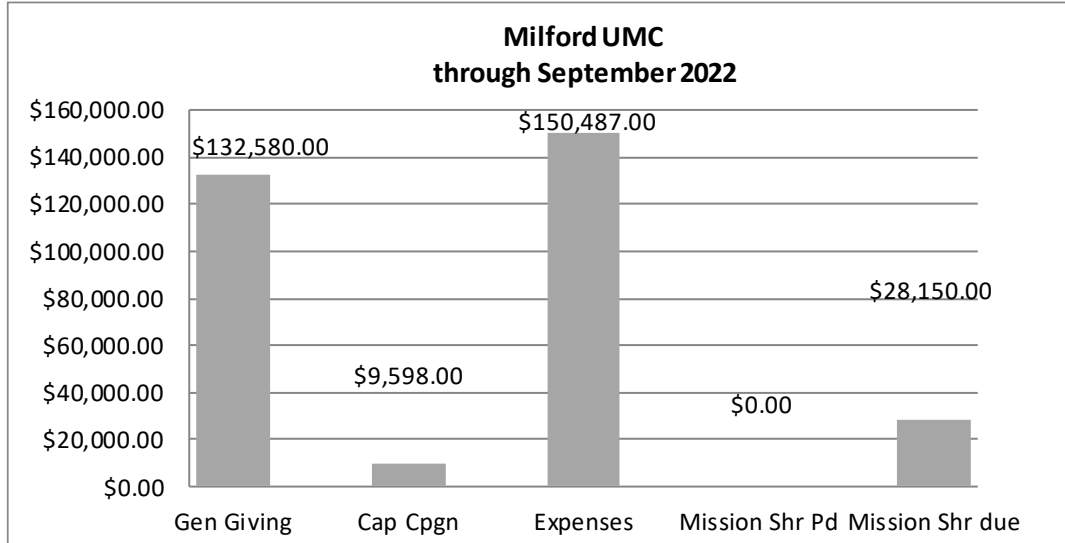
Make Checks Payable To: *Tom Knapp*

Total Due All Columns:

\$

# Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



## YTD Financials Thru July 2022

General Giving	\$132,580.00
Capital Campaign	9,598.00
Expenses	\$150,487.00
Mission Shares Paid	\$0.00
Mission Shares Due	\$28,150.00



- The miracle of giving is that giving makes miracles.  
—Bishop Robert E. Goodrich





# Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

## Birthdays:

- November 11:** Charles Savage
- November 11:** Gary Emberger
- November 12:** Barbara Gorman
- November 14:** Libby St. Jean
- November 15:** Max Ayotte
- November 16:** Graham Gordon
- November 20:** Will Whitley
- November 21:** Leanna Hunter
- November 25:** Cecil Rowlette
- November 25:** Donna Daley

## Anniversaries

- November 14:** Nicole & Rick Masters

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](mailto:office@milfordumc.org).



## This Month's Lectionary

**November 6:** Haggai 1:15b-2:9, Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21, 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17, Luke 20:27-38

**November 13:** Isaiah 12, Isaiah 65:17-25, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19

**November 20:** Jeremiah 23:1-6, Colossians 1:11-20, Luke 1:68-79, Luke 23:33-43

**November 27:** Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44



## 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 handicapped 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](mailto:office@milfordumc.org) [trumpetchoo@msn.com](mailto: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: TBD**

*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: 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: TBD**

**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**

*Works with the youth and organizes mission work near and far.*



# November 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

		<b>1</b> 7 Praise Band	<b>2</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplighters 6 Potluck 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	<b>3</b> 7:- Chancel Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	<b>7</b> 6—SPR	<b>8</b> 7 Praise Band	<b>9</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplighters 6 SPR Church Cinf 7Church Conf	<b>10</b> 7:Chancel Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	<b>14</b> 7—Trustee’s Committee	<b>15</b> 7 Praise Band	<b>16</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplighters 6 Potluck 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	<b>17</b> 7:-Chancel Choir 7- Ad Council / Mission	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service 20	<b>21</b> 6– VOICE 7—Finance Committee	<b>22</b> 7 Praise Band	<b>23</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplighters 6 Potluck 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	<b>24</b> 7:-Chancel Choir	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7 Praise Band	<b>30</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplighters 6 Potluck 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	<b>31</b> 7:-Chancel Choir		

Outreach

SPRC, Trustees, VOICE, Finance, Ad Council are virtual unless communicated otherwise by the



## Milford United Methodist Church

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

*November, 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.