



The Outreach

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

Pastor's Corner

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Siblings in Christ,

As Elizabeth and I were taking our walks on the beach this past week while on our vacation, I found myself thinking on several different occasions, "you know, it's no wonder that people come to beaches for renewal." It's not just that beaches tend to be somewhat peaceful and beautiful places; the messages we receive on beaches about life and what is good in the world are elemental there—smellable, touchable, visibly perceptible in a way that can only be trivialized by words. On a few of our morning walks on the beach, we were greeted by the warmth of the sunlight on our skin; a cool, constant breeze; the lulling, constant sound of the waves breaking gently on the shore. Down the shoreline a bit we discovered the tracks of sea turtles that had pushed a smooth path in the sand with their bellies, flipper tracks on either side, to lay their eggs beyond the tide line. We found sharks teeth by the dozen—the angular teeth of hammerheads, the razor-like teeth of tiger sharks, the long and pointy teeth of makos, and the perfectly-proportioned triangular teeth of the Great White. Walking down the beach, every new wave that washes up on shore shuffles the deck of what can be seen anew in the mix of shells and washes away the steps (and mis-steps) of the previous moment. There is tremendous life, tremendous curiosity, tremendous peace, tremendous grace to be found on beaches.

Being on the Gulf side of Florida, we closed most of our days away by watching the sun set there on the beach. What a perfect mixture of the grandness of beauty and mystery in the world with the gentleness of the sand after an afternoon shower and the warmth of the summer water. One evening the clouds aligned in such a way as to almost direct the whole world's attention to the show. The low sun reflected a line of light on the water that was directed to each of us and yet all of us. The clouds just above were dark on the bottom and bright on the top at sunset as if to capture their own little slice of the mystery before the day came to an end. The clouds behind us were billowing and purple-red as if to muster as large a palette as they could for the moment's shifting color.

If only every environment could call as loudly for our attention as beaches! "The heavens declare the glory of God" says the Psalmist, "and the

firmament his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world" (Ps 19:1-4).

Glory to God!

Pastor John



In August 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

Heavenly Envoys

If the stars should appear one night in a thousand years, how would men believe and adore; and preserve for many generations the remembrance of the city of God which had been shown! But every night come out these envoys of beauty, and light the universe with their admonishing smile.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson



Please Join Your Church Family

August 11th

6:00 p.m.

Mission Meeting

Everyone is invited to discuss what mission looks like at MUMC as we continue to move into our call as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Zoom and live options will be available.



Welcome Back Choir

From Jenn Erdody

"Who's on first?"

Well... Chancel Choir resumes rehearsing on Thursday, September 1st! Have you been thinking about joining us to worship in song? This is the time! We rehearse from 7:00 to 8:30, weekly on Thursday evenings. Come sing with us!



How Deep Is Your Faith?

Lyrics to the Bee Gees' 1970s hit song "How Deep Is Your Love" came to mind as I pondered the "depths" of my faith. Sometimes I prefer to stay securely in the shallow end, while other times I fearlessly launch off the diving board, ready and willing to be drenched by God's love. If you've ever tried to coax young swimmers to jump into the deep end of a pool, you may remember their excitement (and relief) after they finally take the plunge into your arms. To experience that joy in your spiritual life, evaluate your location in your own faith "pool." Are you wading safely in the shallows or exploring the freedom of the depths? No matter where you're at, you can jump confidently into Jesus' outstretched arms. From the edge, hear his promises: "Jump in! I'll catch you! I'll keep you safe! Trust me!"
—Julie Lee

From the Pastor's Book Pile

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

Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion and Embrace: A Theological Exploration of Identity, Otherness, and Reconciliation*.

L. Gregory Jones and Andrew Hogue, *Navigating the Future: Traditioned Innovation for Wider Seas*.



Wednesday's at 6:00



Study starts about 6:30 and is also virtual.

Watch your email for a link.

Our MUMC Family Out in the World

July was a great month for fun , travel, celebrations, and family.



The Souhegan Valley Chorus had a whirlwind tour that included Italy, France & Spain. Nancy Tong and Sue Rudolf went along as chaperons. Her you see, Jenn & Ben Erdody, Sue & Nancy, and Jenn and Roger Hurd. What an adventure!



Avery, Emelaine, & Cora Herlihy enjoy popsicles!



Josh & Madison Muller enjoy the parade!



Neva Harvey-Olson as Shirley the enchanted gerbil in Twinderalla.

Leila Whitley took 2nd place in the Art & Poetry Contest sponsored by the Racial Unity team. If you get the Cabinet, you can see her picture and the art work in the 7/21/2022 issue! Yay Leila!

LIVING OUR FAITH A CHRISTIAN TRADITION OF PUTTING FAITH IN- TO ACTION

From Church and Society UMC.com

As Christians, we are called to reflect God's reconciling love to all we encounter. And as United Methodists, we recognize "our commitment to become faithful witnesses to the gospel, not alone to the ends of the earth, but also to the depths of our common life and work." (United Methodist Social Principles Preamble) Amidst the brokenness of today's world, God calls us to be instruments of healing – transforming relationships and systems to pursue justice and peace among people, communities and nations. And yet for too many of us, the tone and division of public discourse discourages us from using our voice or engaging our church and family in the important civic conversations of our day. But in the face of ongoing conflict, exploitation and oppression, we know that we cannot turn inward and silent. Instead, we must engage our neighbors, proclaim our faith values, and pursue justice in our communities. This civic engagement can involve a variety of strategies and tactics. The Old and New Testaments are full of examples of faithful advocates whose experience both inspires and informs how we put our faith into action.

Consider how God worked through:

- The midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, whose acts of civil disobedience saved children from Pharaoh's decree.
- The reluctant Moses who, accompanied by his brother Aaron, challenged power and freed the Israelites from captivity.
- The prophets, from Amos to Jeremiah, who publicly proclaimed timeless truths and cast a faithful vision for the community.
- Queen Esther who used her access to power for the benefit of her people.
- Our savior Jesus who persuaded with

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.

parables, stood with the marginalized and directly resisted the empire of his day.

As United Methodists, we pursue 'social holiness' that is rooted in our biblical understanding, informed by John Wesley's movement for change in English society, and built upon 250 years of work and witness by Methodists. Through acts of personal, social and civic righteousness we can reflect the reconciling love of Christ to the church and society.

The attempt to influence the information and execution of public policy at all levels of government is often the most effective means available to churches to keep before humanity the ideal of a society in which power and order are made to serve the ends of justice and freedom for all people. UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS, #5012



Amid the brokenness of today's world, God calls us to be instruments of healing – transforming relationships and systems to pursue justice and peace among people, communities and nations.

Looking for Fall Yard Sale Coordinator

Hi Everyone,

I am looking for someone to step up to coordinate yard sale for this fall. Your choice of date and drop offs. I will be having my second knee surgery mid Aug and doubt that I will be able to take it on. Please call me or the church office if you think you may be interested. I'd gladly share the ins and outs of coordinating, or you can put your own twist to work!



Blessings to all,
Pat Rafter

Can't pray? First rest!

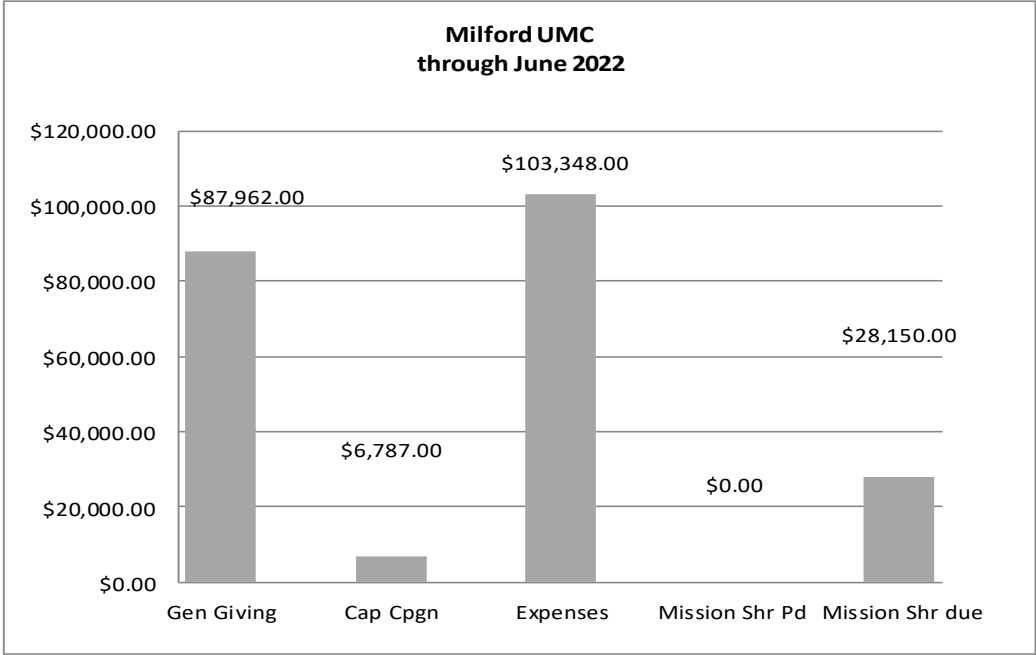
Weariness can seriously hamper our attempts to pray, says Bonnie Gray, author of *Whispers of Rest*. "We are a generation who doesn't know how to express our souls to God, even though we drive ourselves exhausted, doing for Jesus." The solution, she says, is to stop and rest.

The stressed-out, despairing prophet in 1 Kings 19 is a prime example. "God knew Elijah needed physical rejuvenation first — in order to hear his gentle voice, whispering in a gentle breeze," Gray notes. Guarding against the depletion of spiritual, physical and emotional resources can improve our ability to hear God's voice, too. "When you find it's hard to pray, don't be afraid," says Gray. "You're standing at the very cusp of who God longs to connect with. The real you. Take the time to rest. You're worth it."



Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



General Giving	\$87,962.00
Capital Campaign	\$6,787.00
Expenses	\$103,348.00
Mission Shares Paid	\$0.00
Mission Shares Due	\$28,150.00



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



2022

Birthdays & Anniversaries!

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

Birthdays:

- August 3:** Avery Herlihy
- August 4:** Sue Rudolf
- August 5:** Kevin Redden
- August 8:** Rudy Rumohr
- August 12:** Martin Harvey
- August 14:** Ben Erdody
- August 14:** Kathy Holland
- August 16:** Jenn Erdody
- August 18:** John Whitley
- August 20:** Esther Thayer
- August 23:** Annika Weis
- August 29:** Dan Ayotte

Anniversaries

- August 15:** Don & Shannon Gutterson
- August 17:** Steve & Kerri-Lynn Kimner
- August 20:** Bruce & Doris Houston
- August 31:** Josh & Jillian Rafter

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.



HAPPY Anniversary
FROM YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

This Month's Lectionary

- August 7:** Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, Psalm 50:1-8, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40
- August 14:** Isaiah 5:1-7, Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19, Hebrews 11:29-12:2, Luke 12:49-56
- August 21:** Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-6, Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17
- August 28:** Jeremiah 2:4-13, Psalm 81:1, 10-16, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, Luke 14:1, 7-14



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: 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: 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: Elizabeth Whitley, Annika Weis, Karin Harvey-Olson

June 27– July 1st 2022

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.



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 6- SPRC	2 7 p- Praise Band	3 9 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Potluck & Study	4	5	6
7 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	8 7 Trustees	9 7 p- Praise Band	10 89Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 600 Pot Luck & Study	11 6pm Mission Meeting	12	13
14 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	15 6-VOICE 7—Finance	16 7 p- Praise Band	17 9 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Potluck & Study	18	19	20
21 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	22	23 7 p- Praise Band	24 9 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Potluck & Study	25	26	27
28 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service	28	30 7 p- Praise Band	31 9 Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Potluck & Study	SPRC, Trustees, VOICE, Finance, Ad Council are virtual unless communicated otherwise by the committee chair.		



Milford United Methodist Church

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

August, 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.