

# The Outreach

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

# Pastor's Corner

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Siblings in Christ,

Having just gotten back from the mission trip with our youth and, this week, taking part in Vacation Bible School with younger ones, I have to tell you that I am excited about the signs of God's life in our midst. Hearts stirring and excited and asking good, deep questions; voices signing and hands signing the lyrics to new songs that lift God's name; feet moving out into the world that are learning to give and serve and love to the beat of God's own heart. I am excited about all of that and, more than that, I'm excited that there's something to be excited about! With so much still uncertain in our world and so much that is difficult in ministry these days, how refreshing it is for me (and hopefully for us) to see with these two eyes that God moves when we are faithful to follow (and, sometimes, even when we're not).

July is normally my planning month—the time of the year that I start looking ahead to the Fall and beyond to think through what ministry plans we might try to take on after the summer is over. As with all planning, sometimes it's easy to get trapped and wrapped up in thinking "but what can we reasonably accomplish—let's aim at something achievable so that we can successfully accomplish what we set out to do." That's the planner and the realist in me, I suppose. But this week especially reminds me that that's not how God does things. God looks for the faithful who are willing to follow in faith and shows up and provides beyond their expectations—God excites, God equips, God reveals in ministry. The Gospel passage for this coming Sunday from Luke 10 recounts Jesus' sending of the 70 out into ministry. This was not the 12, who had been handselected and equipped and sent; this was the 70—people who had just come along and followed Jesus presumably along the way somewhere. Now they're being sent out into the world to do ministry and one of the profound things to sit with as I read this passage again is their surprise and excitement and wonder when they return. "Can you believe that the demons even flee at the sound of his name?!" Who knew? Can you believe that things really happen out there when we venture out faithfully, with God's own heart? Can you believe the Spirit moves—really, even now? Can you believe we accomplished something real and learned something profound when just a few days and weeks before we were un-

certain of whether we could really get this moving in the first place? That's something I want to have us all keep in mind as we head into July—the discovery part of venturing out where God calls us. It's not just about the work we accomplish or the good that we're able to do (though those are certainly wonderful), it's at least as much (if not more) about discovering for ourselves where and how God is disclosing his Spirit's working out there. Out there is where the surprise lurks—the surprises that send us back with the excitement of "Can you believe what God has done!" I invite you to lean into the surprise this July and August. Where is God looking to reawaken your heart and imagination? Where is God looking to surprise you in the work and inspire new life? Will you keep your eyes open? When you're sent, will you go?

May it be so!

### Pastor John



#### In July 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

# Lamplighters

From Carol Rowlette

Then Jesus told them this parable. "Suppose one of you has 100 sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent." Luke 15: 3-7 (NIV)

Matthew also tells this parable but states it in a little different way. Jesus does not want anyone to be lost.

The Lamplighters Bible study will continue to meet through the summer from 1-3 studying and discussing the Parables of Jesus starting with Luke 15:1-32. 1. The parable of the Lost Sheep, 2. The parable of the



Lost Coin, 3. The parable of the Lost Son.

#### Can Goods Drive for Share

Continuing through July 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.

### **VBS** Review

From Elizabeth Whitley

Deep Sea Discovery was a great success. 9 kids joined the fun of discovering about God and God's great love! Here are some pictures of the week.







stories in the underwater shipwreck SS Discovery.



Discovering Bible Making a rainbow like the promise God Made to Noah.



Thinking about how cramped the ark must have been with people, animals, and, food...



Pretending to be in the belly of the whale like Jonah.



### 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

Here are the joy sightings for June. Are you spreading any? Why not share it?







Neva Harvey Olson and Lily Eves gymnastics medal at end of year.

Kristi O'Shaughnessy at the top of mountain #19 Mt. Garfield







Emma & Haylee Lambert, and Cora & Avery Herlihy Pose for pics on their last day of school.







Graduation day for Jack Seale, and Grace O'Shaughnessy . A glimpse of the year end celebration banquet for the MUMC choir.

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.







Mine Falls 5K

rail Fest 5K

Debbie Santinelli Chris & Jenn Jenn with Jacob who made the Dean's list at WCSU









MUMC said Happy b'day Everett #90!

Jimi & Jameson Eves at early 4th Parade

Sue & Rich Rudolf before "Wicked"







Two youth mission group pics. More on the next page & below

Jim, Shelly, & Shawnna Frost on a sunset cruise













More Youth Mission Pics

# What Is a Liturgist and Would You Like to Be One?

From Donna Daley

One definition of a liturgist is: "one who adheres to, compiles, or leads a liturgy." At MUMC, a liturgist is the person who assists the pastor in leading some parts of the worship service and reads the scripture readings for that service. The basic requirements for a liturgist would be having a love of scripture and a desire to share that love with the congregation.

There are many members of our church family who already serve as liturgists, and our worship experience is all the richer for their participation. However, there is always room for more people to share in this joyful ministry.

Maybe you have thought, at one time or another, that you would enjoy being a liturgist, but you do not know how to go about getting to actually be a liturgist here at MUMC. Maybe you have thought you would need a little help getting started with reading and leading in an actual worship service.

If you attend the traditional service, and you would like to know more about becoming a liturgist at the traditional service, please contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Donna Daley donnaedaley@com .net

**Thank you one and all** who have reached out to Steve, Willy and I during my recent surgical procedure. We are all so grateful for food, treats, flowers, cards, emails, texts, visits and general outpouring of support. We are so very blessed to be part of a wonderful caring congregation. Hope you are all doing well. I look forward to being back in church once I can safely get behind the wheel! Blessing to all.

Many Thanks, Pat Rafter

### Youth Mission Team Photos

#### **Shopping**







Working









Resting







**Eating** 







**Playing** 

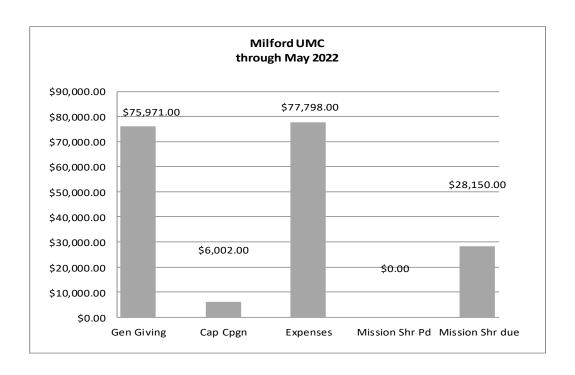






# Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee





YTD Financials Thru April 2022					
General Giving	\$75,971.00				
Capital Campaign	\$6,002.00				
Expenses	\$77,798.00				
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:**

July 2: Sue Story
July 3: Jess Hart
July 4: Jack Seale
July 5: Laura Seale

July 6: Lindsay Lambert
July 11: Isaac Savage

July 12: Emeline Tyler-Wall

July 13:Paula MullerJuly 15:Kirk RandlettJuly 15:Mishell PfeilJuly 17:Rick Masters

July 18: Cameron O'Shaughnessy

July 21:Arthur HarknessJuly 22:Kris HarringtonJuly 23:Ellen Mercer

July 24: Neva Harvey-Olson

July 25: Josh Rafter

**July 25:** Grace O'Shaughnessy

July 26: Holly Tlapa
July 28: Emily Savage
July 30: Emma Ayotte
July 31: Aspen Tlapa

**Anniversaries** 

July 26: Tom Knapp & Alexis Eaton July 27: John & Elizabeth Whitley

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

**July 3:** 2 Kings 5:1-14, Psalm 30, Galatians 6:(1-6) 7-16, Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

**July 10:** Amos 7:7-17, Psalm 82, Colossians 1:1-14, Luke 10:25-37

**July 17** Amos 8:1-12, Psalm 52, Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42

**July 24:** Hosea 1:2-10, Psalm 85, Colossians 2:6-15, Luke 11:1-13

**July 31:** Hosea 11:1-11, Psalm 107:1-9, 43, Colossians 3:1-11. Luke 12:13-21



# 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 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**

 ${\it Provides \ transportation \ for \ those \ in \ need \ of \ help.}$ 

#### **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 Reconcilling Congregation or YouTube milfordumc or from the Website milfordumc.org Masks required in the building.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Tradition- al Service	<b>4</b> 6 SPR	5 7 Praise Band	6 9-Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Pot Luck 6:30 Study	7	8	9
8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Tradition- al Service	<b>11</b> 7—Trustee's Committee	<b>12</b> 7 Praise Band	13 9-Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Pot Luck 6:30 Study	14	15	16
17 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Tradition- al Service	18 6- VOICE 7—Finance Committee	<b>19</b> 7 Praise Band	20 9-Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Pot Luck 6:30 Study	21 7-Ad Council	22	23
24 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Tradition- al Service	25 26 7 Praise	27 9-Whitetops 8:45 Coffee w/	28	29	30	
		Band	Pastor. Union Coffee 1 Lamplighters 6:00 Pot Luck 6:30 Study		SPRC, Trustees, VOICE, Finance, Ad Council are virtual unless communicated otherwise by the committee chair.	



July, 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 neonle

#### 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.