



The Outreach

The newsletter of the Milford United Methodist Church
October 2021, Milford, NH, Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

Pastor's Corner

Dear Siblings in Christ,

As we head into October, I've already begun to notice in the sugar maples that the chlorophyll is starting to empty out from the leaves on the very ends of the branches, and soon they will reveal their true color in fuller radiance as the green drains out completely toward the trunk. That's why leaves are green, you know—they're full of the chlorophyll that transforms light and oxygen into life-giving sugars for the tree to survive on. But when the chlorophyll drains away and the tree prepares itself for dormancy, those leaves are emptied out, in effect—emptied of what they need to thrive and grow and move into a posture of just holding on for a season. And when they go dormant, when they hold on for dear life for 1/4-1/3 of the year, it leaves a mark on the inside of them that will remain with them through the rest of their lives and beyond. That mark is what we call a tree ring and it's what happens when the tree comes close to death in the winter of every year of its life. We can tell the age of a tree by counting its rings; I wonder if trees count their age by the number of their near-death experiences.

It's interesting—there's a predictable rhythm in the life of a tree that speaks a truth, I think: when we're filled with the stuff that makes for life, we thrive and grow, and when we're not we're hanging on for dear life and it leaves a permanent mark on the inside of us. Fall may be the time when the plants go dormant, but it's not the time for the Spirit to go dormant in us. If your life, today, were plotted against the life-cycle of a tree, where would you be? Would you be budding and stretching out new leaves, as in Spring? Thriving and having your spirit fed with abundance, as in summer? Are you seeing some color at the ends of your branches, as in Fall, and wondering where that life-giving stuff is running off to? Or are you hanging on for dear life, as in the thick of winter, wondering how and when those green leaves will ever come back? Wherever you are in that cycle, I'd like to invite you to connect—connect to the branch that feeds life into the world. It's a small thing on the ground to connect, but on the inside of us all, it may just mean the difference between thriving and marking another year with another deep scar, and so this month, I want to use my space here just to invite you to connect—not for the church's

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Pastor's Corner</i>	1
<i>Love Feast</i>	2
<i>Picture Directory</i>	
<i>Pastor Appreciation</i>	3
<i>Our MUMC Family</i>	4
<i>Youth Update</i>	5
<i>Lamplighters</i>	
<i>Community Mission</i>	6
<i>Finance</i>	7
<i>Birthdays & Anniversaries</i>	8
<i>Lectionary</i>	
<i>Crop Walk 2021</i>	9
<i>Committees</i>	10
<i>Calendar</i>	11

Pastor's Corner cont'd

sake, but for your sake. That's why we're here, after all: life. Jesus said, "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). As we notice the Fall around us and begin the trek toward winter, remember that what we do together here in the church is about life for you and life for the world! That's what happens when we connect as spiritual sisters and brothers growing in our life in Christ—we get spiritual chlorophyll for our leaves to help us thrive when the weather is growing cold and the daylight is retreating. Why not make it your objective to find your connection with us this Fall!

Blessings in Christ!

Pastor John

Thinking about joining us on Sunday? Call the office, 603-673-2669, by Thursday, and reserve your place. You will be asked a couple of entry questions because we continue to try to keep one another safe. Masks are required. We choose to mask as a symbol of our love for one another.

**Parking Lot
Love Feast
Wednesday
Oct. 13, 2021
6:30p.m.**

Bring a snack and a soft drink or water, your chair, and your mask.

Arrive by 6:15

NEW Picture Directory

From Callie McMahon

I have received about 40 pictures for the new picture directory. If you are among those who have sent me one, or let me take one of you, THANK YOU.

Our phones do a very good job so don't be afraid to take a selfie.

It would be great to have a picture of our groups: Choir, Praise Band, White Tops, Lamplighters, Bell Choir etc. We could take them outside unmasked if everyone is vaccinated.

What do you say??? I know you can do it and I'd be more than happy to help by taking your picture if that works better. Barbara and I are working with what we have as of now. We will work to complete the directory by mid- late October, but we can only do that with your help..



Can Goods Drive for Share

Continuing through October 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.



It's October, do you appreciate your Pastor?

Many people have complex relationships with their pastors because faith, church and God involve a mix of emotions. We have particular ideas about church practices, congregational priorities, the minister's use of time, money, authority and more.

But most pastors are deeply devoted to Christ and believe that God has called them to serve in a certain place. They have the best of intentions and work hard to share the good news of the gospel. So in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month in October, consider the following:

God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called. Your pastor may need time to learn and develop certain skills. (Everyone does!) Bless pastors with your patience.

We don't change the message; the message changes us. You probably won't like all your pastor's sermons or newsletter columns. But instead of complaining, ponder that something may rub you the wrong way because God is trying to change you. Keep an open mind and heart.

If a church wants a "better" pastor, it just needs to pray for the one it has. Pray often and caringly for your pastors, church leaders and their families. The role is challenging, so support them spiritually and ask God to reveal his love and grace to these special servants.

"Over the years I have made a career out of studying the most challenging management roles out there. After all of that I am now convinced the two most difficult jobs in the world are these—one, to be President of the United States, and two, to be the leader of a church." Peter Drucker, Management consultant, educator, and author.

WE APPRECIATE YOU PASTOR JOHN!

UMC Social Principles: Climate

As revealed through the creation story of the Bible, humankind has struggled from our earliest days to live in right relationship with the created world, with each other and with God. God's vision of shalom invites all of creation to know wholeness and harmony and yet too often we have treated creation simply as a resource for humankind's use.

"All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings."
— United Methodist Social Principles, ¶160

Today, we understand more deeply than ever before, the profound consequences of our failure to serve as caretakers of God's creation. Ecological crises and extreme poverty are a reflection of our inability to share the abundance God has entrusted to our care. Ever-expanding scientific knowledge helps us better understand and informs our response to challenges ranging from the health impacts of environmental toxins to the threats posed by climate change.

United Methodists are called to a ministry of reconciliation between God, humankind and creation. In and alongside frontline communities experiencing environmental injustices, we are participating in God's healing of creation. Through acts of personal, social and civic righteousness, United Methodists are modeling a new lifestyle and advocating for God's people and God's planet so that all God's children can share in the goodness of Creation.

**Clean Water Climate Justice Food Justice
Sustainability**

Our MUMC Family Out in the World

September bought us back to school, some nice fall weather, a lot of rain, and Labor Day parade. Here is a taste of what our family was up to.

Back to School



Laura Seale



Kate Seale



Jack Seale



Lincoln & Grace
St. Jean



Ryder Weis



Riley Weis



Leanna Hunter



Nadia Tlapa



Bronwyn Tyler-Wall
Playing at UMass

Show me your pics of sharing the joy!
office@milfordumc.org



The Eves,, Jimi,, Lily
& Jameson
Labor Day Parade

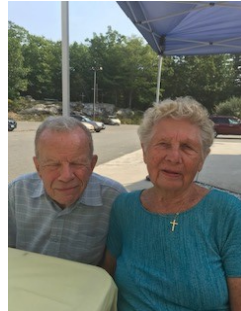


First Friday at the
Union Grill



Jenn Erdody
Big E 5K

Rally Sunday. Who do you recognize?



Youth Update

From Tom Knapp

First Friday is October 1st, 6:30 Union St. Grill. If you miss this one, look for the November event on November 5th, same time and place.

Any youth 8th grade and up is invited to attend the first Friday event and other events for youth sponsored by MUMC.

We are looking at another Family Movie Night on October 15th (Rain date Oct 16th). Movie selection is not yet decided but it will be a family movie and baked goodies, popcorn and drinks will be available for sale.

Come join the fun!



Lamplighters

From Carol Rowlette



*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path."*

The Lamplighters have been blessed with 10-11 members this fall, welcoming back those enjoying more freedom to travel and visit families.

We continue to review the women of the Bible who had dedication to God and courage to follow His leading. Little is known of their influence in Jewish history. Let's look at Hannah, Miriam and Esther! Hannah was one of the wives of Elkanah, a Zuphite. She had been unable to bear children and prayed to the Lord to give her a son, and she would dedicate him to the Lord all his days. (1 Samuel 1:11) In the course of time, Hannah gave birth to Samuel and sent him to Eli in the house of the Lord in Shiloh.

Miriam was the sister of Moses and Aaron. After the parting of the Red Sea, Miriam led the women with tambourines and dancing, singing praise to the Lord for this miracle.

In a later time, however, she and Aaron spoke against Moses because of his Cushite wife. The Lord became angry, left them, but Miriam had turned leprous. She was confined outside the Camp for seven days and then brought back. (Numbers 12:1-16)

Lamplighters meet on Wednesday at 1-3 p.m. Contact Elaine Driscoll: 603- 673-4270 or Carol Rowlette , 603-673-5403 for more information.

Community Mission Ideas

From Callie McMahon

Happy October!

Pastor John asked if we could come up with new ways to be in service to the area community.

We contacted Share and got some ideas that we wanted to put before the congregation as possibilities for us to be involved.

Share said they have an area church looking at a way to do a modified version of the monthly dinners. St. Luke's UMC in Derry does a monthly dinner or sometimes breakfast that is "To Go". Their newsletter tells me that they have several teams that create the meal so that no team needs to prepare more than 4 times a year. Could MUMC do something similar?

There is an existing group of people who serve lunch to the area elderly housing places, the Mill, Granite Square, and Beach Brook. This group would love to have a contingency from MUMC work with the existing folks to expand their ability to serve. These are shared 1st, 2nd and 3rd Mondays with each cook choosing to provide a component of the meal. Due to COVID, some of the procedures are changing. Details on the process are available in the church office. Kathy Sharkey, from Share, is coordinating new volunteers to be part of this and would love for MUMC folks to join in.

We are all urged to continue with food donations and to walk in the Crop Walk for Hunger.

If you are interested in talking about any of these ideas, let the office know and we can set up a zoom meeting with the interested people.

We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature — trees, flowers, grass — grow in silence; see the stars, the moon, the sun, how they move in silence. ... The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life. We need silence to be able to touch souls. The essential thing is not what we say, but what God says to us and through us. All our words will be useless unless they come from within — words which do not give the light of Christ increase the darkness.

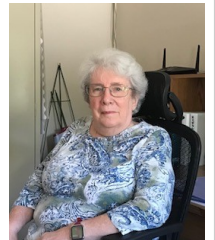
— Mother Teresa



Office Changes

Carol Rowlette has stepped down from her role in the office. We are so thankful for your contribution Carol, Thanks you!

Please join Gerrie Hopkins and me in welcoming Barbara Gorman to join in the office as a new volunteer. We have not settled on our schedule as yet, but we look forward to working with her and I know you will like her.



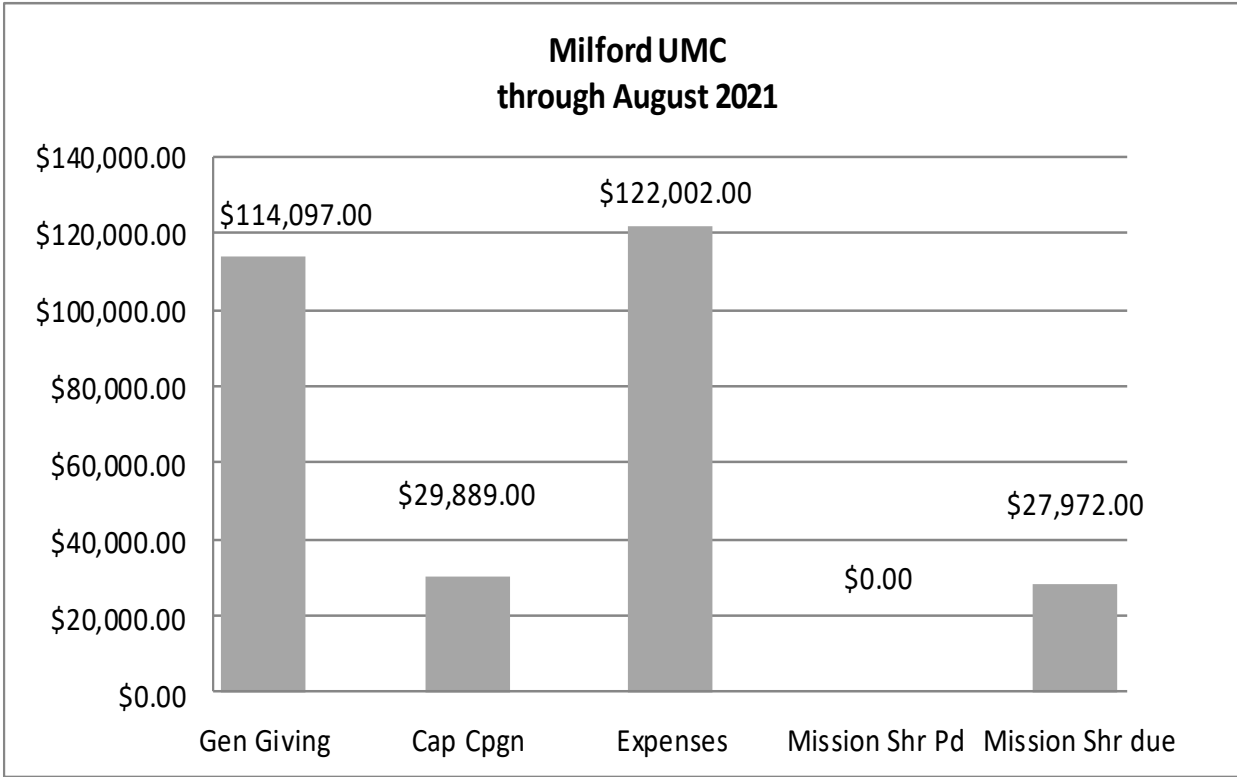
In October Share is collecting:

Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Boxed Cake Mixes & Baking Supplies, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Granola

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

SHARE
Collection

YTD Financials
Through July, 2021
from Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



Giving 2021	\$114,097.00
Giving Cap. Camp	\$29,889.00
Expenses	\$122,002.00
Total Mission Shares Paid	\$0.00
Total Mission Shares Due	\$ 27,972.00





Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

October Birthdays:

October 1:	Shirley Nielsen
October 1:	Jason St. Jean
October 2:	Jim Frost
October 4:	Dave Stackpole
October 4:	Jim Lawler
October 5:	Samantha Randlett
October 7:	Natalie Parker
October 10:	Steve Takacs
October 13:	Anita O'Connell
October 14:	Kathryn Cox
October 16:	Margie Frank
October 16:	Colleen Guzman
October 20:	Jeanne Desrosiers
October 20:	Carolyn Robinson
October 21:	Sammy Klipsch
October 27:	Dylan Pheil

October Anniversaries:

October 6:	George & Elaine Driscoll
October 27:	Lindsay & Jason Lambert



Happy Birthday! Happy Anniversary! Let us know when yours is. It's always nice to be remembered, please e-mail the office your special dates at office@milfordumc.org.

This Month's Lectionary

October 3: (World Communion Sunday) Job 1:1; 2:1-10, Psalm 26, Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12, Mark 10:2-16

October 10: Job 23:1-9, 16-17, Psalm 22:1-15, Hebrews 4: 12-16, Mark 10:17-31

October 17: Job 38:1-7 (34-41), Psalm 104:1-9, 24-35c, Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

October 24: Job 42:1-6, 10-17, Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22, Hebrews 7:23-28, Mark 10:46-52

October 31: Ruth 1:1-8, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:11-14. Mark 12:28-34



Instead of an open Bible this month, I thought this photo of Kristi O'Shaughnessy atop a 4000 footer well expresses opening our hearts to the word of God!

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



Crop Walk 2021

From Pat Rafter

Hoping you will consider walking and/or supporting a walker for this year's Greater Nashua Crop Walk on Sunday Oct 24 at 1:20. The Walk will begin and end at Temple Beth Abraham on Raymond St in Nashua. It is a beautiful walk through the old neighborhoods in North Nashua into Greeley Park and the city gardens. There will be a light meal and entertainment at the Temple after the walk.

If you are leery about walking in Nashua or in a larger group, you can still walk as we did last year around the church property or in the comfort of your home on your treadmill. All are encouraged to sign up online- <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/nashuanh>

Church World Services has really fixed up the site. It's easy to use. Super easy for you to set up your social links to send out messages to your friends and family to help support you in your efforts.

We had several new walkers last year and I know many of you are still walking...so let's give it a whirl and double our numbers this year!

Packets with collection envelopes and other materials will be in a bin at the front door in the next week or so. Even if you walk somewhere other than at the event on the 24th, you are still invited to be part of the celebration post walk at 2:30 P.M. at the Temple. Just let me know so I can give you a number. icu2per@aol.com



A fixer-upper

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what he is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently he starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. What on earth is he up to?

The explanation is that he is building quite a different house from the one you thought of — throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but he is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it himself.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



Changing the Way We Dial

MANDATORY 10-digit local dialing is required for all customers in the New Hampshire 603 Area Code - Effective October 24, 2021

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



We have limited seating for live service. Reserve a seat by Thursday by calling the office. 6732669

For Virtual Services starting at 9:30 am on Sunday Join Us On-Line from our Facebook @mumc.nh or from the Website milfordumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8a.m.-1 p.m. Yard Sale
3 9:30 A.M. Sunday Service, Live & Live Streamed	4	5 7—Praise Band	6 8-Coffe with Pastor John 8—White Tops 1-Lamplighters 6:30: Prayer *	7 6 SPR * 5:45 p.m. Hand bells 7:-Chancel Choir	8	9
10 9:30 A.M. Sunday Service, Live & Live Streamed	11 7—Trustees Committee*	12 7—Praise Band	13 8-Coffe with Pastor John 8—White Tops 1—Lamplighters 6:30 Love Feast	14 5:45 p.m.. Hand bells 7: Chancel Choir	15 7 p.m. Movie Night	16 7 p.m. Movie night rain date
17 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Traditional and Live Stream Service	18 6- VOICE* 7—Finance Committee*	19 7—Praise Band	20 8- White Tops 8-Coffe with Pastor John 8—Lamplighters 6:30: Prayer *	21 5:45 p.m.. Hand bells 7-Ad Council 7:30—Chancel Choir	22	23
24 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Traditional and Live Stream Service	25	26 7—Praise Band	27 8-Coffe with Pastor John 8—White Tops 1-Lamplighters 6:30: Prayer *	28 **5:45 Hand Bells **7:30—Chancel Choir 6 p.m. Church Conference SPRC	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 5px;"> <p>All meetings *meetings are zoom or conference call unless communicated by the committee chair.</p> </div> <div style="border: 2px solid yellow; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> <p>** Look for time change for this week</p> </div>	



Milford United Methodist Church

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

October, 2021

Sunday Worship Times:

See Calendar pg. 11 Reservations Please
Watch Us Online Facebook & YouTube
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.