



# The Outreach

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

## Pastor's Corner

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Dear Siblings in Christ,

My Dad always prayed the same prayer at dinner time: "Heavenly Father, make us thankful for these and all of our many blessings, we ask in Christ's name. Amen." Every. Single. Night. He still prays that same prayer every night at dinner to this day. He told me once that that was the prayer his dad prayed at dinner (and, I'm guessing, with the same regularity). The first words of that prayer have always rubbed rough on me: "Make us thankful." Did that mean we weren't thankful? Were they suggesting that we were never thankful enough? Was Dad invoking the power of Almighty God to break open the hardened, ungrateful hearts of his children and family (including his own)? Every day Dad prayed "Make us thankful" and most days that I can recall, that prayer bristled my conscience a bit. Something about that prayer would not let me sit comfortably or thoughtlessly through dinner—it made me think about whether I was really grateful for this meal (or, more accurately, it reminded me of how many blessings I take for granted—including the ones that I was stuffing my face with in those very moments).

The 136<sup>th</sup> Psalm is a psalm of thanksgiving—a very appropriate psalm for this month of thanksgiving—and it begins with a very similar injunction as my Dad's mealtime prayer. It commands: "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good! For his loving-kindness is eternal!" (my translation). This psalm shakes up its listeners and readers to be thankful people because, it reminds us, God has been eternally good, eternally kind, eternally merciful and gracious and loving to us. It goes on to remind us of just how much God has done, just how faithful God has been *because of his eternal love for us*. It's really a psalm about God's love that asks "Why aren't more people talking about this? Why aren't more people acknowledging out loud how profoundly loving and good our God has been?" It asks for our words, but not our empty words—it's calling us to feel something; to give thanks to God from the heart and to mean it; to open the eyes of our heart to who God is and what God has done *and to respond*.

The call to give thanks that we take up this month, then, can either be a permission slip to open the floodgates of a ready and bursting heart or it can

## Pastor's Corner cont'd

sound out with a more piercing tone to make us ask uncomfortable and nagging questions that absorb our focus at the dinner table. Am I really thankful? What would make me thankful? Why am I not thankful? What do I take for granted? What am I thankful for? Who am I thankful to? Does my heart sing with a gratitude that responds to God's amazing grace and blessings on me? However you enter into November, I pray that God would be at work to prepare in you truly thankful hearts.

Abounding Blessings and Blessing upon Blessing!

*Pastor John*

### *Christmas Market & Lantern Walk*

Be on the lookout for all you need to know about this year's Christmas Market & Lantern Walk that will take place December 4th, 9 a.m. –1 p.m. & 4-6 p.m. with the lantern walk starting about 5:30 p.m.

We are looking to create a new and safe experience for MUMC and the community we serve.

Information will be sent by email and will be available in the church narthex. For those of you without internet, a flyer with the same information as the email will be available in the pink bin at the main door to the church in early November.

The committee will need help from the congregation to make this a success!

## From the Pastor's Book Pile

This month's book is one that I've been meaning to study with you for a while and (finally!) get an opportunity to do so with you on Wednesday nights! This is the book that several of you ordered pre-COVID and we're returning to it this month. There are a few copies left in the office if you would like to purchase one and participate.

Gregory S. Clapper, *As If The Heart Mattered: A Wesleyan Spirituality.*



Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.—Maya Angelo

### *NEW Picture Directory*

*Should be ready mid November. Did you send a picture?*



### *Can Goods Drive for Share*

*Continuing through November 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.*



## *Truth & Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy*

*From Vocie*

We have a responsibility and opportunity to advocate alongside Native peoples in support of examining fully and truthfully U.S policies that codified and encouraged these immoral actions.

As United Methodists, our church continues a journey of repentance and healing with Indigenous persons and communities. As part of that journey, we are called to a process of “self-examination, discovering the ongoing impact of historic traumas [and] confessing our own participation in the continuing effects of that trauma” (Book of Resolutions #3324: Trail of Repentance and Healing).

Recently, our denomination has begun to examine more deeply our institutional complicity in boarding school policies designed to erase the language, culture, and spiritual practices of Native peoples. As a statement signed by the General Secretaries of 11 United Methodist agencies explained: “We need to better understand our complicity in this form of cultural genocide and to bring the boarding schools more clearly into focus in our expression of repentance for the inhumane treatment to which the church and its members subjected Indigenous people in the past.”

As we examine more closely our own institutional responsibility for these historic and lasting traumas, we have an additional responsibility and opportunity to advocate alongside Native peoples in support of examining fully and truthfully U.S policies that codified and encouraged these immoral actions.

The Native American International Caucus and the General Board of Church and Society have endorsed legislation introduced in the U.S. Congress establishing a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Board-

ing School Policy. This legislation would establish a commission in consultation and ongoing conversation with Indigenous communities to examine the policies and practices, and experiences of survivors of these boarding schools. The commission also would make recommendations to address the historic and present-day harms impacting Native people, Tribal communities, and Tribal Nations.

Contact your members of Congress today in support of the Truth and Healing Commission as important step on our journey of understanding, repentance, and healing.

Tell Congress to support Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy

The bill can be viewed at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8420/text>



Phot of Capt.Pratt and students at the Carlisle Industrial School. Pratt served as head of the Carlisle school where Native Americans were sent. Photo circa 1900, courtesy of Yale Collection of Western Americana.

Article copied from UMC Faith & Society

## Our MUMC Family Out in the World

## Lamplighters From Carol Rowlette



October was a month of beautiful foliage, pumpkins, and pretty nice weather when it wasn't raining. Here is a peek at what our MUMC family was up to in the "joy" department.

In the month of October we finished our visit with Esther and her bravery to save the Jewish people and the Jewish faith from death. If evil Haman had his way by telling King Xerxes to kill all the Jewish people and the king then sending a decree to destroy them we would have a different story to tell.



The Driscoll's & Worcester's celebrate 65 years of love!

Eleanor Flanders enjoys a ride on the back of an ATV!

Cora & Avery Herlihy get back to dance classes.

The cast of characters in this story of Esther include: Esther, Mordecai (her uncle), Haman (evil doer), and King Xerxes.

*Esther 3:8-9a Then Haman said to King Xerxes, "There is a certain people dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom who keep themselves separate. Their customs are different from those of all other people, and they do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them. If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them."*



The Harvey-Olson's go pumpkin picking!

The Youth Mission fundraiser at Pumpkin festival

Will Whitley wins state championship in cross country!

*Esther 3:13a Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews--young and old, women and children--on a single day.*



MUMC Crop Walkers Yay Team

Grace St. Jean with Dad Jason learns to drive in MUMC's parking lot!

Kristi O'Shaughnessy with daughter Grace joining for another 4,000 footer on the books!

If this interests you please read the Book of Esther. It is a story about God's love for His people.

We are presently studying Mary and Martha of Bethany and will proceed to Mary the Mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene (witnesses to the Gospel).

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

Blessings to all! Happy Thanksgiving!

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

## Christmas Poinsettias' & Mission Shares

This year you will be able to honor or memorialize someone you love by buying one of 10 poinsettia we have ordered for the altar for Advent season or by giving a donation to MUMC's Mission shares.

The cost for flowers or the Mission Shares donation is \$17. Donating to our Mission Shares adds another opportunity to participate without the church having too many flowers, which although appreciated and beautiful on the altar, do not have the lasting effect that a Mission Share donation will have and it will not end up being tossed out.

Please consider participating!



Donations can be made by cash or check and a form will be available on the welcome table. If you are still watching us from home, just call the office if you are interested, send a check by December 12 and we'll be sure to acknowledge your contribution in a bulletin before Christmas.

## Youth Gift Card Fundraiser & Update

From Tom Knapp

The youth Mission team is holding the yearly Gift Card Fundraiser starting now and going through November 19th when orders and payments are due.

This is a great way to do some Christmas Shopping and help the youth raise money for their trip in June 2022. See next page for order form.



A Lock-in is scheduled for November 10th from 7 p.m. on the 10th until 8 a.m. on the 11th. Youth 8th grade and up are invited to attend. Contact Tom Knapp at [tknapptime@hotmail.com](mailto:tknapptime@hotmail.com) for more details.

### **Thanksgiving Cont'd from pg, 9**

**Create a keepsake of thanks.** On the back of the T'day photo, write what the people were thankful for along with their name.

**Include children.** Involve the children in some way. Perhaps they could offer the dinner time prayer?

**Voice your gratitude.** Model the example of verbally expressing your gratitude.

However you can, find ways to give thanks to God for all of his blessings throughout your celebration this year. Instill the habit of an attitude of gratitude, which will extend far beyond Thanksgiving Day.

### **In November Share is collecting:**

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

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

# Gift Card Form

**Family Order Form**

Created: 10/5/2021 12:47:19 PM

**MUMC Youth Mission**

*make checks payable to Tom Knapp  
put in memos for youth mission*

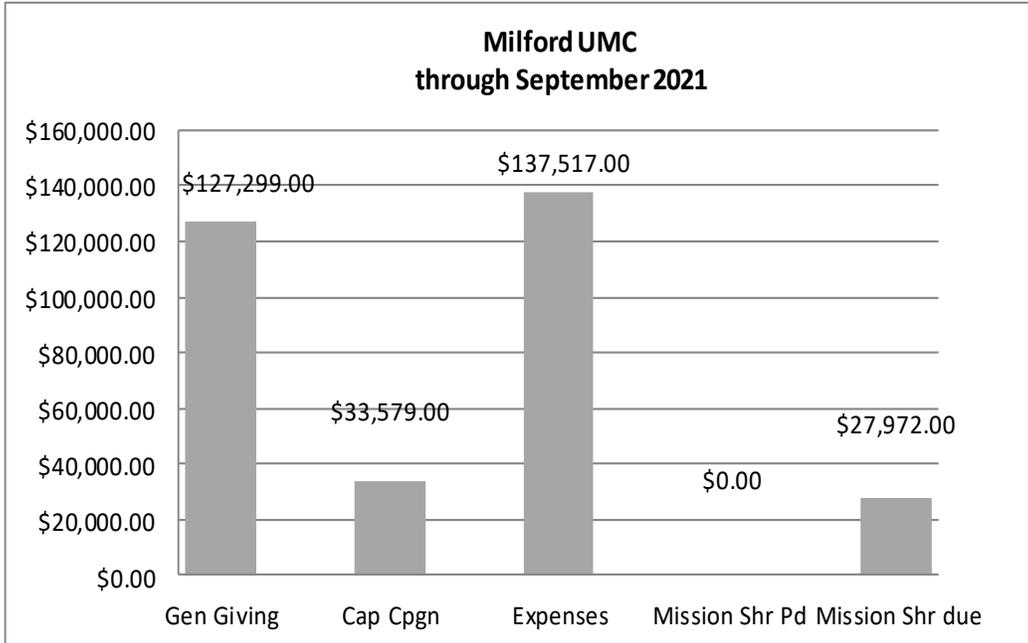
Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
99 Restaurants \$25.00	13%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
adidas \$25.00	13%		\$	Disney \$25.00	3%		\$	Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$25.00	7%		\$	Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$	Rite Aid \$25.00	4%		\$
aerie \$25.00	10%		\$	Domino's \$25.00	8%		\$	Sephora \$25.00	5%		\$
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$	Shaw's Supermarket \$100.00	4%		\$
Amazon.com \$100.00	2%		\$	Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$	Shaw's Supermarket \$25.00	4%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2%		\$	GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$	Shell \$25.00	1.5%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$	Geek Squad & Best Buy \$100.00	4%		\$	Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$	Home Depot® \$100.00	4%		\$	Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Applebee's \$50.00	8%		\$	Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$	Starbucks \$10.00	4.5%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	IHOP \$25.00	8%		\$	Starbucks \$25.00	4.5%		\$
Athleta \$25.00	14%		\$	iTunes & App Store \$15.00	5%		\$	Subway Restaurants \$10.00	4.5%		\$
AutoZone \$25.00	8%		\$	iTunes & App Store \$25.00	5%		\$	Supercuts \$25.00	8%		\$
Bahama Breeze \$25.00	8%		\$	JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$	T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods/Sierra \$100.00	7%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Jiffy Lube \$30.00	8%		\$	T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods/Sierra \$25.00	7%		\$
Bass Pro Shops \$25.00	10%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$	Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$	L.L.Bean \$100.00	16%		\$	Taco Bell \$25.00	5%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$	L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$	Tanger Outlets \$25.00	8%		\$
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$	Little Caesars Pizza \$20.00	8%		\$	Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$	Lowe's \$100.00	4%		\$	Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Blaze Pizza \$25.00	10%		\$	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$	TGI Fridays \$25.00	9%		\$
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$	ULTA \$25.00	6%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop® \$25.00	8%		\$	Men's Wearhouse \$25.00	8%		\$	Uno Pizzeria & Grill \$25.00	12%		\$
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$	Walgreens \$25.00	5%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	10%		\$	Nike \$25.00	12%		\$	Walmart \$100.00	2.5%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$25.00	10%		\$	Old Navy \$100.00	14%		\$	Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Cinnabon \$25.00	6%		\$	Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$	Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$
Circle K \$25.00	1.5%		\$	Olive Garden \$100.00	8%		\$				
Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$	Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$				
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	10%		\$				
CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$	Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$				
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$				
Denny's \$10.00	7%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$				
				Pizza Hut \$10.00	8%		\$				

Make Checks Payable To: **Tom Knapp**

Total Due All Columns: \$

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



Giving 2021	\$137,517.00
Giving Cap. Camp	\$33,579.00
Expenses	\$137,517.00
Total Mission Shares Paid	\$0.00
Total Mission Shares Due	\$ 27,972.00





November 2021

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

#### October Birthdays:

- November 11: Charles Savage
- November 12: Barbara Gorman
- November 14: Libby St .Jean
- November 15: Max Ayotte
- November 16: Graham Gordon
- November 17: Bessie Jean Linscott
- November 20: Will Whitley
- November 21: Leanna Hunter
- November 23: Matt Tong
- November 23: Caroline Creighton
- November 25: Cecil Rowlette
- November 25: Donna Daley
- November 27: Ashley LaRiccia
- November 30: Diane Franklin

#### October Anniversaries:

- November 14: Rick and Nicole Masters

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](mailto:office@milfordumc.org).



## This Month's Lectionary

**November 7:** Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Psalm 127, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

**November 14:** 1 Samuel 1:4-20, 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18), 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

**November 21:** 2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-12 Revelation 1:4-8, John 18:33-37

**November 28:** Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36



## 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)



# Crop Walk 2021

From Pat Rafter

Team MUMC and their supporters, raised over \$2500 for this year's Greater Nashua Crop Hunger Walk on Oct 24.

What a beautiful day it was for this event! 24 teams participated and over 150 walkers. Donations are still coming in at the time of this publishing, but it is estimated about \$55,000 was raised! 25% of that will be coming back to be share equally among 5 area food pantries including SHARE. How cool is that!

Thank you for those that walked and those that contributed. Seen here in the picture are Zack Spirito, Tom Knapp, Nancy Tong, Pat Rafter, Steve Rafter and John Whitley. Others on the team who walked elsewhere were, Marley Gale, Carolan Robinson, Cyndi Geiger, Deb Wisniewski, and Kelly Rawnsley.

Blessings to you all!



**MUMC Crop Walkers**

**L-R: Zack (Nacho) Spirito, Tom Knapp Nancy Tong, Pat Rafter, Steve Rafter, Pastor John**

**Thank you for walking!**

## Thanksgiving Day adapted from <https://www.umc.org/en/content/easy-ways-to-share-gratitude-this-thanksgiving-2>

Thanksgiving Day elicits a bounty of wonderful memories for many people in the U.S. The crisp air. The smell of a turkey roasting and a pumpkin pie baking. The sound of a cheering crowd at a football game. All these can create warm feelings during this special time of year.

While the Thanksgiving holiday is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S., thanking God for our blessings is a spiritual discipline that should not be limited to a single day. Along with expanding our waistlines, our preparation for and celebration of the holiday can be the impetus toward growing an attitude of gratitude that will carry over into the rest of the year. In his commentary on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, John Wesley writes, "Thanksgiving is inseparable from true prayer; it is almost essentially connected with it." Giving thanks is as essential to our spiritual growth as prayer, which 1 Thessalonians calls us to do continually. These creative ideas will help us get started this Thanksgiving.

**Fill a family Thanksgiving box.** As part of your Thanksgiving preparation, create a Thanksgiving Box. Encourage family members to write things they are thankful for and place in the box. Use as a centerpiece at the Thanksgiving table.

**Serve someone.** In the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, many agencies serving those in need expand their work. Food banks, churches, and other service organizations supply meals to the hungry on Thanksgiving. Looks for places in your area.

**Take time for quiet reflection.** Set aside some time each day to say thank you to God for all he has provided.

**Invite someone new to dinner.** Invite someone to dine with you on the holiday.

**Share blessings together.** MaryJane Pierce Norton suggests creating a list together, such as foods each person enjoys. Then together offer "thanks for the Earth and all with which we are blessed in the world God created."

**Send cards to those we miss.** Mail them so they arrive by Nov.25. cont'd pg.5

# 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



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 @mumc.nh or from the Website milfordumc.org

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 7 Outreach	2	3 7—Worship Committee	4 7-SPRC	5	6
7 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Traditional and Live Stream Service	8 7 Trustees	9	10	11	12	13
14 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Traditional and Live Stream Service	15 6-VOICE 7—Finance	16	17	18 7 p.m. AD Council	19	20
21 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Traditional and Live Stream Service	22	23	24	25	26 Happy Thanksgiving!	27
28 8:30 Spirit Celebration 10:30 Traditional and Live Stream Service	28	30	<p><b>Late News:</b>            Salvation Army Bell ringing starts November 27 , Saturdays at Market Basket 10a.m.-2 p.m. and Sundays 12-4p.m at Shaws, Contact Doris Houston or sign up in the narthex or call the office.</p> <p>Also, Christmas Concert is Dec.19, Rehearsals at regular choir practice..</p>			



## Milford United Methodist Church

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

*November, 2021*

### **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.