



Second Congregational Church UCC· Wilton NH

Church Matters

All are Welcome!

July 2020

Zooming to Church and Meetings

We have become very practiced with using the Zoom platform for worship services and for meetings.

We consistently have about twenty people for Sunday Worship. We would love to see you as well. You do need internet access and it's pretty simple once you get the hang of it.

If you are not getting the email advisement which has the meeting access number and the worship bulletin, please contact the church office

2CCWilton@gmail.com to get the information.

It's worth the time to learn a little bit about this tool. And it is so great to see everyone! If you can't Zoom, sermons are posted on the church website: 2CCWilton.org

The Church Council has used Zoom for the last three meetings and it has worked very well.

The Senior Book Group and the Deacons have

also held their meetings remotely. The Search Committee will start out with Zoom gatherings as well.

Dana Dahl and Del Mogavero have been instrumental in getting the Zoom process set up and teaching the rest of us.

Our subscription is available to all. Contact Dana or Del to get you started.

Are you getting our emails?

A lot of church communications are handled via email.

We need your help to update the email list. Some people have multiple addresses or addresses that have changed altogether.

Please take a minute to confirm your one correct email address with a message to 2CCWilton@gmail.com. We'll get the list updated so you can get all your news and notices.

Changing newsletter format

We are working on reducing costs and publishing electronically—we will still be sending out a limited number of mailed newsletters going forward

If you do not have good internet access, please let Loretta know so we can put you on the new mailing list. *If you received the newsletter for June, you are already on it!*

Leave a message with your name and current address at the church 603-654-9045 or email 2CCWilton@gmail.com or Loretta@hiik.net

Who is Del?

Meet the "new" Administrative Assistant, Del Mogavero. Del came to Second Congregational Church in January. In that short time, she has revamped the church website, gotten us all Zooming and taken on quite a few other tasks to make the church office run more smoothly.

A belated welcome to Del and Thank you for all you've accomplished in a few short months.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

Kerry's Corner 2

ONA/Book Nook 3

Mission Possible 4

Musical Notes

Contact Info 5

Readers

Flowers

Calendar 6

Second Glances 7

Announcements

Meet Your Church 8

Housekeeping

Bible Quiz 9

Looking Ahead

Bible Quiz
Looking Ahead

Standing firm in faith



"We can see one another's faces instead of the back of their heads!"

So, as I write this letter, it occurs to me that it's been four months since we gathered "in person" and for some it may feel like an eternity! When we gather now on Sunday morning via zoom, or a book group via zoom, or a board or committee, the conversation eventually turns to "when do you think we will gather in church?" I know for me I have been a little (okay, a *lot*) preoccupied with how coronavirus events have impacted and even upset what was a normal life. In some cases, it has turned into some kind of phobia: am I going to get *it*, will I pass *it* on to some unexpected person??

How does one get out of the funk of being so caught up with all this depressing news? It occurred to me that we are not the first generation to have challenges of this kind.

I am reminded of Exodus Chapter 14. I would encourage you to read the

entire chapter, but verses 10-14, when the Israelites complained to Moses, "why did you bring us out here, were there no graves in Egypt, so we can die in the desert? Moses answered, do not be afraid, stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today" (paraphrased).

It is in our darkest hour that we should be "standing firm" in our faith, it is only natural that we would call out to our God in times of distress, concern or worry. But what if we turn it around? What if we try and see some of the things that this situation has provided to us and for us? The Zoom service has become a way for people to chat with one another and in some cases with people that they might never have been able to. We can see one another's face instead of the back of their heads! If you are downloading the bulletin, you have a hard copy that perhaps you normally would recycle or leave

behind, but now can read it at your leisure and refer to it during the week.

Understandably we can't give the reassuring hug to those who have to stay away, but from what I have heard, people are making time to "FaceTime" with grandchildren and other family members, which requires an intentional time of attention, a time to really connect as opposed to just going through the motions.

I believe that if you focus on the good things that this has done for us (not to us), we will come out of this stronger in our faith and my hope is that we will be an even stronger faith community .

Until we meet in person, your servant in Christ,

Pastor Kerry

Search Committee update

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The Search Committee is underway! The first meeting was being held on June 24 via Zoom with the Reverend Richard Slater at the New Hampshire Conference UCC in Pembroke. This meeting was to begin some preliminary work such as research and updating the by-laws.

The committee is made up of Leslie, Violet Blake, Sofia Blumm, Lori Dick, Peter Ouellette, Pastor Kerry Richardson, Lamar Smith and Loretta Smith. If you would like to work with this committee, please talk to Leslie or any member.

Announcements will be made as needed to set up meetings and such.

July 2020

Church Council to discuss

“When do you think we will gather at church?”

That is a good question with no easy answer. As New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu eases the coronavirus restrictions on what can be opened and at what capacity and with what guidelines, everyone at our small church wonders when things will get back to normal.

Right now normal is social distancing and wearing masks. But there are also those other restrictions and guidelines that need to be considered.

The Church Council agreed to meet again in July via Zoom, to discuss what the current conditions are and the feasibility of “live” worship and when. Normally the council does

not meet in July or August. We just want you to know that we are working on a safe solution to these questions.

Please visit the New Hampshire Conference website for more information on if and how other churches are answering these questions. Visit www.nhcucc.org



Visit our Website and Facebook pages

If you haven't already, please check out the church's new website www.2CCWilton.org. It's much more impressive and comprehensive than some of our previous versions. Go there for the up-to-date Church Calendar, Pastor Kerry's sermons and Church Matters newsletters.

For Facebook people: Please “Like” and “Follow” our Facebook page “Second Congregational Church Wilton NH”. We encourage you to Comment and Share content on your own pages. All of these things create a wider outreach for Second Congregational Church. Thank you for your support!

Book Nook - Encouraging Words

A book of simple words written as contemplation on the state of being human- body and soul, alone and in friendship – has been on many best seller lists, including Christian Books Review, since it came out in 2018. The reviews sometimes call this a book of essays in very short form and sometimes a book of poetry.

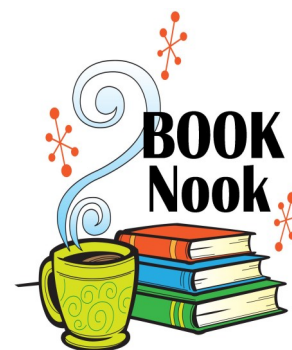
Whatever the category, **Consolations: The Solace, Nourishment, and Underlying Meaning of Everyday Words** by David Whyte seems to be written with the events and challenges of the year 2020 in mind.

A quote from the chapter titled “Friendship”:
“Friendship is a mirror and a testament to forgiveness. Friendship not only helps us see ourselves through another's eyes, but can be sustained over the years only with someone who has repeatedly forgiven us for our trespasses as we must find it in ourselves to forgive them in turn. A friend knows our difficulties and shadows and remains in sight when we are under the strange illusion we do not need a friend. All friendships of any length are based on a continued, mutual, forgiveness.” p. 71

“So may we forgive our friends for not having the same opinions as us, and for not seeing the world like us, and for daring to be their unformed imperfect selves – out loud in front of us- and may we be forgiven for doing the same.” p 73

May we all keep on being good friends and good neighbors in these difficult times with the help of God.

Prayerfully submitted,
eQuanimity Joy





Wilton Cares

The Wilton Cares group lead by Sara Spittel continues to work their magic around the Wilton-Lyndeborough area.

Their food and donation drive is ongoing and donations can be dropped off at the Wilton Station, across from the fire department. Hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 4-6 pm and on Saturday from 10-12pm.

In addition to providing meals to individuals every

Wednesday for the last three months, the group has left care packages for health workers and first responders.

They provided over one thousand hand-made face masks at no charge to residents.

With the Fire Department, Wilton Cares provided a "Christmas in June" delivery to Tumbleweeds Child Care in Wilton as a community Thank You. Tumbleweeds has

remained open during the pandemic for essential workers.

Wilton Cares caught the attention of local news and appeared on WMUR News 9 in their Hometown Hero segment. "Way to go, Wilton-Lyndeborough!"

Second Congregational Church is proud to support this community outreach.

Other missions news

In other Mission News: **Scholarships** were awarded to the following high school seniors: Natalie April, Madeline Carpentiere and Rudy Schnare. Good luck to all three as they head off to college in the fall.

Project Linus has started handing out blankets again and our group donated the blankets worked on during the quarantine. See their website for more on this wonderful organization: www.projectlinus.org

New Trustee Named

At the June 16 Church Council meeting, the Nominating Committee presented a candidate to fill the open Trustee position. The council voted their approval. Welcome to our new Trustee, Joshua Bartsch.

Musical Notes - The "Wow!" factor

After the final notes concluded at a recent symphony performance in Boston, the conductor hadn't yet lowered his baton when a child exclaimed, "Wow!" The break in protocol, magnified by excellent acoustics, didn't upset the participants or audience, however. Instead, several later said it brought them great joy. One even called the moment life-changing.

The incident was especially meaningful because the child, a 9-year-old named Ronan, has autism and is generally nonverbal. Music, his family says, tends to attract his interest and make him happy. When symphony officials learned Ronan's identity, they arranged a private performance so he could meet some musicians.

How often do you shout "Wow!" — in a good way — at what you see and hear? You may tend to do so on vacation or while observing God's natural wonders, but what about during your day-to-day life? Think about the people you encounter and their talents — and your own. When have these sparked a "Wow!" of thanks to God?

Every blessing, large or small, is a wow-moment — a gift from God that warrants our praise.

—adapted from HomeTouch Ministry NN 7.20



July 2020

What's in Store? Maybe a yard sale?



While the State of New Hampshire is gradually working toward opening up businesses, Second Glances will remain closed for the rest of the summer. We hope to re-open in September or October.

To do that, we need to follow the state guidelines for retail businesses.

There are costs and procedural obstacles at present. Perhaps those will loosen as we go along, or we will figure out compliance and how to keep our volunteers and shoppers safe.

We might have a yard sale in August or September. That sounds doable - guidelines are a little easier in an outdoor venue. If you would like to help organize or just work on it, please see Loretta - call or email.

Contact Loretta at Loretta@hiik.net or reply

to the monthly email reminder.

DONATION REMINDER: We are not able to monitor the donation bin on a regular basis. Please hold off on any donations until the fall. Please do not leave items to get ruined in the weather. Please be considerate. "No Dumping" in the bin

"Many hands make light work."

Thank you!! The SG Team



What's in store:

~~~~~  
**Second Glances Rummage Sales**

~~~~~  
**In the Parish Hall
25 Gregg Street
Wilton NH**

~~~~~  
**Watch for our next opening!**



# Pledging during Coronavirus

Thank you to everyone who has maintained their pledges over the last few months. It is easy to forget or put off when there isn't the weekly reminder in front of us.

While we aren't worshipping in the sanctuary or enjoying fellowship in the parish hall, expenses continue. We also have kept all of our employees.

On the other hand, outside fundraising has dropped to zero, with no idea when we will be able to resume. Spring Dinner Plays were cancelled; will we be able to gather in the Fall? The Rummage sales have been suspended until September at the earliest.

Maybe we can get a yard sale in?

We don't know if there will be another wave of coronavirus cases as social distancing is relaxed. Will we be able to have a Christmas Fair? Many, many questions.

It's more important than ever to fulfill our pledges as best as we can. If you are able to do a little extra, then that is appreciated too.

Please mail your checks to P O Box 246, Wilton NH 03086.

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded."  
  
Luke 12:48



**BE A GOOD Steward**



## Pastor's Office Hours

Office hours for Pastor Kerry Richardson are Mondays 9 to 3pm or by appointment. You can reach him by telephone or email.

Church office: 603-654-9045 or kerrywrichardson@comcast.net



**Remember to close doors & turn down the heat!**

### Meet your church: Delegates

As described in the Church By-Laws, "There shall be three delegates to represent the church at the meetings of the Hillsborough Association and the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ."

The by-laws further describe how these delegates shall be members of the church, as they represent Second Congregational Church in these meetings and vote on the church's behalf. They also report back to the Church Council on the proceedings of both conference and association.

Our Delegates represent us at both the Hillsborough Association and the NH Conference of the UCC.

These are the local and state organizations that bring our local, independent churches together to oversee students on the pathway to becoming pastors, provide education and sharing of information, do missions work, and provide resources to our churches.

Delegates attend the annual meetings, with worship services, of each organization. They vote on budgets, officers and resolutions. They may be asked to serve on

committees. In addition, the delegates represent our church at Ecclesiastical Councils, Ordinations, and Installations of pastors.

Currently, there are delegate positions open. If you think you could fill one of those positions, please talk to the Nominating Committee: Jane Herlihy or Leslie Tuttle. Or you can speak to Moderator Marilyn Warner, who has also been a delegate in the past and can provide some additional insight on the post.

Many Thanks to Deb Degan for her help on writing this article!

### Treasure the present

Patience asks us to live the moment to the fullest ... to taste the here and now, to be where we are. When we are impatient, we try to get away from where we are. We behave as if the real thing will happen tomorrow, later, and somewhere else. Let's be patient and trust that the treasure we look for is hidden in the ground on which we stand.

Henri Nouwen

### Housekeeping items

**Please close all doors** (including the fire doors inside) **and turn down all thermostats** when leaving the premises. Turn out the lights. Please don't assume someone else will do it. Double check! Thank you very much!

**Recycling:** Please make every effort to sort your trash when you are in the

church and place it in the correct bin.

Plastic: Wilton sorts 1 and 2. Soda bottles (1) and Milk containers (2) are separate. Throw away 5, 6 & 7.

Steel cans and aluminum cans are separate.

Clean paper and thin cardboard go together.

Pizza boxes and magazines are trash.

**Weekly bulletin:** If you have an item or announcement to include please submit them to Pastor Kerry, at least a week in advance.

**Newsletter items:** news or creative writing welcome. Submission information is below.

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July 2020

## Let's help Allen "Rollie" Jowders celebrate his 90th

On behalf of the Jowders family, we got the following invitation from Sue Jowders Jean:

*Hi everyone... I hope this finds you all well and coping the best you can with all that has transpired in this world the past few months. It is great to be able tell you all there has been no COVID-19 at Ledgewood Bay and Dad looks great. Patti and I are both able to video chat with him on a weekly basis. The grandkids have sent in videos and pictures to share with him and, of course, he enjoys the occasional cards and notes. Address: 43 Ledgewood Drive Apt. 113, Milford, NH 03055*

*Ledgewood Bay is opening up to one half-hour visit per week outside (this is one visit per week for dad, and only two visitors at the visit). I will let you know when it is open to all to visit but for right now we have to take whatever we can get and, of course, his immediate family takes precedence.*

**Dad turns 90 on July 23, 2020.** We really want to do something special. As it stands right now they will not allow a drive-by parade or anything on property, but if that changes, we will try to put something together and let you all know.

For now, we would ask you to all send a short video message wishing him a HAPPY 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY. Kelly has offered to put it together so he can view it on his birthday. Send your videos (for better quality) to e-mail [kjean09@gmail.com](mailto:kjean09@gmail.com) or her cell phone is 603-540-3570. Please send this to Kelly no later than JULY 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Please feel free to share this with anyone else you think of. Once it is together; I will share it back with those of you that sent one.*

*Thank you so much...love you all...miss seeing you!*

Sue



"If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life."

Author unknown

### National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255

Life will be defined by Before and After the coronavirus. Some of us even avoid the language: Covid-19, pandemic, new normal, quarantine, disruption, isolation.

If you or a loved one is having a hard time coping, you are not alone. Please know that help is available. Reach out to family, a friend, your pastor, or the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255**. If you are thinking about suicide, concerned about a friend or loved one, or need emotional support, the Lifeline network is available 24/7. "Talk to someone now." Also [SuicidePreventionLifeline.org](http://SuicidePreventionLifeline.org)

And watch out for our youth who might be having more difficulty than it appears. Give them time and an outlet to talk and process and deal with their feelings.

## Revised Common Lectionary for July

July 5 Genesis 24:34-67, Zechariah 9:9-12, Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19 & 25-30

July 12 Genesis 25:19-34, Isaiah 55:10-13, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9 & 18-23

July 19 Genesis 28:10-19a, Solomon 12:13 & 16-19, Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30 & 36-43

July 26 Genesis 29:15-28, 1Kings 3:5-12, Romasn 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33 & 44-52

The Revised Common Lectionary is provided so that you may explore more than just the Gospel that is read on Sunday morning. I would be happy to discuss with you any of the other reading and what you find interesting about them. I do hope you enjoy getting to know your Bible.

Blessings, Pastor Kerry

*Second Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ (UCC)*

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*On the web at [2ccWilton.com](http://2ccWilton.com)  
On Facebook: *Second Congregational Church Wilton NH and  
Second Glances Thrift Shop**

**Each Sunday 9AM: Worship Service via Zoom [2ccWilton@gmail.com](mailto:2ccWilton@gmail.com) for more info.**



**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey:**

*All are Welcome!*