



Second Congregational Church UCC· Wilton NH

Church Matters

All are Welcome!

May 2021

Virtual Worship Services

Sunday Worship Services will be by Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future. Email Del, our church administrator, at 2ccwilton@gmail.com for the Zoom link. You can join with just a smart phone, and it's not difficult once you get the hang of it!

Service time is 9:30am. Come early or stay after to visit a for a bit.

Watch for in-person services and other service notes

The Deacons and Pastor Kerry have been watching the Covid numbers and will be discussing the possibility of in person for Sunday worship services.

The Deacons will discuss at their May meeting and make a recommendation at the Church Council meeting later in the month.

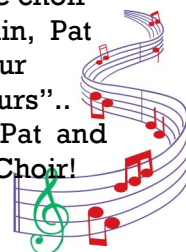
While we look forward to actually seeing our church family, we know that everyone's safety is the primary concern.



READERS NEEDED:

Whether in person or on Zoom, readers are needed for scripture and responses. If you are interested, please email Del, the admin assistant at 2ccwilton@gmail.com to get on the schedule.

THANK YOU! To choir director, Pat Cauchon, for her dedication to have music for all the services. Music is important to all our services. Whether it's simply hearing her play our wonderful organ or the choir singing again, Pat has made our services "ours".. Thank you, Pat and Thank you Choir!



One-Ten Club Raffle

The One-Ten Club Tickets are now available and will be on sale until the first drawing on June 13. If you wish to purchase a ticket or two, or are able to sell a bunch, let Lori Dick or Loretta know and we'll connect. You can also leave a message on the church phone, 654-9045.

This is how it works: Each ticket is \$10.00. Starting on June 13, there will be two drawings each week, for ten weeks. The first for \$10 and the second for \$20. On the last week, there will be two extra drawings. One for \$50 and the very last drawing for \$100.

Each ticket is in every drawing. Twenty-two of them! This could be a big fundraiser this year, so please support it by helping to sell tickets.

Loretta@hiik.net or LDick922@aol.com or Church phone 654-9045



Visit our
our website
2ccWilton.org



Invite a
Friend to Church
Via Zoom



Resurrection in our community



".. Out of loss and difficulty, we can rise above it all and bring new life and hope..."

Greetings! Many of us are starting to come out of the shelter of our homes from a year-long hibernation due to the Covid pandemic. I am hopeful that as more of us get the vaccine we will be able to gather in person soon.

As we continue in the Easter season, I am in awe to watch new growth and new life spring forth. Are you like me in that you plant things during the year and are surprised when, and more importantly where, they sprout! So it is, in the life of the Church, I see things spring up in the most unlikely places.

I am always hesitant to give recognition to any one person or group of the Church for fear of leaving someone out or better yet offending someone. So please keep that in mind as you read on.

I believe that we all know what a trying and difficult year it has been for the Jowders family. They have dealt with loss, heart break, and, yet, have also welcomed new life to their family. I believe that this is an example of what the resurrection means for us. That new life will enter our lives.

By now you might be wondering what this has to do with the newsletter, let me try and explain. Each time the Jowders family experienced a loss, one of the first things they did was to think about how they could help the Church. I recall Sue stating at a meeting "we want to do something that will last so people will remember them". So it was that when Mom (Priscilla) passed away a fund was established.

Before anything was done with the fund, John passed, and the fund grew even more with the outpouring of love and respect that John had in the community as well as the Church. In case you did not know, John was a trustee of the Church, he cared deeply about the building, but more than that he cared about the people. Comfort is a word that comes to mind for me, and so it was that the Jowders family paid for the replacement of the heating system in the Sanctuary. Earlier this year, Dad (Allen/Rollie) passed as a result of the virus, once again the family was dealt a loss, and yes, once again, they thought of a way in which they might give to the Church in remembrance of the family.

All three of these people gave of their time, talent and of themselves for the community that meant so much to them. And once again they thought of a way to give back to the Church.

I am pleased to share with you that in the coming weeks you will see a lot of

work being done on the front yard (hard to call it a lawn!) But that will change, Sue Jean has been working extremely hard to line up a contractor who not only will redo the front yard with new soil and grass, but also has arranged for a in ground irrigation system to be installed. (none of this is at a cost to the church) We are hopeful that it will be complete and needs to be mowed before Rollie's service is held in July!

So why this in the newsletter? Because I believe that this is an example of what the resurrection means to me, that out of loss and difficulty, we can rise above it all and bring new life and hope to our community. I know it is not the building but is it not possible that a well-kept building could be a beacon of hope for the rest of the community, that thru it all we will rise up and serve those who need us.

As I stated earlier, I am aware that I will overlook someone(s), I am grateful for the entire Jowders family for their care and support of your Church!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Kerry

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May 2021

Planning Committee: One-Ten, Town Meeting & Rummage

As noted on page one, The One-Ten Club Tickets are available for the weekly raffle that starts its drawings on June 13.

2CC will be providing refreshments for the Wilton Town Meeting, to be held on June 10. Mark your calendars to help out when the appeal is sent.

We'd like to thank everyone for making the April Rummage Sale a success.

The four days brought \$513.50 into the general fund. We will work to have another Rummage Sale in June. Watch for announcements for the weekend of June 18 & 19. We would love to have someone step forward to

take over coordinating the Rummage Sales going forward.

Planning Committee: Ingrid Howard and Loretta April



Senior Book Club



The book club meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 10:00 AM.

If you want to participate, but this time is not convenient please let Pastor Kerry know. kerrywrichardson@comcast.com

The book club is reading *The Heart of Christianity, Rediscovering a Life of Faith*, by Marcus J. Borg. Each chapter can be read as a stand-alone for the discussion. Please feel free to jump in.

Book Nook—Thoughts on reading the Bible

With summer approaching, there may be some free time. Reading the Bible is the perfect book for the summer. For a lighter look...

Get out your calculator

- Begin with 66, the number of books in the Bible.
- Add 13, the number of Paul's books in the New Testament.
- Add 7, the number of churches in Asia Minor (Revelation 1:4).
- Multiply by 3, the Trinity.
- Multiply by 12, the number of tribes in Israel.
- Multiply by 12 again, for the Apostles.

- Add 600, Noah's age when the flood came.
- Add 3, for Noah's sons.
- Add 30 the age of Jesus when he began his ministry.
- Finally, add 33, the age of Jesus at his crucifixion.
- Now, press the equal sign, turn the calculator around and read the number upside down. You'll see the source for the solution to all of life's problems.

There's an app for that!

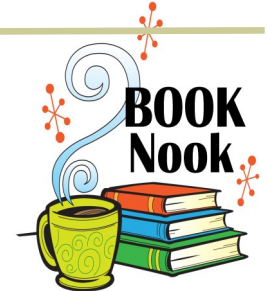
These days, there's a smartphone app for just about everything. But what about spiritual concerns? Where can you turn?

- Depressed? Try the joy app. Read Isaiah 51:11.
- Tired? Try the renewal app.

Read Isaiah 40:30-31.

- Unsettled? Try the peace app. Read Philippians 4:7.
- Unloved? Try the love app. Read Romans 8:38-39.
- Worried? Try the refuge app. Read Psalm 46:1.
- Fearful? Try the power app. Read 2 Timothy 1:7.
- Guilty? Try the forgiveness app. Read Colossians 1:13-14.
- Praying? Try the prayer app. Read 1 John 5:14-15.

The Scriptures are God's storehouse of meaningful applications for what we face every day. Think of the Bible as the iTunes Store of spiritual apps. Best of all, everything's free! (Timothy Merrill)



Support our Missions

The Missions Committee continues to do good works on behalf of Second Congregational Church.

In the last year, these are projects we have supported
Open Cupboard Pantry
Holy Joe's Café
Linus Project
Knots of Love
Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club
Crop Walk
College Scholarships
Church World Services



Your contributions have made all of this and more possible.

If you would like to make a donation specifically for the Missions Committee, please note "missions" on the memo line of your check.

If you have a suggestion for the Missions Committee, they can work with you to make that happen.

Church Missions Members
Cindy Broderick
Dana Dahl
Becky Kennedy
Stephanie Ouellette
Jan Stone

A week of tributes to Mom

To celebrate the special woman in your life, use a quote a day the week before Mother's Day, or honor her with tributes the whole week after. Write one of these (or one of your own) on a card, make a message into a placemat, tape one to the bathroom mirror — get creative! Every day of the week is a good day to celebrate her love and show her yours.

"There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one." —Jill Churchill

"The art of mothering is to teach the art of living to children." —Elaine Heffner

"An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest." —Spanish proverb

"When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' it's a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway." —Erma Bombeck

"The mother's heart is the child's schoolroom." —Henry Ward Beecher

"Mother love is the fuel that enables a normal human being to do the impossible." —Marion C. Garretty

"Being a mother is learning about strengths you didn't know you had." —Linda Wooten

Musical Notes: Creation-wide praise chorus

"All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing!" These words — just one paraphrase of a text by St. Francis of Assisi — seem a fitting description of springtime, when leaves and flowers pop out afresh, birdsong is heard again and hibernating animals emerge from dens and burrows, many with new babies in tow.
Psalm 148 may have served as inspiration for Francis,

calling not only "young men and women alike, old and young together" (v. 12, NRSV), but also animals and birds, wind and water, mountains and trees, to praise the Lord. James L. Mays writes: "We human beings ... should recognize that we are in the list with all the creation and creatures as creature and creation ourselves. We are in our obligation to praise no different from and no more than all the rest."

When you head outside on a bright spring day, notice what praise looks like in nonhuman form and how it sounds from nonhuman voices. How can we best join "all creatures of our God and King" in worship?



Search Committee update

May 2021

The Search Committee has continued to meet, working on updating the Church's By-Laws. That review has been completed and will be presented to the Deacons and Church Council for approval, prior to an all-

church vote in the next few weeks or months.

As reported last month, we have extended the call to Pastor Kerry to continue his interim ministry. The Search Committee will meet on a less frequent basis, but not disband. The committee

remains in place and will keep the profile up-to-date until we are in a position to resume our search for a settled pastor.

*Respectfully submitted by
Loretta Smith for the Search
Committee*



A prayer for Memorial Day

We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion — their very lives — for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Visit our Website & Facebook
pages for the Calendar & more
www.2CCWilton.org*

A shared experience

What comes to mind when you hear the word *Pentecost*? Many people think of a mighty wind, tongues of fire and multiple languages. But Acts 2 begins with another detail that's just as key: Jesus' disciples "were all together in one place." Because they were together physically and spiritually, the early believers didn't miss the life-changing, world-changing birth of the Church.

The pandemic, while changing our definition of gathering, also highlighted our need for interaction. If Jesus' first followers hadn't been assembled on Pentecost, they would've missed the outpouring of God's power and the indescribable joy God had for them. Think about what believers today might miss if we neglect to worship with other friends of Christ. Who

would want to miss God's blessings, promises and joy?



NN 5.21

Revised Common Lectionary for May

May 2	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8
May 9	Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
May 16	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
May 23	Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
May 30	Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 12:9-16b; Luke 1:39-57

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 readings and what you find interesting about them. I hope you enjoy getting to know your Bible.

Blessings, Pastor Kerry

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United Church of Christ (UCC)*

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*On Facebook: Second Congregational Church Wilton NH and
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Worship Services - see below or email 2ccWilton@gmail.com for more info.

Each Sunday Church Service 9:30am via Zoom

May 2 Communion Sunday Zoom service 9:30am

May 6 National Day of Prayer

May 9 Mother's Day

May 10 Senior Book Club 10am via Zoom

May 15 Armed Forces Day

May 23 Pentecost

May 24 Senior Book Club 10am via Zoom / Victoria Day in Canada

May 31 Memorial Day



"If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way Mom told you to in the beginning."

Unknown

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