



Second Congregational Church UCC· Wilton NH

Church Matters

All are Welcome!

March 2022

Retreat March 19 10AM

On Saturday, March 19, at 10:00 am, the church will be having an on-site retreat in the sanctuary to discuss the book "Part Time is Plenty".

Copies of the book are available in the Link Library, as well as being available through various on-line vendors. It's a

quick read, but very informative on what a part-time pastor position looks like.

At the suggestion of the Search Committee, Pastor Kerry and Church Council, this discussion is an important "next step" in the search for a settled minister.

Please take the time to read the book and to attend the Retreat on March 19, at 10:00 am.

The meeting will also be available via zoom for those unable to attend in person. Contact Del for the link. Email: 2ccwilton@gmail.com



Visit our
our website
2ccWilton.org



Invite a
Friend to Church
Sundays
10:00 am



Interim Pastor
Kerry Richardson



Spring Plays to be held April 1 & 2

The Spring Plays will be held the first weekend in April. Friday April 1 and Saturday April 2, at 7pm both nights. Dessert & coffee will be served at intermission. (We are planning for Dinner Plays to return in the Fall!)

The Parish Hall Players will be back, mixing up their offering with four one-act plays.

Alexa A short comedy about a burglary gone wrong and an old codger trying to get his Alexa to work.

Victor A fun story about a household of eccentric characters- all played by one actor - who greets two journalists in search of the mysterious author who submitted an article about multiple personality disorders to their magazine.

Town Crisis A story about a town crier who is interrupted by a few too many folks offering more interesting and not so "fake" news announcements.

The Masked Avenger A comedy about a few old cops who just don't realize that the emergency beacon for The Masked Avenger is supposed to be used for real emergencies!

Tickets are \$10.00 per person and include dessert and beverage. Contact Sue Jean 654-2255 or leave a message at the church 654-9045 and someone will get back to you.

Lent - a time of reflection



“ ..join me in this journey... It is time for all of us to come back to community and to God ”

Greetings! March 2 is Ash Wednesday. It's probably not something you give much thought to. Most Christians prefer to keep Easter and Christmas as events that are near and dear to them.

Unfortunately, we must have the whole story which is not all that pleasant. There was suffering, betrayal, mocking and mistreatment. Sound familiar?

Even today we are watching this kind of treatment and this time it is to an entire country, and that is just the one that is in the news today.

People are being mistreated all over the world.

Much of the Lenten season is about repentance, turning back towards God, reflection of our (your) past behavior. Is there some or any of your recent past that could use some fine tuning? God gives us this time and opportunity to perhaps right some wrongs ,or at the very least, correct some of our misgivings.

I hope that you will join me in this journey. We have been in isolation long enough. It is time for all of us to come back to community and to God,

now more than ever.

At least as far as the Biblical story goes, we know the outcome, but what if we lived it as if we did not?

Pack light! It is a long and sometimes difficult journey, but together we can do it!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Kerry

A prayer for Lent



This year, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on March 2. During worship services that day, pastors in many Christian churches dip a finger in ashes (often made by burning branches from the previous Palm Sunday) and make a cross on parishioners' foreheads.

Why ashes? Traditionally, they're a sign of mourning, humiliation, and penitence. Ashes also represent the frailty and temporary nature of human life ("You are dust, and to dust you shall return," Genesis 3:19). Christians are pained because our sins led to Jesus' death. With repentant hearts, we begin the season of Lent, knowing that it leads to Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday — and throughout the 40 days of Lent — ponder this prayer from an Italian sacramentary, or liturgical book: *"O God, you know how fragile is our human nature, wounded as it is by sin. Help your people to enter upon the Lenten journey strengthened by the power of your word, so that we may be victorious over the seduction of the Evil One and reach the paschal feast in the joy of the Holy Spirit."*

NN 3.22

Publication Information
Church Matters Volume # 254
March 1, 2022
Published Monthly
Second Congregational Church UCC 25 Gregg Street, PO Box 246 Wilton NH 03086
Issue # 2022.03
Subscription Price - Free



March 2022



Upcoming Activities

The Dessert Plays are the next big thing On April 1 and 2 (see page one). We are very excited about these. They sound like FUN!

We hope that the fall will have the return of the Dinner Plays - we miss sharing our wonderful dinners with the community!

Our next Rummage/Yard Sale (weather permitting) will be in May! We are running out of storage

space, so we aren't able to take any big donations until the day-of the sale, which is May 21 from 9am to 2pm.

Thank you! Ingrid
Howard & Loretta Smith
Your Planning Committee

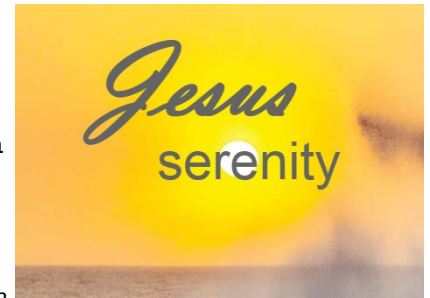


Complete Serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what's called "The Serenity Prayer," attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen."

NN 3.22



Quoted remarks

"Faith is the first factor in a life devoted to service. Without it, nothing is possible. With it, nothing is impossible."
Mary McLeod Bethune

* * *

"I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples."
Mother Teresa

* * *

"Better to do something imperfectly than to do nothing flawlessly."
Robert Schuller

Jesus has gone there first



Whether we gaze with longing into the garden or with fear and trembling into the desert, of this we can be sure — God walked there first! And when we who have sinned and despoiled the garden are challenged now to face the desert, we do not face it alone; Jesus has gone there before us to struggle with every demon that has ever plagued a human heart. Face the desert we must if we would reach the garden, but Jesus has gone there before us.

James Healy

NN 3.22

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

Scripture readers are needed.
Sign-up sheet at the service on Sunday!

Your mission dollars at work



In November and December, we delivered eighteen Thanksgiving and Christmas goodies bags to some of our senior members. They were well-received and it was so nice to connect with these members, some of whom have not been able to come to church.

In December, we delivered ten more Linus blankets to the regional Linus project. In 2021, we created and donated 62 blankets to this great cause. We also donated twenty chemo caps to the Knots of Love

organization. And ten dresses were delivered to a regional office of "Dress a Girl". If you would like to contribute by making dresses, caps or blankets, please see someone in Missions for materials and more information.

Donations were made to the following organizations in December:

- \$250.00 to the Wilton Lyndeborough Women's Club for their Christmas giving tree,
- \$250.00 to the Christmas store that provided gift cards to residents in

need, \$150.00 to the Bridges organization and

- \$150.00 to the Nashua Children's home.

We also continue to support the Parent's Cafe, a project of the Boys and Girls Club. All of these projects are made possible through the generosity of our members. Thank you!

Your Missions Committee: Cindy Broderick, Dana Dahl, Becky Kennedy, Stephanie Ouellette and Jan Stone.

Parent Cafe: "Finding Hope in our Everyday Struggles"

The Missions Committee is just one of the Souhegan Valley community sponsors of this fabulous Parent Cafe program; providing a physically and emotionally safe space where parents and caregivers may speak to the challenges and victories of raising a family.

**Tuesday March 22, 2022
at 9:30-11:00 AM or
4:30 – 6:00 PM. To register**

for either time: [Finding Hope in our Everyday Struggles](#) ([constantcontact.com](#))

The program is currently available via Zoom only; however, we look forward to the time when more folks will be wanting to meet in person for the conversations. As one of the facilitators, I have found each program to be enlightening and helpful. As

a grandmother I hear the parents' reflections and realize that the kids are still kids. With the last two years of isolation, frustration and sometimes disappointment, these programs are delivered to help all those involved with caring for and about children and youth.

Submitted by Dana Dahl

Musical Notes: Heavenly Vision

Known as the "queen of gospel song writers," Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) wrote more than 9,000 Christian hymns, including "Blessed Assurance" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus." Blind from a

young age, she developed a love for poetry and Scripture, memorizing about five chapters of the Bible each week. Crosby was the first woman to speak in the U.S. Senate, lobbying to support education for the blind. She also was an abolitionist who made friends with several presidents.

A well-meaning pastor once

told Crosby, "It is a great pity that the Master did not give you sight when he showered so many other gifts upon you."

She responded that her blindness was a blessing she wouldn't wish away. "When I get to heaven," Crosby said, "the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior."

Blessed
assurance,
Jesus is mine

March 2022

NH UCC Women's Fellowship Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 23, 2022 -
9:30 a.m. at the Mt.
Kearsarge Indian
Museum, 18 Highlawn
Road, Warner, NH 03278

The cost of the Spring
Gathering is \$12 and
includes a tour of the
Museum and a picnic lunch.
The meeting includes time to
meet and greet, have a
business meeting with
leadership reports, a worship

service and have tours inside
the Museum and outside for a
Nature Walk and Pow Wow
field. **All women attending a
UCC church are invited.**

Please register by April
10th. Details about this event
are included in the Spring
2022 Women's Link
Newsletter. Make checks
payable to NHCUCC
Women's Fellowship and
mail to: Trudie Bergeron, 46

Nantucket Place, Greenland
NH 03840.

Have questions? Contact
Trudie at 603-828-4200 or e-
mail
to TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Dana Dahl

Prayer Shawls

Our supply of Prayer Shawls as dwindled
down to just a few. If you are so inclined,
Missions will provide supplies if you need
them to make a shawl or two. Our prayer
shawl ministry is important and many
recipients have expressed how loved they feel
when they received them. If you would like to
give a shawl, please ask a Deacon or someone
on the Missions Committee to obtain one.



**Don't forget: We will
still meet via Zoom.**
Announcement will be
posted on WMUR

Altar Flowers

**Contact Sue Warren if you would like to provide altar flowers
gbs340@juno.com**

Revised Common Lectionary for November & December

Ash Wednesday - March 2 - Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 - Psalm 51:1-17 - 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 -
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

March 6 - Deuteronomy 26:1-11 - Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 - Romans 10:8b-13 - Luke 4:1-13

March 13 - Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 - Psalm 27 - Philippians 3:17-4:1 - Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

March 20 - Isaiah 55:1-9 - Psalm 63:1-8 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 - Luke 13:1-9

March 25 - Isaiah 7:10-14 - Psalm 45 or Psalm 40:5-10 - Hebrews 10:4-10 - Luke 1:26-38

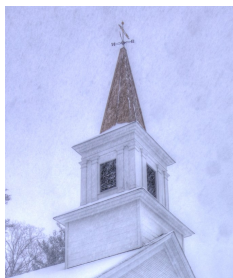
March 27 - Joshua 5:9-12 - Psalm 32 - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 - Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

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

arc

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

25 Gregg Street
P O Box 246
Wilton NH 03086
Telephone: 603-654-9045
Email: ChurchMatters@hiik.net



Address label here

All are Welcome!

Temp Return Service Requested



*On the web at 2ccWilton.com
On Facebook: *Second Congregational Church Wilton NH and
Second Glances Thrift Shop**



Each Sunday Worship with us. Service 10:00 am in person & via zoom

- March 2 New Ash Wednesday Service 7pm
- March 4 World Day of Prayer
- March 12 Girl Scout Day
- March 13 Daylight Saving Time begins
- March 14 Senior Book Club 10am via zoom
- March 15 Church Council 7pm via zoom
- March 17 St Patrick's Day
- March 19 In-house Retreat "Part Time is Plenty"
- March 21 First Day of Spring
- March 28 Senior Book Club 10am via zoom
- March 28 Deacons 7pm via zoom
- April 1 & 2 Spring Plays 7pm



"We cannot learn from one another until we stop shouting at one another, until we speak quietly enough so that our words can be heard as well as our voices.." Richard Nixon

All are Welcome