



Second Congregational Church UCC· Wilton NH

# Church Matters

*All are Welcome!*

September 2022

## September 11 Service to honor First Responders

The Second Congregational Church of Wilton is having a service on September 11, 2022 dedicated to the First Responders of our town.

This service will honor and recognize both current and past service members of our Fire, Police, and EMS departments.

Joshua Bartsch is leading the worship service as guest pastor. We encourage not only members of these departments to attend but also their families. A lunch will be provided following the service for any and all who wish to stay and eat.

Joshua said, "It is with tremendous honor and privilege that I am able to lead such a wonderful event and I hope you are able to attend."

The service will be held at 10:00 AM on Sunday, September 11.



Visit our  
our website  
[2ccWilton.org](http://2ccWilton.org)



Invite a  
Friend to Church  
Sundays  
10:00 am



## Rummage Sale - September 17, 8 to 2pm

Our next Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, September 17, from 8am to 2pm.

Clothing, shoes and accessories, coats, and white elephant items will be sold.

Please come and support the church.

If you would like to help, please email [Loretta@hiik.net](mailto:Loretta@hiik.net).

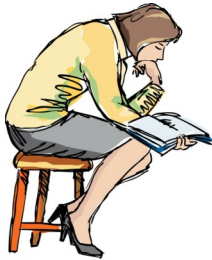


**RUMMAGE SALE**



**SEPTEMBER** 2022

## Always room in God's kingdom



The following item came in a recent publication and is used with permission:

Jesus told a parable about a man who invited his friends and neighbors to a banquet, but they declined. So he told his servants to go find anyone who was hungry or lonely or in need. Still there was room. "Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in," the host said, "so that my house will be full" (Luke 14:23, NIV).

In *Searching for Sunday*, Rachel Held Evans retells this story and writes: "This is what God's kingdom is like: a bunch of outcasts and oddballs gathered at a table, not because they are rich or worthy or good, but

because they are hungry, because they said yes. And there's always room for more."

We're all "outcasts and oddballs" in one way or another! May we know that God warmly invites us to his banquet — for no reason but that we're hungry. (NN 9.22)

~\*~

The first time I took part in communion at Second Congregational Church, it was the first communion that didn't have any conditions attached. First, The Reverend Jane Hawken, during her opening remarks claimed: "Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

I was on a journey and felt very outcast. Could I really be accepted here?

Then during the blessing of the elements, Pastor Jane gave an invitation to share: "Not because you must, but because you may." That was powerful.

Those words resonate in me every time I hear them and I wonder if someone new is sitting in the back, unsure that this includes them. I assure you, it does. It does for me and may this be so, for you as well.

Blessings,

Your servant in Christ  
Loretta

**"Not because you must, but because you may."**

### ***Pulpit Supply for September***

***September 4 The Reverend Rhonda McLeod***

***September 11 Joshua Bartsch***

***September 18 Rev. McCleod***

***September 25 - Open***

***If you would like to lead worship, please see Lori Dick or any of the deacons. Our lay leaders have provided some very meaningful messages. We'd love to hear yours.***

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**[www.2CCWilton.org](http://www.2CCWilton.org)**



## Fall events include a sale & a play

We are gearing up to start the “new year” in September.

A rummage sale will be held on Saturday, September 17, from 8 to 2pm.

The fall play rehearsals will be starting soon, with the performance in November 11 and 12.

Mark your calendar.  
Details are coming soon.

It's not too early to start thinking about the Christmas Fair on Saturday, December 3.

Do you have a great idea for an event or gathering in October? We have some dates reserved. Contact your planning committee: Loretta Smith or Ingrid Howard.

Loretta's email is:  
Loretta@hiik.net



## Christmas Craft Fair

## Search Committee - Profile completed



**PASTORAL  
SEARCH COMMITTEE**

The Search Committee for a Settled Pastor has been working throughout the summer. The profile has been completed and we are awaiting the approval of the New Hampshire UCC to post it. We should have that shortly. And then we wait to see what we get for applicants. We are one step closer to our goal.

## Labor Day - Take a break and enjoy some work related humor!

- My first job was in an orange juice factory. I got canned because I couldn't concentrate.
- When I couldn't hack it as a lumberjack, I got the ax.
- I wasn't suited to being a tailor.
- Working in the muffler factory was too exhausting.
- I was a banker ... until I lost interest.
- I realized there was no future in being a historian.
- Any way I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard at the deli.
- I studied to become a doctor but had no patients.
- My job at the coffee shop was always the same old grind.
- When I worked as a plumber, the tasks were too draining.
- I was hired at a gym but wasn't fit for the job.
- Finally, I got a job at a bakery; I kneaded the dough!

## Your mission dollars at work

### Linus Project

Church missions has teamed up with the Wilton Collaborative Space Group to offer a workshop and regular meetings for the Linus Project. Initial funding for the purchase of more fleece was provided by the Collaborative Space Group. We have been meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month to work on the blankets. Participation has ranged between 7 and 10 people each time and we have produced over 20 blankets in the past two months that have been donated to the Monadnock Chapter of the Linus Project. Everyone is welcome to come, we can teach the easy crochet pattern if you do not know how to crochet.



### Wilton Lyndeborough Day of Service

Church Missions is joining up with the Wilton Community Center, Wilton Collaborative Space and the Wilton Lions Charitable Foundation to offer a Day of Service for the towns of Wilton and Lyndeborough. The date is October 15 and there are lots of ways to participate. There will be a walk to end hunger, trash pick up, clearing of brush at the reservoir, assisting veterans and seniors in outdoor cleanup, and weeding of the Community Gardens, to name a few areas of interest. How can you help? You can sponsor one of the projects with a monetary donation, or you can get sponsors and pitch

in on one of the many projects planned.

At the end of the day there will be a community spaghetti dinner in the church hall, sponsored by Missions, to celebrate all the work done. For more information please see Missions members or email:

[WlDayofService@gmail.com](mailto:WlDayofService@gmail.com)

Cindy Broderick  
Dana Dahl  
Becky Kennedy  
Stephanie Ouellette  
Jan Stone

## Musical Notes: It only takes a spark

Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

—William Arthur Ward

NN 9.22

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
And soon all those around can warm up in  
its glowing;  
That's how it is with God's Love,  
Once you've experienced it,  
Your spread the love to everyone  
You want to pass it on.

What a wonderful time is spring,  
When all the tress are budding  
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start

their blooming;  
That's how it is with God's love,  
Once you've experienced it.  
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,  
You want to pass it on.

I wish for you my friend  
This happiness that I've found;  
You can depend on God  
It matters not where you're bound,  
I'll shout it from the mountain top - PRAISE  
GOD!

I want the world to know  
The Lord of love has come to me  
I want to pass it on.

Lyrics by Kurt Kaiser





## Our help: past present & future



This month, America marks the 21st anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which

ended almost 3,000 lives and changed life forever for millions more. The nation was shaken to its very roots, with violence jolting out of us any assumption that “it can’t happen here.”

September 11 banished any lingering notion that being on the side of “liberty and justice for all” served as insulation against mass tragedy. We now had more to fear than fear itself.

Psalm 46 reminds us that “though the earth should

change” (v. 2) — as it did on 9/11 — God remains “our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (v. 1). We are never alone or without hope, even on life-altering days.

How have God’s presence and power sustained you through life’s changes? How might sharing your story help someone else when their world or faith gets shaken?

Adapted from *The Wired Word*  
NN 9.21

## 1-10 Club Winners

Week 5 7/24  
\$10.00 Bill White  
\$20.00 Katie Gotham

Week 6 - 7/31  
\$10.00 Tedo Rocca  
\$20.00 Howard Gotham

Week 7 - 8/7  
\$10.00 Laurie Crooker  
\$20.00 Jim Williams

Week 8 - 8/14  
\$10.00 CJ Sullivan  
\$20.00 Julie Tuttle Varney

Week 9 - 8/21  
\$10.00 Donna Patterson  
\$20.00 Carol Karnis

Week 10 - 8/28  
\$10.00 Janice Clark  
\$20.00 Pete Ouellette  
\$50.00 Eleanor Henchy  
\$100.00 Tedo Rocca



## Revised Common Lectionary for September

September 4 - Jeremiah 18:1-11 and Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 - Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Psalm 1 - Philemon 1:1-21 - Luke 14:25-33

September 11 - Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 and Psalm 14 - Exodus 32:7-14 and Psalm 51:1-10 - 1 Timothy 1:12-17 - Luke 15:1-10

September 14 - Numbers 21:4b-9 and Psalm 98:1-5 or Psalm 78:1-2, 34-38 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 - John 3:13-17

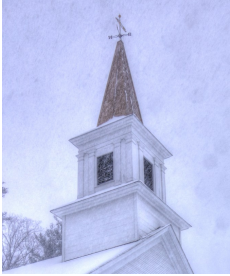
September 18 - Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 and Psalm 79:1-9 - Amos 8:4-7 and Psalm 113 - 1 Timothy 2:1-7 - Luke 16:1-13 Prop

September 25 - Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 and Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 - Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and Psalm 146 - 1 Timothy 6:6-19 - Luke 16:19-31

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.

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

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



Address label here

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Temp Return Service Requested



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



**Worship Services - see below or email [2ccWilton@gmail.com](mailto:2ccWilton@gmail.com) for more info.**

Each Sunday Church Service 10:00 am in person & zoom

- September 4 - Last summer service at 9:30 AM
- September 5 Labor Day
- September 11 - Patriot Day—Special service 10am - see page 1
- September 11 National Grandparents Day
- September 17 Rummage Sale 8am to 2pm
- September 22 First day of Autumn
- Sept 15 to Oct 15 Hispanic Heritage Month
- October 22 Rummage Sale TBA
- November 11 & 12 Fall Plays 7pm
- December 3 Christmas Fair 9am to 2pm



**“One resolution I have made, and try always to keep, is this: to rise above the little things.”** John Burroughs

*All are Welcome*