



Second Congregational Church UCC· Wilton NH

Church Matters

All are Welcome!

January 2023



Service notes to start 2023



Visit our
our website
2ccWilton.org



Invite a
Friend to Church
Sundays
10:00 am



Starting on January 1, 2023, our winter worship will be held in the Parish Hall at 10:00am. Same time, different room. With the price of heating oil the decision to not turn the heat on in the Sanctuary was made. We'll move back before Palm Sunday and Easter.

The Reverend Ann Rodman will be leading worship for several Sundays, with The Reverend Rhonda McCleod leading several others, to get us up to Easter Sunday. Lay-leaders may be needed to fill in an odd Sunday or two.

Reverend Ann has offered to share episodes of "The Chosen" series after worship and lead any discussion afterwards. January 1 is "The Shepherd", showing the shepherds as the first to meet Jesus at His birth. January 15 will be "The Rock on Which it is Built." We meet the first followers and how their lives change in meeting Jesus. Viewers have said that "watching The Chosen series has really made the gospel stories come alive!"

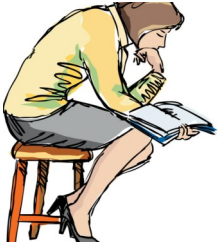
We look forward to watching and discussing with Reverend Ann. Please put these on your calendars and plan to attend. For more information on the series, browser search: The Chosen or use the following link <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen>.

*Annual Meeting - Sunday, January 22
after Worship Service, live and by Zoom*



Like our Facebook page and visit our website for the
Calendar & more www.2CCWilton.org

Reflections for the New Year



Fresh starts

I suppose when we wake on January 1 the world will look the same. But there is a reminder of the Resurrection at the start of each new year, each new decade. That's why I also like sunrises, Mondays and new seasons. God seems to be saying, "With me you can always start afresh."

—Ada Lum

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"With me you
can always
start afresh."

Pursue Jesus — and your passions

If you struggle with making and keeping resolutions, you're not alone. It can be discouraging to focus on what you're doing "wrong" and all the difficult changes in store.

Yet January offers great opportunities to listen to God's direction. After all, Jesus came to give us abundant life and wants us to pursue him.

As you review the previous year, ask: What brought me joy? How did I grow? How did I help others? What did I do that no one else could have

done? Whether your list includes spending time outside, mentoring or coaching young people or making crafts to give away or sell, continue doing what brings you joy. God gives us each unique gifts and circumstances, so live passionately for him this year!

—Janna Firestone

Card of Thanks

Many Thanks to The Reverend Larry Smith for taking us on the Advent journey this Christmas season. The services were all lovely and very meaningful—and very much appreciated. And if you missed any, visit www.2CCWilton.org to listen to the sermons.

In case of bad weather this winter...

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In case of inclement weather, we will be posting on WMUR if we are going to cancel in person worship – however we will still meet via Zoom.

Del, our Administrative Assistant emails the bulletin and the link for Zoom every Friday. If you are not receiving this email, please contact the church

at 2ccwilton@gmail.com or call the church 603-654-9045 and leave a message with your name and email address. We would be happy to get you added to our list.



Don't forget: We will meet on Zoom instead.



2022 In review

Thank you to everyone for helping with Planning Committee projects this year.

There were only three rummage sales this year, but we made them count. (These earned \$1,100.)

One Ten Tickets were sold and 22 winners were happy campers

over the summer. (\$1,390)

Spring Dessert Play (\$1,075) and Fall Dinner Plays (\$2,900)

Other food events like Summerfest and the Folk Café. (\$560)

It all adds up to help run our church and support our Missions in the community .

We have to raise \$20,000 or better in 2023.

When asked, please say "yes" to volunteering this year.

If you have a good idea - for fundraising or just for fun - please contact your Planning Committee is Ingrid Howard and Loretta Smith.

Loretta@hiik.net
Ingrid928@comcast.net



Activity Schedule for 2023

We have dates scheduled on the Church Calendar in 2023 –the third weekend is reserved for most months for potential rummage sale or other activities that come up, plus for dates secured for plays and fairs. Scheduling on other dates will depend on availability on the Community Space calendar.

Please add the following to your calendars for 2023:

January 21 (set up 19 & 20)	July 22 (s/u 20 & 21)
February 18 (set up 16 & 17)	August 19 (s/u 17 & 18)
March 18 (s/u 16 & 17)	September 23 (s/u 21 & 22)
April 14 & 15 dinner plays	October 21 (s/u 19 & 20)
May 20 (s/u 18 & 19)	November 10 & 11 dinner plays
June 17 (s/u 15 & 16)	December 2 Christmas Fair (set up Nov 30 & Dec 1)

Remember to turn down the heat!

Just a reminder, now that the winter is nearly here: Please turn down the heat when leaving the parish hall or sanctuary. Please close all the fire doors. But leave the bathroom doors propped open to prevent the pipes from freezing! Thank you!

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

Your mission dollars at work



Church Missions would like to thank everyone for their generous support of our missions in 2022. Your generosity through our "Mission Possible" monthly collection has helped us to participate recently in the following:

Linus Project

Thanks in part to our joining up with the Collaborative Group, we have had a steady group of 6 - 8 women meet twice a month to work on fleece blankets. In 2022 we completed and donated 100 blankets! The blankets will be donated to area hospitals, Head Start groups, ambulance services and police departments. We will

continue with this project in 2023.

Church missions put together 16 holiday bags to distribute to some of our senior congregation members who do not make it to service. These were delivered on December 17 and 18.

We provided a gas card to a senior at Riverview who was having a difficult month financially. We have sent annual donations to the Nashua Children's Home, the Wilton Lyndeborough Women's Club Giving Tree, Wilton Community Christmas Store and to Bridges, an outreach

program for women in the Milford Area.

We look forward to another active year of mission projects!

Submitted by Stephanie Ouellette on behalf of missions with
Cindy Broderick
Dana Dahl
Becky Kennedy
Jan Stone
and Jan Stone.

Musical Notes: Lullaby for the Christ-Child

First published in 1539 in Germany, the Christmas hymn "From Heaven Above" recounts the angels' message to the shepherds and then the spiritual journey of the baptized Christian to Jesus' manger-bed.

Try singing verses 8, 9 and 13 (translated by Catherine Winkworth) as a tender lullaby of praise, a song of love and a prayer to the newborn Savior. If the original tune is unfamiliar, use "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" or "Just As I Am."

Welcome to earth, thou noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
Thou com'st to share my misery;
What thanks shall I return to thee?

Ah, Lord, who hast created all,
How weak art thou, how poor and small,
That thou dost choose thine infant bed
Where humble cattle lately fed!

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for thee.

*"The child to be born
will be holy;
he will be called
Son of God."*



Luke 1:35, NRSV

January 2023

Wisdom from MLK

I am convinced that love is the most durable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a Utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe.

Someone must have sense enough and morality enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can only be done through love.
—Martin Luther King Jr.



NN 1.23

Annual Meeting
January 22, 2023
11:30 am

Your presence is requested for the Annual Meeting on January 22 at 11:30am following worship service and a short break. We are looking for volunteers for several committees, plus the budget and regular business of the church. We plan to be available on Zoom meetings as well.



Revised Common Lectionary for January & February

January 1	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 25:31-46
January 8	Isaiah 42:1-9; Philippians 4:4-7; Matthew 3:13-17
January 15	Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1,4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42
January 22	Isaiah 9:1-14; Psalm 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23
January 29	Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12
February 5	Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112:1-0; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20
February 12	Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:10:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37
February 19	Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2 or Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9
February 26	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

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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Address label here

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Temp Return Service Requested



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



Worship Services - see below or email 2ccWilton@gmail.com for more info.

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

- January 1 New Year's Day
- January 6 Epiphany
- January 8 Baptism of the Lord
- January 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 21 Rummage Sale 8-2pm
- January 22 Annual Meeting snow date January 30
- January 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

2023



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

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