



Second Congregational Church UCC · Wilton NH

Church Matters

November 2023



Fall Dinner Plays

On Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11, at 7PM dinner is served! Followed by two one-act plays sure to make you laugh.

On the menu: A pork loin dinner with homemade applesauce, mashed potatoes and vegetables. Dinner includes salad, rolls, and dessert. The cost is \$20.00 per person for a feast and an evening of entertainment.

Here are the plays and casts:

Awaiting Patients

It's a typical afternoon in the local doctor's office, and the waiting room is filled with all sorts of patients. There's the extremely pregnant lady craving Nutella and cantaloupe, her flustered fiancé, the 77-year old who really needs the restroom, the midwestern suburban mom, and the local oddball, who has made it his duty to hit on the receptionist. There's only one person missing and that's "Cartwright," the next patient on the list



The Dumbest Play Ever!



It's a series of short skits that show just how dumb some people can be: from a mime trying to rob a bank to a game show where even the simplest questions can't be answered.

Thank you to Bill Goddard for managing the production and Sue Jean for managing the dinner.

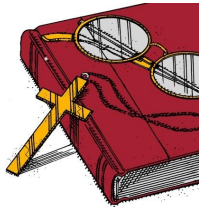
*FOR TICKETS CONTACT SUE JEAN AT 603-801-7267
or leave a message on the church phone, 603-654-9045
LIMITED SEATING - GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY!*

November

Christmas Craft Fair - December 2

Tell your family, tell your friends, tell everybody!

Thanksgiving: more than a day of turkey



“..we should celebrate every day as Thanksgiving.”

We are approaching Thanksgiving - A day where friends and family typically gather together to feast with turkey, dressing, trimmings, apple pie and much more. When I was young, our family along with my aunts, uncles, cousins and a few friends would come from all over the country to gather at my grandparents' house for a family dinner. Those not coming from out of town always brought something—jello, ambrosia, and dressing to die for that was a meal in itself. My Grandmother would always cook a couple of turkeys which would have made us happy if that was all there was!

Those were the days when families gathered and celebrated Thanksgiving. Truly, just gathering together was a blessing of God.

President George Washington was the first to issue a proclamation for the holiday in 1789, designating Thursday, November 26 “for the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving.” This marked the first national celebration of the holiday under the new Constitution. Thanksgiving did not become an official US holiday until on October 6, 1941 when the House passed a joint resolution declaring the last Thursday in November to be the legal Thanksgiving Day. The Senate, however, amended the resolution establishing the holiday as the fourth Thursday, which would take into account those years when November has five Thursdays. The House agreed to the amendment, and President Roosevelt signed the resolution on December 26, 1941, thus establishing the fourth

Thursday in November as the Federal Thanksgiving Day holiday.

While Thanksgiving is a day to be celebrated, we should celebrate every day as a day of Thanksgiving. Regardless of our trials, tribulations, health problems, or family problems, every day is a blessing from God, our Savior, who sent his Son to die so we may have everlasting life with Him. There is no gift that can match or even come remotely close to the gift God gave us His Son.

Your servant in Christ,

One of His Disciples

Three Thanksgiving prayers

Dear Lord, we beg but one boon more: peace in the hearts of all men living, peace in the whole world this Thanksgiving.
~ Joseph Auslander

For what I have received may the Lord make me truly thankful. And more truly for what I have not received.
~ Storm Jameson

O Lord that lends me life, lend me a heart replete with thankfulness. ~William Shakespeare

Remember to turn down the heat... and weather notes

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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 to 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.



Upcoming Events

Rummage Sales - Thank you for all your help!

We had our last Rummage Sale for the year in October. Each of the September and October sales earned approximately \$250. Thanks to all our volunteers who pull this together each month. The next sale will be in February. Save your donations until January and bring to church when someone is there.



Dinner Plays - Workers needed

The Fall Plays are on Friday & Saturday, November 10 and 11, at 7pm. The Players have been practicing for months. The Dinners take two different crews to put on: Kitchen staff and Wait staff. Sign up sheets in the link, or contact Loretta or Sue if you want to work and can't get to those.

Wreath decorating - Thursday, November 30, 6pm

Bring your artistic eye to help bring some plain evergreen wreaths to Christmas glory!



Christmas Craft Fair

Christmas Fair - December 2, 2023 - Get working on projects!

We have started planning the Christmas Fair, on the first Saturday in December. Let Ingrid or Loretta know if you can help on Saturday. Beforehand, we could use a volunteer publicity person to make sure we get the word out, especially for the Santa pictures. Do you have any new ideas to try? Let us know.

Bounty of Thanks

We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.

And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of

past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience.

—Robert Louis Stevenson



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



October was the national Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Church Missions collected four laundry baskets that overflowed with donations from our congregation. These donations have been given to the local Bridges agency. Bridges is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Your generosity will go a long way in helping young women and their families back on their feet. The Mission Possible collection taken on October 29th was also dedicated to Bridges to support their work in the community. Thank you all for your continued support for this local, worthwhile mission.



www.bridgesnh.com
Milford 603-672-9833
Nashua 603-889-0858

In October the Linus project completed 29 fleece blankets and passed them on to the Monadnock Chapter to be distributed to many agencies. Here is an email recently received: "My son had surgery at The Elliot this morning and we arrived to his room to find a beautiful handmade blanket by Project Linus, and we wanted to say thank you. It was such a sweet gift in a time of anxiety and we thank whoever made it and appreciate this wonderful organization."

And, here is an email received on 9/7/203 from Christy, in support of the Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention: "I was lucky enough to visit our For Now House yesterday and see our supplies and talk to our volunteer who spends time with our survivors there. She spoke so highly of Project Linus and said what a difference it makes to the children who come in to have something new and beautiful all for them. I am sure you are aware, but your work makes such a difference. Thanks for bringing comfort to those who need it most. It looks like we could use 20 blankets

for our teenagers, our children and our toddlers. I know that is quite a lot, but do you think you could accomplish that? And our hat and scarf selection are quite low and, with fall starting to peak its head around the corner, I know the need will increase soon."

If you would like to knit hats or scarves in support of Linus, we can direct your donations to the Monadnock chapter. Our local Linus group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 10 to 11:30. It is a great group of women. Come join us.

Your Mission Dollars at work Submitted by Stephanie Ouellette, with Cindy Broderick, Dana Dahl, Becky Kennedy and Jan Stone



Project ♥ Linus

www.projectlinus.org
9,356,25+ blankets
delivered since 1995



On Sunday, November 29, we dedicated the baskets of items that were collected. Thank you to everyone that filled the baskets. Thank you to Missions for delivering them to Bridges in Milford.

Musical Notes: The company you keep

At a concert, a Christian musician talked about growing up in the South, saying his accent was a giveaway. Then he described his relationship with Jesus, noting that he spends lots of time in God's Word. By "hanging out with Jesus," he said, he has "picked up Jesus' accent."

Just as people know he's from the South because of how his voice sounds, they know he follows Christ through his actions and words.

Proverbs 13:20 emphasizes that the company you keep can greatly influence you, for better or worse. Imagine the impact we can have on other people by hanging out with Jesus more!

Dear God, we invite you into our daily lives. Hang out in our hearts and minds so that when people see and hear us, they'll know whose we are. Amen.

—Julie Lee

NN 11.22



Take time to recharge

"Then Jesus said, 'Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.' He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat" (Mark 6:31, NLT). Can you relate? Especially during the holidays, we're "coming and going" so much that we often run out of steam. As an introvert, I learned an important lesson while navigating a busy graduation season for my son. I was happy to host a

celebration for family and friends, but about 20 minutes into the party, fatigue clouded my spirit. My social battery was empty and desperately needed charging. I sought out my cousin — who "gets" me — and admitted I needed a break. He kindly replied, "Then go into another room and just be. We've got things covered." I was heard and assured that it was okay to press pause. Even Jesus and his disciples sought privacy and rest.

In what ways do you need a break today? Even if you're an extrovert, how can you care for your whole self during the holiday rush? Pay attention and give yourself permission to proactively recharge your battery.

—Janna Firestone

Revised Common Lectionary for November

November 5 - Joshua 3:1-17, Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; Micha 3:5-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12
 November 12 - Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; Solomon 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:14-30
 November 19 - Judges 4:1-7, Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
 November 23 - Thanksgiving Day - Deuteronomy 8:7-18, Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19
 November 26 - Ezekiel 34:11-16, 2-24; Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

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)*

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Address label here

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

- November 1 All Saints Day
- November 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 10 & 11 Fall Dinner Plays 7pm
- November 11 Veterans Day
- November 23 Thanksgiving Day
- November 26 Decorating for Advent
- November 30 Wreath Decorating 6pm
- December 2 Christmas Fair 9am to 2pm
- December 24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm
- December 25 Worship Service 10am
- January 21 Annual Meeting snow date January 28



"Give thanks for unknown blessings already on their way." Native American saying
All are Welcome