

# Second Congregational Church UCC - Wilton NH

# Church Matters

May  
2024

## Our Next Sale: Bags, Baubles & Books

Saturday, May 18, from 10am to 2pm, is our next rummage-type sale. We will have brand new and gently used name-brand handbags along with other accessories, including some new jewelry items. Note the hours are a little different, so we can do a same-day set-up. Watch for sign up sheets and spread the word. This should be a great sale!

## Old Home Days Plans are Shaping Up

Wilton Old Home Days will be August 10 to 18 this year. A group has been meeting monthly to firm up activities for our church's participation. Our next meeting will be after church on May 19. Now that we have nearly finalized our events to get them on the OHD calendar, we need some people to come forward to take the lead on some of them.

Ham and Bean Supper: Cindy Broderick is lead. Tickets will be sold ahead.

Food Auction: Need multiple people to solicit yummy goods from regional vendors. Need a coordinator to pull it all together.

Booth at the Flat: Need a lead person for scheduling workers

Homecoming Service and Brunch: The Deacons will have the service covered, but would like someone to coordinate the brunch afterwards.

One-Ten Raffle: Dates will coincide with being able to sell tickets at Summerfest and during OHD. Need a person to handle this please.

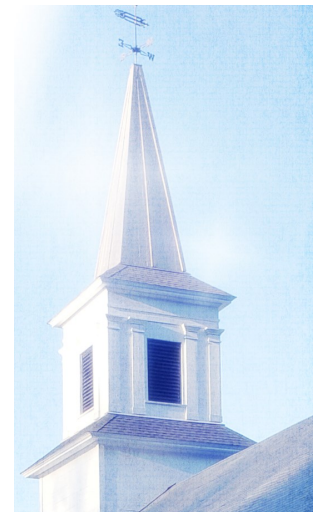
Game Night - we want to do something fun one evening. Bingo and Trivia are already taken. Games, Cribbage, and Puzzles have been suggested. Bring your ideas and let's make that happen.

Parade Float: We have a theme, we have a trailer and a place to construct the float. We need some creative people to make the vision a reality! Actual construction will be the week before the parade, but the vision part needs to be in motion to create and gather supplies prior.

If you only want to help manage one of these or just want to work on one or more of these projects, please let us know. It will be great to have a list to work with as OHD draw closer.

NEXT MEETING: May 19, about 11:30, after service and fellowship.

CONTACTS: Loretta and Ingrid (Planning Committee), or one of the following: Lori Dick, Becca Lorden, Kermit Williams, Stephanie Ouellette, Cindy Broderick, to name a few that are already on board.



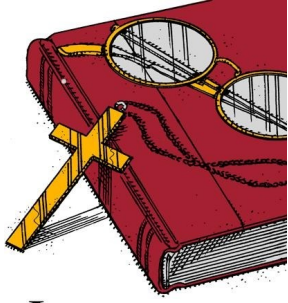
Second Congregational  
Church UCC  
Wilton NH



### ABOUT SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

- **Established in 1823**
- **The Reverend Gary Klingsporn  
Pastor**
- **Sunday Worship Service 10:00  
(Summer services at 9:30)**
- **Sunday Services are on ZOOM**
- **Open & Affirming (ONA)**
- **In partnership with and home of  
the Wilton Collaborative Space**
- **Contact [2ccwilton@gmail.com](mailto:2ccwilton@gmail.com)  
for ZOOM information**
- **[www.2ccwilton.org](http://www.2ccwilton.org) for full  
church calendar, weekly ser-  
mons and more**
- **Follow us on Facebook: Second  
Congregational Church Wilton  
NH**

# The Still Point of the Turning World



Let us keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.  
Hebrews 12:2

It happened a few weeks after we accepted the call to First Congregational Church Nantucket. One warm, sunny afternoon after we moved to Nantucket, Debra and I went out to Miacomet Beach. We walked a bit, then sat on the beach for a long while with the sea stretching before us. We drank in the beauty. The deep blue of the distant waters. Breakers rolling in. Bright teal-blue waves cresting, falling, cascading onto the shore. Sea gulls floating on the wind, then sweeping across the water.

Beyond the news of the world that makes the headlines, there is also what goes on in our personal lives from day to day. There are the battles we wage within ourselves — struggles with loneliness, boredom, insecurity, fear. There are struggles that happen in our relationships. For some, there are concerns with health or aging. Life is fragile and precarious, isn't it? Where is "the still point in a turning world"?

*"What's important is to live in the present... [where] there is life that can be celebrated."*

## Housekeeping Notes

Turn off lights and turn down the heat to 60 degrees.

Leave bathroom doors ajar to prevent freezing pipes.

In case of inclement weather, we will advise thru WMUR if we need to cancel in person worship. We will meet via Zoom.

Del, our Administrative Assistant, emails the bulletins and the link to Zoom every Friday. If you are not receiving this email, contact the church by email [2ccwilton@gmail.com](mailto:2ccwilton@gmail.com) or phone 603-654-9045. Provide name and email address and we'll add you to the list. Thank you!

There on the beach it was as if time were suspended. The beauty of the present moment seemed all that really mattered. The poet T. S. Eliot has a wonderful phrase to describe that kind of moment. In his *Four Quartets* Eliot speaks of "the still point of the turning world." He says, "At the still point of the turning world. Neither flesh nor fleshless; Neither from nor towards; at the still point, there the dance is...."

Eliot is speaking of the present moment. What's important, he says, is to live in the present moment — "the still point of the turning world." "There the dance is," he says. There is life that can be celebrated.

I believe that being attentive to the present moment is a way we can experience the peace of God. In a world that is "turning" — constantly changing, fragile, uncertain — it is possible to experience God's presence.

As I sat on the beach on Nantucket that day, I thought about how fragile our lives and world are.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus says to his disciples, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you" (John 14:27). Jesus spoke those words to his disciples as he was about to leave them. Jesus offers the gift of peace to us as well. This is an inner peace, a tranquility of soul that is not dependent on external circumstances. This peace is the assurance of God's presence in our lives.

How do you experience the "still point" of God's peace and presence? We don't have to go to the beach, the woods, up the highest mountain, or to the most beautiful place in the world to experience God's peace. It can happen anywhere, anytime. Jesus says, "My peace I give to you."

So take some time to sit, be still, and listen to the still point of the turning world.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Gary

## A Busy Summer coming up



Many thanks to all the actors, cooks and waitstaff that made the spring dinner plays a big success. We cannot do this wonderful evening without you!

We are working on the May rummage sale, Summerfest, Old Home Day events and more.

If you would like to help on these events, or others, please see or email Loretta Smith or Ingrid Howard, your Planning Committee  
ingrid928@comcast.net or lorettaapril@gmail.com.  
We'd love to hear your ideas too!

### June 22 is Wilton Summerfest: Help needed

Please see Loretta or Ingrid if you can help organize a booth for 2CC at the Wilton Summerfest. This will be a great place to sell One-Ten Club tickets and Ham and Bean supper tickets! Please help!

### Book Nook: Gets a New Look

There will be a new look to the church library. To help make it easier to find a book of particular interest, we will be organizing the books into various categories. This is a work in progress and we may make additional changes as time goes on.

If there is a particular book you would like to see in the library, please let us know. We will keep you informed of new additions as they arrive.

We are planning to have a special book for signing books in/out from the library. This is a change from the previous honor system.

Would you like to comment on a book or do a book review? We plan to have a book review in the monthly newsletter from time to time and would welcome and publish all that are submitted. There will be a separate book/binder for book reviews.



It has been said that books open our eyes to the world around us. The books in our library open God's world to us and make us aware of what it means to be a Christian.

Any suggestions you have to make the library attractive and inviting would be much appreciated. We are excited to work on the library and hope that you will take advantage of it.

Violet Blake and Rachel Doehner

## Wilton Old Home Day Planner

August 10 to 18

### UPDATED INFO

As in past years, Second Congregational Church will be participating in the quinquennial event known as Wilton Old Home Days (OHD).

A planning group has had a few meetings and here are some ideas we decided upon.

- ◇ Ham & Bean Supper
- ◇ Booth at the Flat
- ◇ Parade Float
- ◇ 200th Anniversary/Renovations
- ◇ Food Auction
- ◇ Game or Puzzle Night
- ◇ Raffles: One Ten Club and a big-ticket item drawing.
- ◇ Homecoming Service at Church followed by Brunch

We will need lots of help to make this all happen. Does one task call you to take charge of that portion? Please consider how you can help.

All are welcome to the next OHD planning meeting on Sunday, May 19, after service at about 11:30.



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## Your Mission Dollars at Work

The March "Mission Possible " collection was \$220.00. Thank you for continuing to support our efforts.

Church Missions continues to support the Linus Blanket project. We have an average of 12 people come the second and fourth Tuesday of the month to help create beautiful blankets. From January through March we have completed and donated 69 blankets. If you would like to join our group, please speak to Stephanie Ouellette or Cindy Broderick.

The Fidget Blanket group continues to meet the first and third Tuesday of each

month. Through March we have completed and donated 23 fidget blankets. These were donated to local nursing homes. Another blanket was donated to Upreach, an equine rehabilitation center for use with their clients. Each blanket takes approximately 10 hours to complete. In April and May, the group is working on some to donate to area elementary schools. These blankets will provide comfort to children at the nurse's office, and in the classroom. We also are hoping to work with local occupational and physical therapists to develop blankets for use with their clients.

## Lay Visitation Class

Pastor Gary and the Deaconate board will be offering a short series of classes on rVisitation and how to relate to those who are suffering. We will be using a book by Kenneth C. Hauck, Ph.D., "Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart". This book is built on a strong biblical foundation, filled with practical ideas, to help find words and actions to bring God's loving presence to hurting people when they need it most.

We invite you to join us if you are interested. Please see Pastor Gary or Stephanie Ouellette for more information.

## Musical Notes: Pentecost Petals

The Pantheon, dedicated in 126 A.D. as the home of ancient Roman gods, is now a Catholic basilica. In a tradition dating back to the seventh century, on Pentecost Sunday thousands of rose petals are dropped through the roof's opening onto worshipers below. The red petals symbolize the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples, as well as the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

To accomplish this "rose rain," five firefighters climb to the roof after mass. While the choir sings the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* ("Come Creator Spirit"), firefighters empty seven bags of petals through the building's 27-foot-wide oculus, or eye in the sky.

Only a fortunate few can witness this spectacular event in person each year, but videos are available online.

# Milford Pride Fest - June 1

On **Saturday, June 1, 2024, from 12:00 to 4:00 pm**, the **Milford Pride Fest 2024** will be held at **Keyes Memorial Field** in Milford, New Hampshire. It will be a celebration of diversity, inclusivity, and the spirit of togetherness. Rain or shine, the festivities will take place at "The Stage" within Keyes Field.

For those who wish to participate, this event is an opportunity to join a vibrant community and celebrate LGBTQ+ pride. Let's come together to promote understanding, acceptance, and love!

Join the event on Facebook or find more details on the Milford NH PRIDE website.

If you would like to help 2CC at the event, we'd like to have a table there. Please talk to Dana Dahl if interested.



*"None can believe how powerful prayer is, and what it is able to effect, but those who have learned it by experience."*  
—Martin Luther

## Aflame with Faith



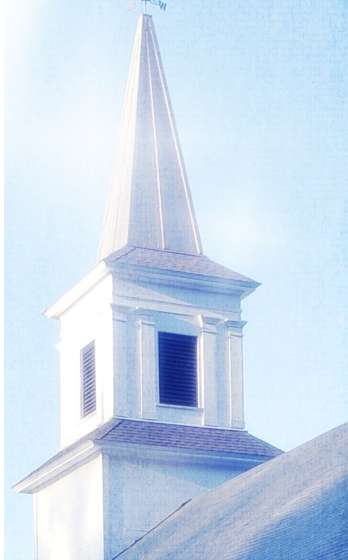
In the Old Testament, fire often symbolizes the presence of God's Spirit. For example, God called to Moses from a burning bush (Exodus 3:2-6) and defeated the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18:30-39). In the New Testament, tongues of fire rested atop the believers gathered on Pentecost (Acts 2:3).

Some Christians have described a burning or current-like sensation when they encounter God. Methodism founder John Wesley said his heart was "strangely warmed" during worship. After such an encounter, people often feel compelled to share the Good News of Jesus. The flame of faith inside one believer can spark a revival of faith in others. As Charles Spurgeon said, "A burning heart will soon find for itself a flaming tongue."  
NN 5.24

## Common Lectionary Readings from Vanderbilt University

<a href="#">Sixth Sunday of Easter</a> May 5, 2024	* <a href="#">Acts 10:44-48</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 98</a>	<a href="#">1 John 5:1-6</a>	<a href="#">John 15:9-17</a>
<a href="#">Seventh Sunday of Easter</a> May 12, 2024	* <a href="#">Acts 1:15-17, 21-26</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 1</a>	<a href="#">1 John 5:9-13</a>	<a href="#">John 17:6-19</a>
<a href="#">Day of Pentecost</a> May 19, 2024	* <a href="#">Acts 2:1-21</a> or <a href="#">Ezekiel 37:1-14</a>	<a href="#">Psalm 104:24-34, 35b</a>	<a href="#">Romans 8:22-27</a> or <a href="#">Acts 2:1-21</a>	<a href="#">John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15</a>
<a href="#">Trinity Sunday</a> May 26, 2024 <i>First Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<a href="#">Isaiah 6:1-8</a> <a href="#">Psalm 29</a>		<a href="#">Romans 8:12-17</a>	<a href="#">John 3:1-17</a>

# Second Congregational Church UCC Wilton NH



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

- May 1 Bible Study: You are the Light of the World 6:30 to 8pm
- May 8, 15, 22 Bible Study continues 6:30 to 8pm
- May 18 Rummage Bags Baubles & Books 9am to 1pm
- June 1 Milford Pride Fest 2024 12 to 4pm - see page 5
- June 15 Game Night 6 to 8pm
- June 22 Wilton Summerfest all day & fireworks at night
- June 26 Wednesday Evening Service in the Park 6:30pm
- August 10 to 18 Wilton Old Home Days Celebration
- September 8 Cathedral of the Pines service 10:30am



*On the web at [2ccwilton.com](http://2ccwilton.com)*

*On Facebook: [Second Congregational Church Wilton NH](https://www.facebook.com/SecondCongregationalChurchWiltonNH)*

## Second Congregational Church

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