

Second Congregational Church UCC - Wilton NH

Church Matters

July
2024

Wilton Old Home Days Meeting

Our next OHD planning meeting will be on Sunday, July 7, after service, at approximately 11:00 AM. Events planned by the church are listed in the side-bar on page 3. Please come and bring your ideas as we finalize what we are doing.

We need your help and ideas. You don't need to be on a committee to be there - just willing to lend a hand.

Food auction: this could be a big fundraiser with a lot of fun involved. If you are able to visit some local spots to solicit goods or services, that would be fantastic. Favorite winery, restaurant, boutique food spots? Use your imagination and talk to Lori or Loretta for some ideas.

Homecoming Service - invite family & friends. Help with brunch

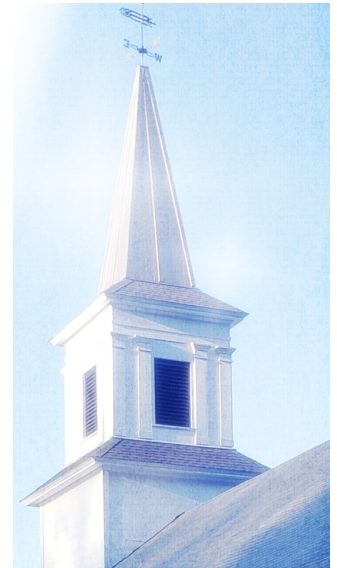
Ham & Bean Supper - Cindy Broderick is in charge. Contact her to help or for tickets. We want to have an idea of how many, so we are selling tickets ahead of the Supper. If you can help with the ticket sales, that would be helpful

Booth at Whiting Park - If you have a few hours (or just a couple) to help out on the Flat, please sign up.

Parade Float - We will be putting it all together the week before the parade on August 17. Ideas and helping hands needed!

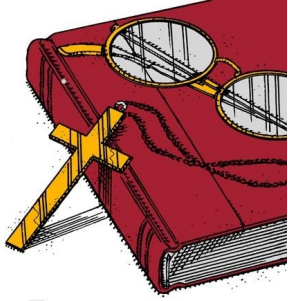
July Rummage and Yard Sale

Next up is a Rummage and Yard Sale on Saturday, July 20, from 9 to 1pm. We will need some inside and outside workers for sale day. Please check your calendars and see if you can spare a couple hours to help out.



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 for**
ZOOM information
- **www.2ccwilton.org for full**
church calendar, weekly sermons
and more
- **Follow us on Facebook: Second**
Congregational Church Wilton NH



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

Matthew 5:1-12:
"Blessed are those.."

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 or phone 603-654-9045. Provide name and email address and we'll add you to the list. Thank you!

Blessed Ones

Can you remember a time of grief and sorrow that was strangely graced by some sense of joy and peace? Have you been able to laugh at the folly of our own feeble attempts to grasp of control the mind of God? Did you ever find yourself on the verge of doing something crazy and dangerous for good and right reasons, and, in a way you couldn't explain, felt an exhilarations that was at least as strong as your fear? Have you ever known what others would have called "hard times," that you insisted on calling "the best times" of your life?

Perhaps you have... perhaps you will.

When these moments come, God's great blessing of new life in Christ is once again bestowed; and when you experience them, you are taking your place with "all the saints" who travel in that long pilgrimage of faith which began on a lush, green hillside overlooking Galilee. In those moments, the distant echoes of the Master's voice can be heard:

"Blessed are you, for yours is the kingdom of heaven."

One of His Disciples

Used with permission from the writings of Dr. Harold N. Smith

"O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain" (Katherine Lee Bates). God, thank you for bright summer skies, crops growing to feed the world and your countless other gifts.

A Creed for July 4th

I believe in America because in it we are free - free to choose our government, to speak our minds, to choose our different religions.

Because we are generous with our freedom, we share our rights with those who disagree with us.

Because we hate no people and covet no people's lands.

Because we are blessed with a natural and varied abundance.

Because we have great dreams and because we have the opportunity to make those dreams come true.

Wendell L. Willkie,
Republican candidate for president in 1940 NN 7.99



The next events are:

- July 20, 9 to 2pm. Rummage & Yard Sale
- August 10 to 18 Wilton Old Home Days

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!

Worship in Wonder

Worship is a faith-building, faith-sustaining act. It's also a form of service to God. Remember to worship regularly during the summer, even when you're out of town.

"Worship is like corrective lenses for our souls, bringing God clearer into view. That's important for all of us, especially when life goes off the rails."
—Louie Giglio

"Worship is transcendent wonder. Wonder for which there is now no limit or measure."

—Thomas Carlyle 7.24

Book Nook: God's Trophy Women

On the shelf this month, you will find *God's Trophy Women: You are Blessed and Highly Favored*, by Jacqueline Jakes.

From the publisher: "The sister of Bishop T.D. Jakes and author of *Sister Wit* turns her own life experiences into the backbone of this book designed to offer Christian women more than jelly-sweet platitudes about the trials of life. She encourages women to use their struggles to become "trophy" women—"women of extraordinary substance who possess huge value and distinction." The very troubles that threaten to crush women are instead God's way of making them shine, Jakes argues. She offers several examples of modern trophy women who repeatedly made a way out of no way. Their stories are woven briefly into chapters that focus on topics such as aging, walking through adversity and living without bitterness about the past. The bottom line, according to Jakes, is to take the worst suffering and turn it into something precious, a trophy that turns out to be us. Each chapter is accompanied by a poem (surprisingly beautiful and original), reflection questions and a prayer. Despite some repetition and convoluted arguments, this is a down-to-earth look at suffering and its possibly beneficial results." [© Reed Business Information]

Also in the library: *Every Woman in the Bible*, by Sue and Larry Richards. "Discover all the women in the bible and how powerfully their lives speak to us today."

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, June 2, after service at about 11:30.



Second Chances

We are creating this space to exchange gently used items: maybe puzzles, an extra rake, terra cotta pots or if you are looking for something.

A couple of lines with your phone # or email and a brief description.

There is this limited space and items will be listed in the order received. Let us know.

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Missions

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the May missions project, providing personal hygiene and snacks for the homeless in the Manchester area. Alexandra Lominy spoke to us of how she works with the homeless. We filled over 40 bags with toothpaste, a toothbrush, deodorant, snacks, a beverage and other requested items. We were also able to send Alexandra with a lot of extras that she can use to supplement future distributions.

The Missions Committee would like to send out a special thank you to Ann Lorden. Over the winter, Ann knit over 14 prayer shawls and donated them to our supply. What a generous gift, thank you, Ann! If you know of someone who would benefit from a prayer shawl, please see someone on the Missions Committee.

Linus blankets workshops will continue through the summer. We

average about 25 completed blankets every month. These blankets are then distributed through the Monadnock chapter of Project Linus. Your contributions to Mission Possible monthly collections help to fund this. Linus meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 10:00. Come join us.

The fidget blanket workshop is on pause for the summer. In the past year we have donated over 50 blankets to various nursing homes, adult workshops and elementary schools. We will meet again in the fall.

The May Mission Possible collection was \$152.00. Thank you!

Submitted by Stephanie Ouellette, with Cindy Broderick, Dana Dahl, Rachel Doehner and Becky Kennedy

Musical Notes: God's gift of music

What helps you sort out what you're feeling, or experience an emotion more deeply? What allows you to let loose and cry, or fully celebrate when you're joyful? Nature helps some of us get in touch with our feelings, perhaps because it removes us from screens and other distractions.

But when getting out isn't possible — no mountain lake is nearby, or the weather isn't tranquil — consider the gift of music. Often instrumental or vocal music helps us access the depths of our soul like nothing else can. God may even speak to us through music — whether in song lyrics, our own inner thoughts or wordless stirrings of the heart.

Albert Schweitzer, a pastor, musicologist, physician and more, said, "Joy, sorrow, tears, lamentation, laughter — to all these music gives voice, but in such a way that we are transported from the world of unrest to a world of peace, and see reality in a new way, as if we were sitting by a mountain lake and contemplating hills and woods and clouds in the tranquil and fathomless water."

Make some playlists for various emotions: joy, grief, anxiety, hope. Then imagine yourself relaxing in nature, and experience God's love.



Lessons from Hiking

Whether I'm hiking an easier stroll or a 20-mile trek, I've noticed parallels to my journey with Christ.

- * This is my journey. Too often I waste time comparing my stride, pace or equipment to that of fellow hikers.
- * I don't know what's around each bend, but God does. I can't let anxiety steal my joy.
- * It's best to balance hiking in silence with sharing the trail with friends.
- * I'll be sore tomorrow, and that's okay. Engaging new muscles leaves a reminder that growth is uncomfortable.
- * Being prepared is good; being *too* prepared makes for a heavy backpack. I need to do my due diligence and let God handle the rest.
- * It's not a race, so finishing quickly offers no reward. When I'm not in a hurry, I tend to notice more of God's blessings.
- * I need to look up, enjoying God's creation as I let him determine my steps.

—Janna Firestone NN 7.24

You show me the
PATH OF LIFE.
In your presence there is
FULLNESS OF JOY ...

Psalm 16:11, NRSV

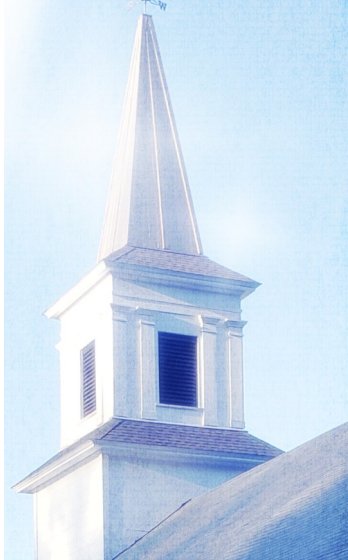


“None can believe how powerful prayer is, and what it is able to effect, but those who have learned it by experience.”
Martin Luther

Common Lectionary Readings from Vanderbilt University

Proper 9 (14) Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 7, 2024	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 Psalm 48	Ezekiel 2:1-5 Psalm 123	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13
Proper 10 (15) Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 14, 2024	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Psalm 24	Amos 7:7-15 Psalm 85:8-13	Ephesians 1:3-14	Mark 6:14-29
Proper 11 (16) Ninth Sunday after Pentecost July 21, 2024	2 Samuel 7:1-14a Psalm 89:20-37	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 23	Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
Proper 12 (17) Tenth Sunday after Pentecost July 28, 2024	2 Samuel 11:1-15 Psalm 14	2 Kings 4:42-44 Psalm 145:10-18	Ephesians 3:14-21	John 6:1-21

Second Congregational Church UCC Wilton NH



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

- July 1 Canada Day
- July 4 Independence Day - Stay Safe!
- July 20 Rummage & Yard Sale
- August 10 to 18 Wilton Old Home Days Celebration
- August 10 Ham & Bean Supper 5pm at the church
- August 11 Food Auction at Whiting Park 2pm under the tent
- August 17 Parade 10am Raffle Drawing 3pm
- August 18 Homecoming Service 9:30am w/brunch after
- September 8 Cathedral of the Pines service 10:30am



On the web at 2ccwilton.com
On Facebook: [Second Congregational Church Wilton NH](https://www.facebook.com/SecondCongregationalChurchWiltonNH)

Second Congregational Church

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“Be thou the rainbow in the storms of life.” - Lord Byron
