

Second Congregational Church UCC - Wilton NH

Church Matters

August
2024

Ham & Bean



SUPPER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 5 TO 7PM

HAM—BAKED BEANS—POTATO SALAD—DESSERT—COLD DRINK

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PARISH HALL 25 GREGG STREET

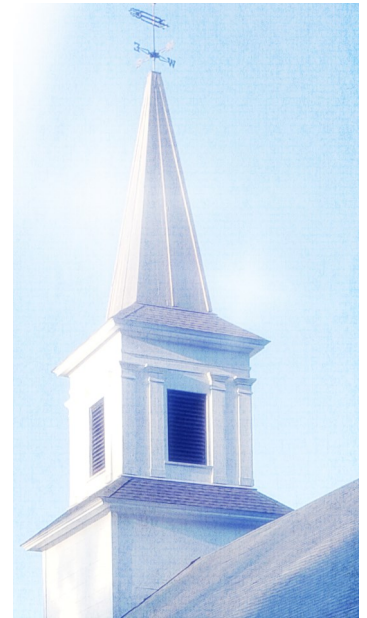
\$10.00 PER PERSON * UNDER 12 YRS \$5.00 * UNDER 5 YRS FREE

FOR TICKETS CALL OR EMAIL

CINDY BRODERICK 603-654-6204

cindy.l.broderick@gmail.com

TAKE OUTS AVAILABLE (CALL TO RESERVE TAKE OUT)



Second Congregational
Church UCC
Wilton NH



Established 1823

Food Auction



Sunday August 11, 2pm

At Whiting Park aka "The Flat"



Old Home Days

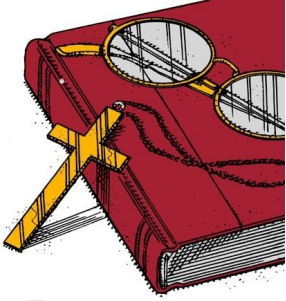
Homecoming Service

Sunday August 18, 9:30 am

ABOUT SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

- The Reverend Gary Klingsporn
Pastor
- Sunday Worship Service 10:00
(Summer services at 9:30)
- Sunday Services are on ZOOM
- Contact 2ccwilton@gmail.com
for ZOOM information
- www.2ccwilton.org for full
church calendar, weekly
sermons and more
- Follow on Facebook: Second
Congregational Church
Wilton NH
- Established in 1823

The Summer Day



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

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!

Dear Friends,

One of my favorite poems is “The Summer Day,” by Mary Oliver. Here it is:

“Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean—
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away....”

Let’s save the rest of the poem for later. “Who made the world?” the poet asks. Centuries ago the theologians and poets of ancient Israel gave their answer to that question in the opening words of the book of Genesis: *“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth....”*

Genesis chapter 1 is a hymn of praise to God the Creator. The poem celebrates the wonder and beauty of creation. In the creation story there are repetitive phrases describing each day of creation: *“And God said, ‘Let there be....’ “And it was so....” “And there was evening and there was morning, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd day,”* and so on. Also running through the story is the recurring expression, *“And God saw that it was good....”*

God saw that it was *good*—that the whole creation was lovely, pleasing, full of beauty and harmony. The creation was an expression of God’s own character. God was delighted and took joy in it. “Who made the grasshopper?” the poet asks. In Mary Oliver’s poem we see the world through the poet’s eyes. I wonder, then, what it means to see the world through God’s eyes?

Summer is a wonderful time to see the world through God’s eyes. Summer is the season of abundance. We’re outdoors more, we’re closer to the earth, and we walk in the freshness of God’s creation. If we pay attention, we can see God’s gifts. We can know something of God and the glory of God in nature itself.

I think that to see the world through God’s eyes means to pay attention to the world around us. To really notice, to be aware of the trees, the flowers, the birds, the face of a friend, the laughter of children.

Now for the rest of Mary Oliver’s poem:

“I don’t know exactly what a prayer is.

I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?

Doesn’t everything die at last, and too soon?

Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”¹

The poet’s question stays with us: “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?” Let’s pay attention. Let’s see the world through God’s eyes during every season of our lives.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Gary

¹Mary Oliver, “The Summer Day,” in *New and Selected Poems* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1992), p. 94.



August Events

The next events are:

- August 10 to 18 Wilton Old Home Days

It takes many hands to be a presence in the community. Please take some time to help out with Second Congregational Church's Old Home Day (OHD) events.

Ham & Bean Supper: See Cindy Broderick.

Church Booth: If you would like to help for a couple of hours at the Flat, Ingrid Howard is scheduling.

Food Auction: See Lori Dick to help with soliciting donations or letting us know what you will be able to make. Non-perishables can be dropped off at the church. We are storing in the Rummage room.

Parade Float: will be built the week of OHD; parade day is August 17. Please see Loretta if you can help with building or decorations.

Homecoming Sunday Service Brunch: See one of the Deacons.

Loretta Smith or Ingrid Howard, your Planning Committee
ingrid928@comcast.net or lorettaapril@gmail.com.

Book Nook: Mental Health Resources

“When and How to Use Mental Health Resources” by Kenneth C Haugk, Ph.D. of “Stephen Ministries.” A book review by Dana Dahl
Reviewer comment: *Not long ago, there was a work/bible study to assist some of us who wanted to support the visiting needed by our congregation and families. We finished the book, “Don’t Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart” by Kenneth C Haugk, Ph.D. In the closing discussions, I noticed that the book was mostly directed at those with illnesses of a physically debilitating disease or accident. The book, “When and How to Use Mental Health Resources,” was purchased for the church library to help those seeking answers on living with, ministering to, and loving those with mental health diseases.*

This resource book is filled with examples and ideas of how to support a person that’s experiencing a mental health issue. Specifically, the book is based within the construct of the Stephen Ministries <https://www.stephenministries.org/> is a faith based ministry for lay people to provide care to others who may be living within a difficult or stressful time in their lives. Some of the text includes the Stephen Ministries of “dos and don’ts”, there are significant ideas on how to deal with questions and issues around mental health.

The author provides logical processes of how and when to suggest professional mental health services and determining if it is an emergency that should be reported. The best advice given is to begin with prayer for patience and understanding to assist as the care recipients seek services from the health professionals needed. Another important item to remember is if the care recipient seems to be of an emergency nature, do not hesitate to contact their family member(s) or the emergency services in your area.

Important information for all: NH has a Health and Human Service Resource Center and is reachable by dialing “211” on any phone. Found on their website: *211 NH is the connection for New Hampshire residents to the most up to date resources they need from specially trained Information and Referral Specialists. 211 NH is available 24 hours, 365 days a year. Multilingual assistance and TDD access is also available. For those outside of New Hampshire, call 1.866.444.4211.*

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.



Missions

Your Mission Dollars at work! We are in the early stages of gathering information to help NH DCYF to provide NEW Back to School Shoes for Teens in care. That means we need 400+ pairs of shoes to reach this goal!! Once we have more information we will share with you. Stay tuned.....

The monthly Mission Possible collection was \$167.00! Thank you for continuing to support the missions locally as well as globally. Thank you as well to all who drop off items for the local food pantry, The Open Cupboard. Every donation is appreciated.

The Linus blankets group continues to meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, at 10:00. We always have room for new people. We supply the fleece, yarn and crochet hook. It's a great cause and a chance to catch up with others. We can even teach you how to crochet! It's easy and fun.

If you have an idea for a mission, please speak to one of the Missions group.
Submitted by Stephanie Ouellette with Cindy Broderick, Dana Dahl, Rachel Doehner and Becky Kennedy.

Looking Up

World-renowned cosmologist Stephen Hawking (1942-2018) stated: "Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious." His sentiment is especially fitting for August, when many people try to count the falling stars of the Perseid meteor shower.



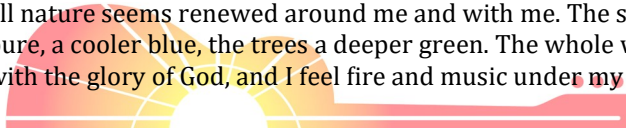
As a self-proclaimed atheist, Hawking relied on science to answer "what makes the universe exist." Yet many Christians believe that while science shows how things happen or were created, our faith tells who made them so.

Deuteronomy 4:19 (NIV) declares: "And when you look up to the sky and see ... the heavenly array — do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the LORD your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven." We can be grateful for the work of scientists and the wonders their study reveals, but instead of "bowing down" to nature, we worship its Creator and Ruler — the Lord of heaven and earth. NN 8.18

Musical Notes: Summertime Splendor

One theme in Psalms is how nature reveals God's glory. That's especially evident during summer. "There is a signature of wisdom and power impressed on the works of God, which evidently distinguishes them from the feeble imitations of men," writes John Newton. "Not only the splendor of the sun, but the glimmering light of the glowworm, proclaims his glory."

That glory shines even brighter when we spend time in God's Word. Thomas Merton writes, "By reading the scriptures I am so renewed that all nature seems renewed around me and with me. The sky seems to be a pure, a cooler blue, the trees a deeper green. The whole world is charged with the glory of God, and I feel fire and music under my feet." NN 6.22



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The Secrets of the Teddy Bear Lady

Most of the people at Chicago's Children's Hospital did not know her name. They just knew her as the sweet elderly lady in the vivid red suit who wanted to make sure that every sick child had a teddy bear to hug and caress. She kept bringing the stuffed animals, purchased with her own money, to give to ailing children. That is why she was simply called The Teddy Bear Lady.



Her name was Gladys Holm, a retired secretary for an insurance company, who lived alone in a tiny apartment in Evanston. It wasn't that she couldn't afford better, although ... no one except her attorney and stockbroker knew she was quite wealthy.

When she died at age 86, she had a portfolio worth over \$18 million. She had never married and had no heirs. Her will simply directed that the bulk of her estate be given to The Children's Memorial Hospital. Her gift was to go to medical research so that new methods of treating sick or disabled children might be developed.

The hospital authorities were absolutely shocked by the news. No one had the slightest idea that the tall happy woman delivering teddy bears to ailing children had such wealth. As they began to piece together more of her life's story, they discovered something else. They learned that the gifts of teddy bears were really a ruse. She gave away teddy bears to learn more about the financial resources of the families of the children. When she learned that parents did not have hospitalization or enough to cover medical expenses, she very quietly had taken care of their bills.

One wonders if Gladys Holm was simply putting into practice what the One known as the Great Physician had recommended: "When you give ... sound no trumpet before you ... When you give ... do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your gift may be in secret ..." (Matthew 6:2-4).

At the hospital's memorial service for Gladys, someone had put a teddy bear on every chair.

-Arizona Republic, August 3, 1997

NN 2.99

One-Ten Club Tickets

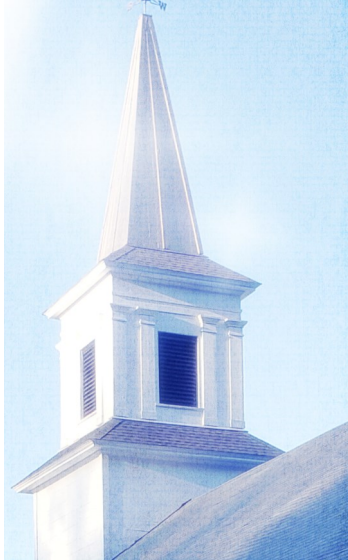
Don't forget to sell some One-Ten Club Tickets before the August 25, first drawing. This is a big fundraiser!! Please help with tickets sales. Ask Lori or Loretta for tickets.

One ticket, ten dollars. One ticket, ten weeks. Each ticket is entered in two drawings each week, for \$10 and \$20, respectively. Plus last week grand prize drawings \$50 and \$100.

Common Lectionary Readings from Vanderbilt University

Proper 13 (18) Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 4, 2024	2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13a Psalm 51:1-12	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 Psalm 78:23-29	Ephesians 4:1-16	John 6:24-35
Proper 14 (19) Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 11, 2024	2 Samuel 18:5 -9, 15, 31-33 Psalm 130	1 Kings 19:4-8 Psalm 34:1-8	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	John 6:35, 41-51
Proper 15 (20) Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 18, 2024	1 Kings 2:10- 12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111	Proverbs 9:1-6 Psalm 34:9-14	Ephesians 5:15-20	John 6:51-58
Proper 16 (21) Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 25, 2024	1 Kings 8: (1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43 Psalm 84	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 Psalm 34:15-22	Ephesians 6:10-20	John 6:56-69

Second Congregational Church UCC Wilton NH



Each Sunday Church Service 9:30am in person & zoom (thru Labor Day)

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

September 21 Rummage Sale 9am to 1pm

October 19 Jewelry & Craft Supply Sale 9am to 1pm

November 8 & 9 Fall Dinner Plays 7pm

December 7 Christmas Craft Fair

AUGUST



On the web at 2ccwilton.com

On Facebook: [Second Congregational Church Wilton NH](#)

Second Congregational Church

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"If you can't pay it back, pay it forward." - Catherine Ryan Hyde