

Second Congregational Church UCC - Wilton NH

Church Matters

March
2025



March 15, 9 am to 1 pm

Rummage Sale

Our next rummage sale is on Saturday, March 12. We are also accepting donations after the winter. Please drop them off when someone is at the church. **DO NOT LEAVE OUTSIDE IN THE WEATHER!** The church is open every Sunday morning until 11:30 or 12:00. There are many activities going on during the week. Check the calendar on our website www.2CCWilton.org and you can drop off during those times. Or you can leave a message at 603-654-9045 to make another arrangement. Large items should be saved for our May rummage/yard sale. We do not have storage space to hold those for more than a short time.

Donated clothing: Should be clean, free of dog/cat hair, and in saleable condition. Items with stains and tears should be disposed of properly.

Other items: should be usable and saleable—when in doubt throw it out. The church needs to pay landfill fees just like everyone else. Please do not “dump” at the church. We cannot take electronics or screens of any kind. We cannot take yard sale left overs because someone doesn’t want to go to the recycle center. We appreciate all donations, but have limited resources to handle these things.

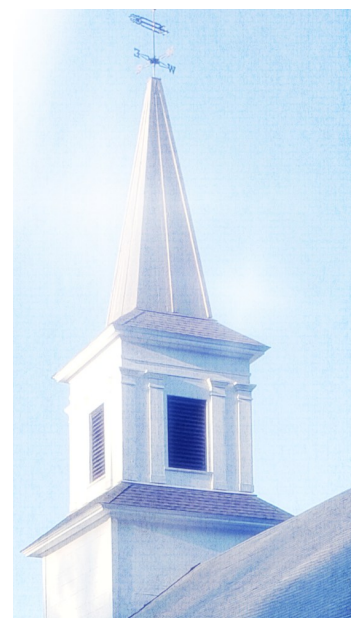


Get Ready for the Spring Dinner Play!

April 11th and 12th

Bed, Breakfast and Broadway

Call 603-654-2255 for Tickets



Second Congregational
Church UCC
Wilton NH



All are
Welcome!

Be you.
Be here.
Belong!

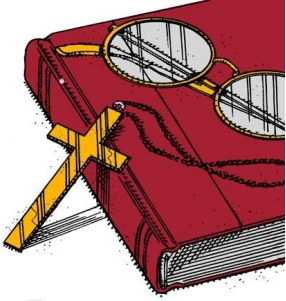
Established 1823

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



Planted Seeds



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

".. They are worshipping and hearing the message of Jesus Christ."

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!

When I was a child, churchgoing was not a thing. My grandfather died when my father was a young child. Although his mother took him and his siblings to a Catholic boarding school in Canada, that only served to turn him off religion not embrace it. My mother on the other hand, had a very churchgoing upbringing, but something happened by the time I was born that separated her from practicing her faith in a church. My maternal grandmother was a very devout Catholic, leading a Christian life by example: reading her French-language bible daily and showing charity and kindness to all. I saw a remarkable woman leading a Christian life, teaching by example. Our family pretty much considers her a saint! Seeds were planted...

I had a dear childhood friend from a very churchgoing, Christian-practicing family. They embraced me like another daughter and I just loved hanging out at their house and witnessing what they "had". The seeds were watered and given sunshine...

We recently lost my dear friend and while writing remembrances about her, I realized that those seeds

became the flowers that brought me to my own church life and church family when the time was right. What a beautiful gift.

We had a coworker that we invited to our church for years. There was always an excuse: too busy, didn't think they fit in, didn't have the right clothes. Gently and often we said: come when you have a Sunday free, you're only a stranger but once, and God doesn't care what you wear. We planted seeds.

After several years, flowers bloomed. The co-worker came and while they didn't join our church, they joined another church closer to where they lived. More important than where they worship, is that they are worshipping and hearing the message of Jesus Christ.

So this message is to live the Christian Word and demonstrate kindness and God's love. In this Spring season: plant your seeds, they will grow.

With hope and Blessings to all.

Lent Begins March 5

There will be an Ash Wednesday Service on March 5, at 7:00pm. Other Lenten dates to keep in mind:

Palm Sunday, April 13

Maunday Thursday, April 17 (no service)

Good Friday, April 18 - Service 7:00pm

Easter, April 20, 2025 - Service at 10:00am

Sunrise Service in Mont Vernon on Grand Hill will be at approximately 5:45AM (Sunrise is at 5:55AM), put on by our friends at the Mont Vernon Congregational Church.

Planning Committee News



Our February Rummage Sale was well-attended despite the threat of snow! Our next sale is March 15. Look for sign up sheets. May's sale will be a combo yard sale.

The Spring Dinner Plays are set for April 11 and 12. The play is *Bed, Breakfast, and Broadway*, a comedy written by Arlen Daleske and Dennis Reece. Performed by the Parish Hall Players. A family-style turkey dinner is on the menu. We are looking forward to SPRING!

We would like to do Family Game Night on a regular basis. The format is pretty much set so it is an easy format to step in and run it. See Loretta or Becca if you can do this.

We are having a Summer Fair Meeting on March 16 after service. This is to discuss if and when we want to do that and what it might look like. All hands are needed. Come on March 16.

It's never too early to start crafting for the Christmas Fair, which is Saturday, December 6 from 9am to 2pm. Get your awesome crafts done, plan your baking, and your shopping (at the sale).. More to come on Christmas next month!

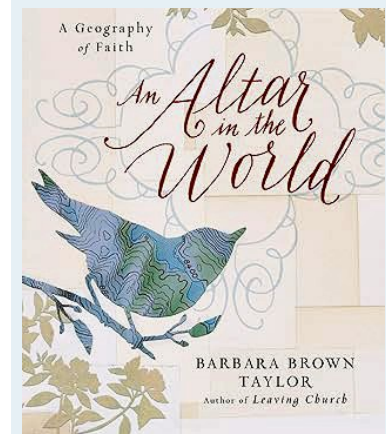
Loretta Smith, Becca Lorden and Ingrid Howard
Your 2025 Planning Committee
ingrid928@comcast.net or rlorden80@gmail.com or
lorettaapril@gmail.com

Book Nook: An Altar in the World

This month's selection is *An Altar in the World, A Geography of Faith* written by Barbara Brown Taylor. A New York Times bestseller when it was first published in 2010, it is a gem in our Link Library.

From the publisher: "With honesty and spiritual depth, Taylor shares how she learned to find God beyond the church walls by embracing the sacred as a natural part of everyday life. In *An Altar in the World*, Taylor shows us how to discover altars everywhere we go."

From the book: "Taylor reveals meaningful ways to discover the sacred in the small things we do and see, from simple practices such as walking, working, and prayer. Something as ordinary as hanging clothes on a clothesline becomes an act of meditation if we pay attention to what we're doing and take time to notice the sights, smells, and sounds around us. Making eye contact with the cashier at the grocery store becomes a moment of true human connection. Allowing yourself to get lost leads to new discoveries. As we incorporate these practices into our daily lives, we begin to discover altars everywhere we go, in nearly everything we do. Through Taylor's expert guidance and delicate, thought-provoking prose, we learn to live with purpose, pay attention, slow down, and revere the world we live in."



Planning Committee

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MARCH RUMMAGE SALE:

3/14 SET UP 10AM

3/15 SALE DAY: 9AM to 1PM with Breakdown at 1PM

DINNER PLAYS APRIL 11 & 12

KITCHEN HELP 4PM TO 7:15

PM AND 6:45PM TO 9PM

WAITSTAFF 6:30 PM TO 9PM

CHRISTMAS FAIR DECEMBER 6

9 TO 2PM

SET UP ON 12/5.

GAME NIGHT We need

someone to coordinate game nights monthly or every other month. See Becca or Loretta



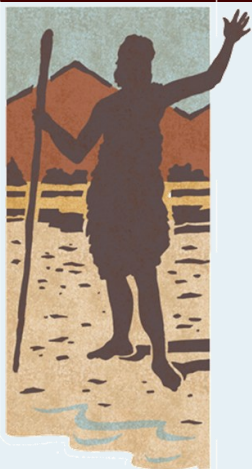
Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying

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Missions Report

January's "Mission Possible" collection was over \$235.00! Thank you. What a wonderful congregation, to be so generous. This collection helps us to continue our ongoing missions.

Linus Project In February we had four more blanketeers added to our group. Our group total is now twenty-four. Not everyone is able to attend our biweekly gatherings. That is the nice part about Linus, you can come when it fits your schedule. Your donation to the monthly "Mission Possible" helps us to continue to purchase yarn and fleece.

Blessing Bags On Sunday, March 2, we will assemble the bags to donate to the homeless population in New Hampshire. Thank you to Alexandra Geary for distributing these to all the needy. And, thank you for all your donations of snacks, socks, lotion, mittens, gloves and other personal care items that provide comfort.

Lunch with the Pastor Missions would like to sponsor another lunch with the Pastor this spring. This will

give an opportunity to some of our shut-ins to gather and socialize. We are hoping to offer this in late April or early May. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Fidget Blankets The Fidget blanket group has a new home, upstairs in the church! The group has accumulated a lot of materials to make the blankets. Transporting the materials back and forth every other week was becoming a burden. Church Missions has agreed to sponsor the group, which was under the Wilton Community Center. There are five women who meet every other week, to construct fidget blankets to donate. Once completed, these are distributed to local schools, special needs workshops and nursing homes. To date, more than fifty blankets have been given away.

If you have an idea for a mission, please speak to Missions. Cindy Broderick, Dana Dahl, Rachel Doehner, Becky Kennedy and Stephanie Ouellette.

Musical Notes: The Lenten Desert

During the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year), Christians figuratively follow Jesus into the desert. Just as our Savior spent 40 days fasting and facing temptation, we focus on self-reflection and contrition.

In an 1873 hymn, Claudia Hernaman wrote, "O Lord, throughout these forty days, you prayed and kept the fast. Inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past."

The desert experience of Lent serves a clear purpose, filling us up rather than depleting us. "This is what Lent is meant to be," writes theologian Ron Rolheiser. "Time in the desert to courageously face the chaos and the demons within us and to let God do battle with them through us. The result is that we are purified, made ready, so the intoxicating joy of Easter might then bind us more closely to God and each other." NN 3.25

New Hampshire Peace Action

The New Hampshire Peacekeeping Project provides peacekeeping at events in NH. As peacemaker Wally Nelson said, "Nonviolence is the constant awareness of the dignity and humanity of oneself and others; it seeks truth and justice; it renounces violence both in method and in attitude; it is a courageous acceptance of active love and goodwill as the instrument with which to overcome evil and transform both oneself and others. It is the willingness to undergo suffering rather than inflict it. It excludes retaliation and flight."



Peacekeeping is de-escalation support and is not a substitute for security or law enforcement. Congregant, Dana Dahl, has been an active Peacekeeper at area events for several years.

Why? "I am inspired by Martin Luther King's success in modeling peace and non-violence at all times. This training has helped me keep a measured response at difficult times." Interested in joining or learning more? See <https://nhpeaceaction.org/> for information about seeking peace around the state and for the world. The NH Peace Action team holds frequent discussion and information sessions about what changes are needed to achieve real Peace!

New Hampshire Peace Action—Our Mission and Vision:

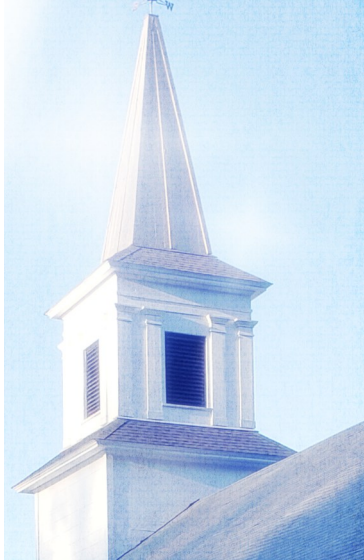
Vision: We envisage a future where international relations are based on cooperation instead of competition and conflict, and where mutual benefit and shared security lead to a more peaceful and just global community.

Mission: NH Peace Action educates, mobilizes, and organizes, to build a more peaceful and just future for all. ... nhpeaceaction.org

Common Lectionary Readings from Vanderbilt University

<u>Ash Wednesday</u> Mar 05, 2025	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12	Psalms 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
<u>First Sunday in Lent</u> Mar 09, 2025	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
<u>Second Sunday in Lent</u> Mar 16, 2025	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalms 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)
<u>Third Sunday in Lent</u> Mar 23, 2025	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalms 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
<u>Fourth Sunday in Lent</u> Mar 30, 2025	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalms 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Second Congregational Church UCC Wilton NH



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

- March 5 Ash Wednesday Service 7pm
- March 7 World Day of Prayer
- March 9 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- March 15 Rummage Sale 9 to 1pm
- March 16 Summer Event Meeting after Service 11:30
- March 20 First Day of Spring!
- April 11 & 12 Spring Dinner Play 7pm (page 3)
- December 6 Christmas Craft Fair



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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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Address Label Here

Temp Return Service Requested

"If you are patient in one moment of anger, you will escape a hundred days of sorrow."
Chinese Proverb
