

Second Congregational Church UCC - Wilton NH

Church Matters

June
2025



June 12, 4:30 PM

A Community Potluck Supper

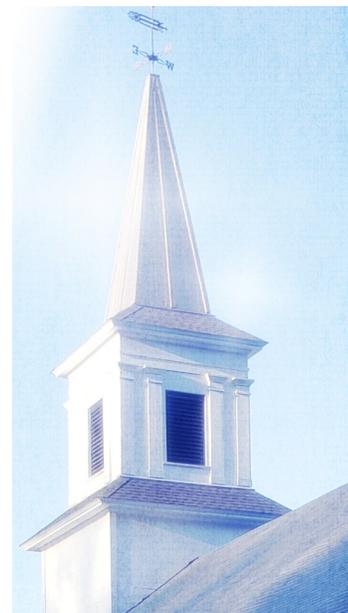
Come join us for a community wide potluck dinner on Thursday, June 12. Doors will open at 4:30. Drop by and play a game of cribbage or cards before the meal. This is a chance to share some social time with friends as well. Dinner will begin at 5:30. Bring a dish to share. Missions will have cold drinks and ice cream for dessert. For more information, or if you need a ride, please contact anyone on the Missions committee.

Worship in the Park

Wednesday, June 25, Second Congregational Church will hold an evening service in the Wilton Main Street Park at 6:30 PM. What a wonderful way to bring our "community church" into the community! Details are still being finalized, but expect music and fellowship to be a part of the evening.

June 21 Rummage Sale

Our next Rummage Sale is Saturday, June 21, from 9am to 1pm. Set up is on Friday at 10am. Breakdown right after the sale at 1pm. Sign up sheets in the link.



Second Congregational
Church UCC
Wilton NH

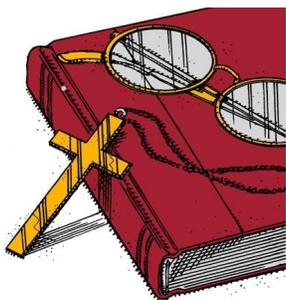


Established 1823

ABOUT SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

- The Reverend Gary Klingsporn
Pastor
- Sunday Worship Service 10:00
- 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

Dear Friends: Summer Grace



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

“What does it mean to see the
world through God’s eyes?”

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!

My father was a photographer. Most of his adult life he suffered a chronic disability due to a serious accident when he was young. He was unable to work. While other dads were out throwing baseballs and footballs and shooting baskets with their kids, my dad couldn’t go for a simple walk. Photography became for him a hobby — a window onto the outside world. He became very good at it. Though he was unable to walk very far, it was amazing what he was able to capture in his photography.

When he died my dad left behind a large collection of his photography. There were over seventy Kodak Carousel slide trays — well over 7,000 slides in all. For some time I wanted to sort through all of them and preserve representative groups of them by converting them to computer discs. When I retired from full-time ministry I finally had the time to do that. I went through the pictures one by one, all seven thousand of them.

Many of the pictures are outdoor scenes of the hills, lakes, rivers, and woods of the southern Missouri Ozarks where I grew up. There are also endless pictures of wildflowers, bugs, rocks, barns, and old buildings, and of course, pictures of home and family. What comes through clearly is his love of nature and his appreciation of beauty. Going through the pictures was an experience of seeing the world through my father’s eyes.

I’m sure my dad never knew of the poem “The Summer Day” by the poet Mary Oliver. But Dad’s pictures remind me of the poet’s words:

*“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....”¹*

“Who made the world? Who made the swan, and the black bear? Who made the grasshopper?” Centuries ago the poets of ancient Israel offered their answer to those questions in the opening words of the Book of Genesis: “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth....” (Genesis 1:1).

Genesis chapter 1 is a hymn of praise to God the Creator. The poem celebrates the wonder and beauty of creation. In the successive days of creation God made the light of day and darkness of night; the sky above and earth beneath; the sun, moon, and stars; every living creature; every plant in the sea and on land. Finally, God created human beings, male and female, in God’s own image. God blessed them, and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth; and have dominion over it — care for it, nurture its well-being, and enjoy it” (Genesis 1:1-28). God saw that the creation was “very good” — that the whole creation was full of beauty and harmony. The creation was an expression of God’s own character.

Going through my father’s pictures, I have seen the world through my father’s eyes. I wonder 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 (continued on following page)

Planning Committee News



We are gearing up for Summer Fair 2025 on July 19. This is an all-day event, featuring crafts and food and ending with a Food Auction at 1PM to round out the day.

Contact the Summer Fair Committee to lend a hand. We need everyone's help to pull this off successfully, especially for soliciting yummy donations for the Food Auction. We are also looking to fill six vendor spaces - local crafters or home-party reps. Let us know if you know someone that might be interested.

Planning Committee: Loretta Smith, Becca Lorden. and Ingrid Howard, rlorden80@gmail.com, howardingrid67@gmail.com or lorettaapril@gmail.com.

Summer Grace (continued from page 2)

walk in the freshness of God's creation. If we pay attention, we can see God's gifts.

So what does it mean to see the world through God's eyes? I think it means to pay attention to the world around us. To really notice, to be aware of this tree, that flower, this beautiful bush, that person on the street, and the laughter of children. Look at the beauty around you. Look at the roses, the hydrangea, the irises, the day lilies. Look at the redbird, goldfinch, and mourning doves. Look at the green earth and the rivers. Look at the morning light, the setting sun, the moonlight. Look into the faces of those you love. It's all grace, "Summer Grace."

To see the world that way is to see the world as God's gift and to trust God for the future. Now for the end 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?"*

Good question for all of us: "What is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" Let's begin by enjoying the "Summer Grace" all around us.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Gary

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

Planning Committee

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

JUNE RUMMAGE SALE:

620 SET UP 10AM

6/21 SALE DAY: 9AM to 1PM with Breakdown at 1PM

SUMMER FAIR JULY 19 9AM

JULY 18 SET UP TIME TBA

JULY 19 9AM TO 2PM

SET UP 8AM

PEOPLE NEEDED TO WORK ON THE TABLES

WE NEED A MEN'S GROUP FOR SNACK/BAR LUNCH SERVICE

FOOD AUCTION AT 1PM

NEED HELPERS DURING THE FOOD AUCTION.

SUMMER FAIR NEEDS CRAFTS AND BAKED GOODS TO SELL.

ALSO NEED FOOD ITEMS, BASKETS, ETC. AND HELP TO SOLICIT FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES.



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: Supporting Bridges in June

Missions will be collecting donations during the month of June to benefit the non-profit organization Bridges. Bridges provides support programs, and in some cases confidential housing, to victims and survivors of sexual and/or domestic violence.

Some examples of the items we will be collecting include household items such as cleaning products, laundry detergent, bedding (Queen & Twin), dishes etc. as well as personal care/hygiene items (toothbrushes/toothpaste, deodorant, feminine hygiene products and more).

Some additional needs include snacks for clients, coping kit materials (sensory toys, coloring books/crayons, fuzzy socks etc.), and gift cards (gas, phone, grocery, department store etc.).

Please ask a member of the Missions team if you have any questions. Thank you so much for your consideration and help to support such a needed program in our local community.

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

Missions: Linus Project

Missions continues to supply the Linus Project with fleece, and the group has been productive. In April we donated 37 completed blankets to the Monadnock Chapter. JoAnn's Fabrics was our main source for fleece for this project. The company has gone bankrupt, and we will miss their fabrics. We have found other suppliers so our blanket project will continue.

Musical Notes: Keep Trying

In *The God Who Stays*, contemporary Christian musician Matthew West writes about the pandemic's fear-filled early days. After his concert tour was abruptly canceled in March 2020, he rode to an airport "feeling utterly hopeless about a world that was spinning out of control."

Then Arthur, his ride-share driver, began singing along to the radio — and the song happened to be West's "The God Who Stays." West joined in, jokingly asking how he sounded. "Not so good," Arthur replied, not knowing West's identity. "You keep trying."

The driver shared how those lyrics uplifted him during life's difficulties, and West later recalled that conversation during lockdown, while wondering where God was. The musician realized he had "settled for a socially distant relationship with the One who is nearer than I dare to believe, closer than the air I breathe." But West pictured "God running toward me with open arms like the prodigal's father," and he resolved to keep trying — and to grow closer to the God who always stays.

Thank You, House by the Side of the Road!

Let's give a shout out to House by the Side of the Road for their generosity in donating flowers again this year for our pots in front of the church. Thank you so much. We appreciate the flowers and we will enjoy them all summer.



The Joy of Generosity

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise, greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds.

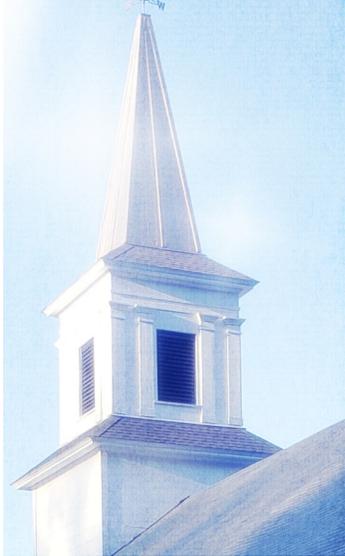
Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

“Not seeing results? Feel like giving up? Consider this: the last thing to grow on a fruit tree Is the fruit.”
unknown

Common Lectionary Readings from Vanderbilt University

Seventh Sunday of Easter June 01, 2025	* Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26
Day of Pentecost June 08, 2025	* Acts 2:1-21 or <i>Genesis 11:1-9</i>	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	Romans 8:14-17 or <i>Acts 2:1-21</i>	John 14:8-17, (25-27)
Trinity Sunday June 15, 2025 <i>1st Sunday after Pentecost</i>	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8		Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
Proper 7 (12) June 22, 2025 <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a Psalm 42 and 43	Isaiah 65:1-9 Psalm 22:19-28	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
Proper 8 (13) June 29, 2025 <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20	1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 Psalm 16	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62

Second Congregational Church UCC Wilton NH



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

- June 8 Pentecost
- June 14 Flag Day
- June 15 Trinity Sunday
- June 21 Rummage Sale 9am to 1pm
Wilton Main Street Summerfest
- June 22 New Member Sunday
- June 19 Juneteenth
- June 20 First Day of Summer!!
- June 25 Wednesday Worship in the Park 6pm
- July 19 2CC Summer Fair & Food Auction
- August 16 Rummage Sale 9am to 1pm
- December 6 Christmas Craft Fair



On the web at 2ccwilton.com
On Facebook: [Second Congregational Church Wilton NH](#)

Second Congregational Church

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PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
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Address Label Here



Temp Return Service Requested

*“Every problem has a soft spot. If it is too big for us, we can take it to God.
 No problem is too big for God.” ~ Brother Andrew*

