

Second Congregational Church UCC - Wilton NH

# Church Matters

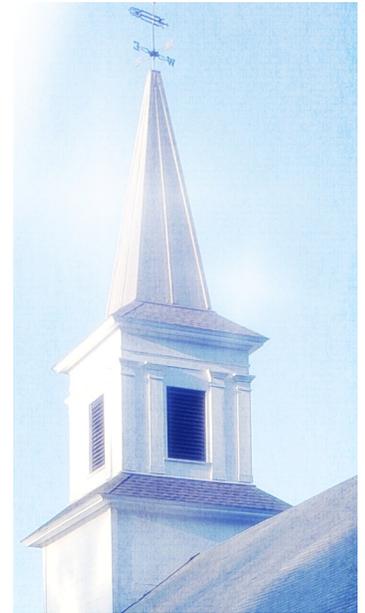
August  
2025



August 16, 9 am to 1 pm  
Rummage Sale

Our next rummage sale is on August 16. Featuring clothes and household items. Only three sales left for this year! Bring your donations prior to the sales and shop the sales for new treasures!

See you at the parish hall!



Second Congregational  
Church UCC  
Wilton NH



Established 1823



## Cathedral of the Pines

Join us on September 14 for a

Service at Cathedral of the

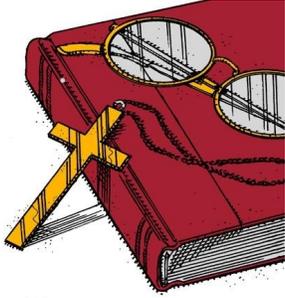
Pines in Rindge NH at

10:30am - more info in September!



### ABOUT SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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



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

“Faith upgrades are an ongoing, lifelong process..”

## 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!

## Fixer-Uppers

Summer is peak time for home renovations and remodeling projects. Those can be super stressful, starting with the selection of a contractor.

In a blog about her own family's construction plans, Laura Elliott explains the challenge: "It's not just any builder I want. I want one who has impeccable workmanship, is completely trustworthy and delivers our long-awaited [projects] early and under-budget." After sifting through bids and reviews, she discovered that most builders "look like they do pretty similar work for a pretty similar price."

For spiritual renovations, however, the choice is clear. "God is the builder of everything," says Hebrews 3:4 (NIV). Elliott writes, "Jesus is not only the *builder* of His Father's house, but He is the *buyer*, and the *heir* as well." And what he's building, she adds, is "a better Bride," his church.

Faith upgrades are an ongoing, lifelong process. "The renewal of our natures is a work of great

importance," said 18th-century minister George Whitefield. "It is not to be done in a day. We have not only a new house to build up, but an old one to pull down." It's a good thing God oversees this project!

—Stephanie Martin NN 8.25



## Why Christian Community is Key

Jesus' followers aren't meant to pursue faith by themselves. In fact, that's impossible! *A family* and *the body* signify plural members. It is among brothers and sisters in Christ that we:

- experience our Savior's presence, living and incarnate;
- unite in worship, confess our sins, hear the gospel and receive Communion;
- accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- learn — through other people's examples and experiences — what it means to live a life of discipleship;
- and lovingly serve together as Jesus' hands and feet.

## Planning Committee News



Thank you to everyone who made our Summer Fair a big success! Thank you to the Summer Fair Committee for your hard work to plan this event. Thanks to the workers who set up the tents and tables; to the crafters, bakers

and plant growers; to the Lions Club for lending us hot dog and popcorn machines (and supplies!); to Becca and Ann for organizing the food auction; auctioneers Peter and Steve; to all individuals and businesses that made donations for the auction; to our live musicians Cam and Paul; to the folks who sat at the tables selling wares or entertaining children; and everyone who cleaned up afterwards. Thank you to each one of you. You are truly appreciated.

Our next events are Rummage Sales - August 16, September 13 (which is a week early to coincide with the Town Wide Yard Sale), and October 18. Watch for emails and sign-up sheets to help out with those.

After those, the next Rummage Sales will be in 2026!

Closing out 2025 will be the Fall Dinner Plays on November 7 and 8 (to be confirmed). Following that will be the Christmas Fair, which is Saturday, December 6 from 9am to 2pm.

Planning Committee: Loretta Smith, Becca Lorden. and Ingrid Howard, [rlorden80@gmail.com](mailto:rlorden80@gmail.com), [howardingrid67@gmail.com](mailto:howardingrid67@gmail.com) or [lorettaapril@gmail.com](mailto:lorettaapril@gmail.com).

## Book Nook: Soul Care Through Studying

Summer isn't often associated with studying, but it can be an ideal time to dive into God's Word. Just keep in mind: Studying the Bible involves more than merely reading the words. The process begins with a humble spirit to not only gain information but to let Scripture transform you.

I've heard about various practices for Bible study. Some people set aside a special place, with multiple concordances and commentaries at their fingertips. I thrive on a bit more variety. Comparing a couple of Bible translations and paraphrases proves helpful for my studies.

Renovaré, Richard Foster's institute that aims to help people become more like Jesus, advises: "It is vital to study not only books but also those things around us such as nature, relationships, events and cultural values." What are the most meaningful ways for you to study God's Word?

—Janna Firestone

## Planning Committee

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### AUGUST RUMMAGE SALE:

**8/15 SET UP** 10AM

**8/16 SALE DAY:** 9AM to 1PM with Breakdown at 1PM

#### SEPTEMBER RUMMAGE SALE:

**9/19 SET UP** 10AM

**9/20 SALE DAY:** 9AM to 1PM with Breakdown at 1PM

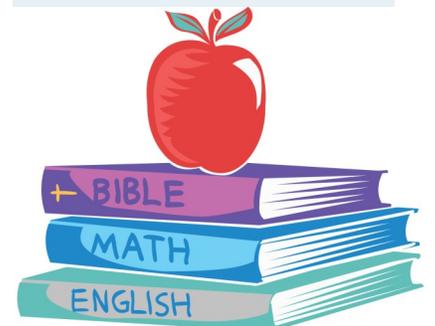
#### DINNER PLAYS (TBA)

**NOVEMBER 7 & 8**

**KITCHEN HELP** 4PM TO 7:15 PM AND 6:45PM TO 9PM

**WAITSTAFF** 6:30 PM TO 9PM

#### CHRISTMAS FAIR DECEMBER 6



Learn for a  
LIFETIME



### 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

Publication Information
Church Matters Volume # 294
August 1, 2025
Published Monthly
Second Congregational Church UCC 25 Gregg Street, PO Box 246 Wilton NH 03086
Issue # 2025.08
Subscription Price - Free



## Missions

Missions would like to thank everyone for their generosity, once again, in donating practical household supplies and personal care items to Bridges. The group was very thankful for everything brought to their Milford office. The donations will be distributed to their clients as needed.

In August, two seniors who graduated from WLC will receive scholarships to help with their continuing education expenses. Congratulations to Loghan Varney (granddaughter of Jim and Leslie Tuttle) and Madison Clough (daughter of Todd and Laura). We wish them all the best.

Missions was able to provide a

Market Basket gift card to Mary Sue Jensen. She has been on our prayer list for weeks. We are so glad she is home and beginning her recovery. We will all continue to hold her in our prayers.

We hosted a second potluck dinner in July. Over twenty people attended and shared a wide variety of dishes. Thank you to everyone who joined us!

We are looking at some potential new projects for this fall. If you have an idea, please do not hesitate to share with Missions.

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

---

*“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” Nelson Mandela*

---

## Musical Notes: A Changed Life

B.J. Thomas, the Grammy award-winning country singer, once had a \$3,000-a-week drug habit and was deeply in debt. He knew he was a troubled man. “I had low self-esteem,” he said. “I was searching.”

After barely surviving an overdose, Thomas returned home to discover his wife had become a Christian and lots of people were praying for him. After giving his life to Christ, Thomas felt incredible peace and quit using drugs cold turkey.

“My Christian faith sustained me,” Thomas says. “There is security I feel in my Christian life. I’ve been bought and paid for, which comes from being a Christian. The Lord has his eye on me and a plan for my life.”

Now 68, Thomas has been drug-free for more than three decades. The man famous for singing “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head” is now experiencing showers of blessing (see Ezekiel 34:26).

# A Walking Contradiction

A walking contradiction

A real Christian is an odd number. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be full; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst. He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which passes knowledge.

The [person] who has met God is not looking for anything; he has found it. He is not searching for light, for upon him the light has already shined. ... He is not a copy, not a facsimile. He is an original from the hand of the Holy Spirit.

—A.W. Tozer

NN 8.25

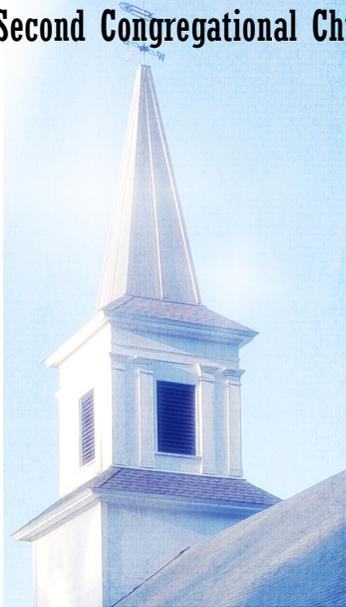


*“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs to joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.” William Arthur Ward*

## Common Lectionary Readings from Vanderbilt University

<a href="#">Proper 13 (18)</a> <i>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Aug 03, 2025	Hosea 11:1-11 Psalm 107:1-9, 43	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 Psalm 49:1-12	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
<a href="#">Proper 14 (19)</a> <i>Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Aug 10, 2025	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23	Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40
<a href="#">Proper 15 (20)</a> <i>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Aug 17, 2025	Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19	Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56
<a href="#">Proper 16 (21)</a> <i>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</i> Aug 24, 2025	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6	Isaiah 58:9b-14 Psalm 103:1-8	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
<a href="#">Proper 17 (22)</a> <i>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Aug 31, 2025	Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Sirach 10:12-18 or Proverbs 25:6-7 Psalm 112	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14

# Second Congregational Church UCC Wilton NH



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

- August 16 Rummage Sale 9am to 1pm
- September 13 Rummage Sale 9am to 1pm
- September 14 Cathedral of the Pines Service 10:30am
- October 18 Rummage Sale 9am to 1pm
- November 7 & 8 Fall Dinner Plays (TBA)
- December 6 Christmas Craft Fair



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

## Second Congregational Church

25 Gregg Street  
P O Box 246  
Wilton NH 03086

Phone: 603-654-9045  
[www.2ccwilton.org](http://www.2ccwilton.org)  
E-mail: [2ccwilton@gmail.com](mailto:2ccwilton@gmail.com)

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



Address Label Here

Temp Return Service Requested

*“Allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.” St. Teresa of Avila*

