



Inside Out:

The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church
Vol. XV, No. 4 April 2016

Serving Our Church
Members & Friends
In Jackson, NH
And beyond!

Good news! Good news!

If you have been in the Fellowship Hall of the church recently you may have noticed that the Search Committee has completed the current 'church profile;' it has been posted for all who wish to take a look. It is a high quality and creative piece of work and if you are offered the opportunity ~ let them know your appreciation. Good profiles do not get assembled quickly or easily; there is a great deal of thought and intention that must go into such an opus. A good one should look as if it were a cinch to put together. It almost invites the comment, "that took that long?" The proof however is "Can you see yourself being part of a group that put it together?" It's impressive. And they have not shortchanged the outcome! Well done, indeed!

Since many of you have been asking what happens next, here is an outline of the general process usually followed at this point.

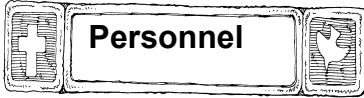
The search committee was appointed to complete three items: 1) they were to complete a comprehensive church profile that represented the interests, desires, and needs of the Jackson community Church, 2) they were to assemble a 4 page prospectus to serve as a thumb nail sketch of the larger profile, and 3) they were to develop an announcement' - a short concise paragraph as 'a call out' to interested potential candidates for the UCC website. These three tasks are now complete. It is time to move forward.

The Jackson Community Church Profile 'announcement' is released to be posted to the national United Church of Christ website (ucc.org) This website is one that can be accessed across the globe by anyone with a computer. Yes, that means you, too. Once posted on the ucc.org site, it will serve as an invitation for anyone who resources that site seeking ministerial vacancies. Then, a sequence of events will naturally follow:

- Our Search Committee will soon be receiving profiles of potential candidates;
- Each Search Committee member will carefully read each 30 to 40 page profile, pray on it, prayerfully consider why God may have nudged this person respond to our call;
- If our Search Committee shows interest in finding out more about a potential candidate and that person's call to the Jackson Community Church then the Search Committee determines, together, whether the person may be a suitable potential candidate appropriate for the needs of the Jackson Community Church; (The New Hampshire Conference staff makes no choices about candidates for our church. It is a fair and open process. The Conferences, in general, simply vet candidates to make sure that all the necessary preliminary steps have been followed. They make certain that candidates are 'safe' to serve our UCC congregations.)

APRIL

Jackson Community Church



Rev. Leslie Anne Chatfield
Interim Minister

Lynn Lockard 383-8011
Vice Moderator

Judy Herrick 356-9158
Choir Director
Organist/Accompianist

Jeanette Heidmann 383-5959
Treasurer

Joanne Turner 383-6187
986-5018
Administrative Asst.

Sher Loomis 447-3787
Christian Education

Wendy McVey 383-6789
Deacon Chairperson

Church Council

The Church Council meets once a month on the third Wednesday at 7:30pm. All Church members are welcome to attend. The council is made up of the Moderator, Pastor and all committee chairpersons. The next council meeting will be held on Wednesday April 20th. At 7:30pm.

- If, after reviewing the candidate's ministerial profile, they determine that the person has the potential to be an appropriate and suitable candidate for the Jackson Community Church, the Search Committee then meets with the person for the first interview. This may be in person, by Skype, or by conference call. If there is continued interest, there may be a second interview or a neutral pulpit may be set up so that the Search Committee is able to witness not only the person's preaching style, but also the manner in which they engage with congregation members/ parishioners. Only the Search Committee participates in a 'neutral pulpit visit.'
- They will then determine whether or not they wish to continue pursuing the candidate. A 'neutral pulpit' appearance is highly confidential; while the search committee may be able to say that they have gone to a 'neutral pulpit' they are not free to discuss the person, where the person currently serves, or any specific details about the person. You can best support your Search Committee by respecting that confidential arrangement.
- If there is continued interest then the search committee will continue further discussions with the candidate and keep the congregation apprised of their continuing efforts.

It is important to note that the search committee is initially appointed to serve as representatives for the larger congregation. The work they have done in the last year has been focused on discerning and determining the general needs and desires of the congregation. They have requested information from you by way of surveys, casual conversations and by way of listening and then addressing the issues and needs of committees and interest groups. Their desire is to represent you well. Tell them of your hopes and dreams for this church; encourage them along their way!

How appropriate that we are now in the 50 days of the Easter season! It truly is time for new life in the Jackson Community Church!

Let us pray that our search committee will try to find at least a few things that will satisfy each one of us as we work in God's holy name. Amen.

Leslie

Inside-Out— May 2016 issue
Deadline: April 26, 2016

The deadline for submitting news and articles to be included in the April issue is Tuesday April 26th.
Please send information to:
jcchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYERS



April 11: Frank Wolfe
April 11: Shirley Gravink
April 19: Nolan Proulx
April 21: Phil Gravink
April 27: Gary Lovgren
April 28: Frank Thompson
April 29: Logan Hagerty



April 21: Deb & Randy Doucet
April 25: Colleen & Steve Allbee

If you would like a special anniversary or birthday mentioned in the newsletter please let us know by signing the sheet on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board or call, write, or email the editor. In order to protect your privacy, we do NOT use the church records for these announcements and will only include them if you send it in!

Jacksoncommunitychurch.org
New email address:
jcchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org



Flowers

The Flower Committee always welcomes weekly flower donations to add cheer on Sunday mornings – whether in honor of a loved one, or just sharing an abundance. Please sign up on the list in the Parish Hall or call Gloria Hutchings 603 986 4604 to schedule a week. Thank you!!

Thank You!!!

Thank you for the wonderful send off you gave us on our last Sunday. This church community has meant a lot to us over the years and we will miss you. The beautiful cake, the singing, and the kind words were much appreciated.

We are still unpacking boxes and have found about half of our stuff so far. Please remember that we have a fold-out couch and would welcome any of you for a visit or a meal stop. Good luck with your search for a new minister and enjoy Leslie while you still have her wonderful guidance.

Please keep in touch and we will look forward to visiting you at church when we are in town. With thanks and much appreciation, *Steve and Sally Swenson*

PS Our new address is: 7 Riverwoods Drive C- 132
Exeter, NH 03833
Phone: (603)772-6612

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally

Zimbabwe News

After years of suffering dire economic conditions in Zimbabwe it is hard to believe things could get any worse...but they have.

An unprecedented drought has hit the region causing tens of thousands of cattle to die, boreholes to go dry, crops to fail and dam levels to fall. President Mugabe has declared a state of disaster and is calling for aid to save more than 1/4 of the population from starvation due to drought.



The Ukama Mission Group of the NH Conference works with the Ukama Committee in Zimbabwe to coordinate shared projects. This year the goal is twofold; 1) drill a borehole near Mt Selinda to promote clean water, 2) provide funds to purchase maize (cornmeal), the staple food of Zimbabwe.

The overall Ukama goal is to raise \$7300 to sponsor the borehole. Additional funds will go to purchasing the maize. A 5 gal bucket of maize can feed a family of 5, 2 meals a day for nearly 2 weeks.

We, the Jackson Community Church, would like to assist this worthy project. Our goal is to raise \$1000 towards those projects. We will have a number of fundraisers over the next few months to accomplish this goal.

- A dinner at Cabin Fever, date TBD
- Plant Sale - Saturday May 28th, 9am - 1 pm. Please save your extra seedlings, divide your perennials and your house plants for this worthy cause.
- Bake Sale - one Sunday after service, date TBD
- Donations - we will have a poster where you can make your donation in memory or honor of someone special, or simply write your name or an inspiring message. 'Raindrops' will be available for \$10 and 'Buckets' available for \$25



All monies will be tracked against our goal. Every 'drop' in the bucket helps to make a bigger splash. We hope you will consider helping in whatever way you are able towards this very worthy cause

Save the date: Plant Sale – Saturday May 28th 9-12 by the grammar school. We will be looking for plant donations of seedlings, cuttings, garden cast outs, potted plants, etc.

Thank you's received

For money sent in the last quarter of 2015

White Mountain Community Health	\$ 100
United Church of Christ—Syrian Refuge	\$ 500
NH Conference of United Church of Christ	\$2000
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$ 327
Neighbors in Need	\$ 209
Christmas Fund	\$ 390
Conway Dinner Bell	\$ 100
Starting Point	\$ 100

Christian Education

HOORAY FOR SPRING! HAPPY APRIL DEAR FRIENDS!

I am so thankful today for the beauty around us as green things are just starting to peep out from under the brown leaves! Earlier this week my husband Brad shared about his first robin sighting! He saw a whole flock of them on his way to work! The rivers are rushing, the snow has melted again, spring has sprung, and the month of April will be full of new adventures in the Children's Church!

I am writing this after our wonderful celebration at church on Easter and the feeling of hope and new life prevails! What a blessed day it was with so many present in the congregation and in our Children's Church program! I will share about our class activities today at the end of my March recap! I will then will share a different sort of plan for April and May!

On March 6 "our" amazing young athletes participated in the Bill Koch festival at Great Glen with our own Church Ed. Comm. member, Lisa White, as one of the key helpers. 470 children from all over NH, ME, VT, MA, NY, and Canada were a part of this event! We are so fortunate that "our children" had this opportunity right in their own back yard! I loved seeing the big thank you in our local paper from Sue Wemyss, the event director, who spoke of how awesome it is that so many people came together to promote "healthy outdoor activities for kids". Talk about invigorating mind, body, and spirit! The children and their families certainly shared a wonderful experience out in the heart of God's Artistry...the White Mountains! Congrat's to all involved!

That day I was prepared to teach my lesson on Harriet Tubman and to do our Children's Church Communion in the event we had other children present, but instead it was lovely to attend our service and to partake of communion with the congregation and Pastor Leslie, knowing the children were having such a blessed day! Lessons and activities are always available whether we have 1 child or 10 present and it is my honor to prepare for that each week!

March 13 our students returned and we then did our lesson on "19 Dangerous Trips" focusing on Harriet Tubman's mission to help others to have a better quality of life, to be free, putting her own needs aside for the betterment of others! The children shared ways that maybe they can reach out to help others more and we did have our Children's Church Communion. We made the plan to begin our theme on "The 12 Gifts of Birth" as of April 3rd and we added ways we will portray those gifts/lessons linked to each.

On March 21 the 5 children present for our Palm Sunday celebration handed out the beautiful Palm Crosses to the congregation. In our Rainbow Room classroom we read verses from Matthew, several contemporary stories, and several traditional stories about Palm Sunday. We did an acrostic poem using the word "Hosanna" and we learned more about what that word represents, "a cry to God for help" and about this time when the people were just so full of HOPE and joy in seeing Jesus! Our affirmation was: "I find my true self when I put others first!"

Easter Sunday we read traditional and contemporary pieces about the Easter story with children taking turns reading. We talked about the impact of Jesus returning to His friends and disciples and how that miracle brings us true inner transformation again and again. We focused on the 4 R's of rebirth, renewal, reflection, and ritual with special activities and scripture work from John and I Corinthians. Our affirmation was "My true self is ever-new. I am eternal light, love, and joy!" We spoke of doing some "homework" connected to our studies today and I'd like to encourage all of you to try some of these activities taken from our Progressive Christianity curriculum! They are as follows:

Christian Education.....

1. "Notice Rebirth...take a springtime walk...stay alert noticing all the signs of rebirth in nature!" I added maybe they could take 3 deep cleansing breaths and then say inside themselves this affirmation....I am grateful for all of God's creation!
2. "Practice Renewal...jot down a list of 10 or 20 activities that renew your spirit!" I asked each of the children to name one and the responses were delightful from listen to music, to take a nap, go for a hike, or just look out the window reflecting on things! One of mine is journal writing!
3. "Reflect...on any negative thought or old habit that may be dampening your spirit and replace it with something from the renewal list. An old not good habit of mine is to not floss well due to my tight teeth, and I had to admit it to the kiddoes as well as to say then I stress going to the dentist as I know they will not be happy with me and that is for my own good. Now having shared that I told them I am reflecting on changing that, the responsible thing, and maybe an incentive could be listen to music as I floss that is calming and then I will play it on my way to the dentist...no more stress! The children know I always say that whether one is big or small we all have chances for new right choices each day and we are blessed to have a loving God who forgives us when we do "mess up". Amen!
4. Ritual...we talked about this being a type of ceremony, something you do on a daily basis, and/or a celebration (all their ideas). Our curriculum encourages us to set up what I call a sacred space (like our circle area in the Rainbow Room classroom) a place to share items of rebirth and renewal like from nature, our prayer request book, Bible, affirmation cards,, etc. Maybe your family could set up a special place, a small table top, etc to change as the seasons do... a place for quiet, prayer, contemplation...

Another idea was about starting to focus on new life by planting things from herbs, to veggies, to flowers. Gardening as a family is such a great activity on so many levels. This summer Brad and I hope to add a little outdoor fish tank feature to our gardening attempts. Whatever activities you choose or consider may they bring new light and joy into the lives of all those in your family. Happy Easter blessings to all!

Now for the new information which will go beyond the month of April and will carry into June! Next week on April 3rd we will do our Children's Church Communion, our sacred circle events, and then we will dive into our new lessons inspired by the book "The 12 Gifts of Birth" by Charlene Costanzo. From April 3rd through May 29 each week we will focus on these gifts through lessons I have developed connecting our Progressive Christianity affirmations and curriculum to other traditional lessons I researched from online sources for Sunday School (Children's Church) programs, to yearly scripture/meditation books I have collected, to poetry, and music, etc etc.... All of this is prepared already so each week we can then focus on maybe 2 gifts that children present that day have chosen for their presentation piece on Children's Sunday, June 12! Each child will choose scripture verses to share that connects to their gift, an affirmation to share, and they will take time working in their Faith Reflection Journals recording these things as well as their own thoughts about what their gift means to them. They will each do an art piece (canvas painting as we have the last 2 years) that depicts all of this. In addition to this they each will have a musical piece that connects to their gift which will also be shared on Children's Sunday!

Christian Education.....



The gifts are as follows:

STRENGTH (Micah)	BEAUTY (Miss Sher)	COURAGE (Quinn)
HOPE (Mira)	JOY (Hunter)	TALENT (Austin)
IMAGINATION (Caleb)	WISDOM (Joey)	LOVE (Mikayla)
REVERENCE (Mr. Barry, Church Ed. Board)	FAITH (Miss Janice, Church Ed. Board)	
COMPASSION (Miss Lisa, Church Ed. Board)		

Special note...if we have other students join us they can pick from the gifts listed as being presented by the Church Ed. Board members or mine.

On June 5 we will put our final touches on everything and then we will practice it all to be set for June 12!

In the May "Inside/Out" I will update you on which of the gifts we did work on over April and about which ones will then become our focus for May. It will be a very busy time but I am excited to share this theme with the children as I feel it opens new opportunities for them to grow in their faith, to learn about new spirit tools to help them on their faith journey, to try new ways they can express themselves in creative and interesting directions, and hopefully they will have lots of fun in the process!

Thank you for reading through all of my information!

I hope that in giving you so many details it also allows you to see into the ways the children are connecting with all of the beauty, lessons, values, and joyfulness our church represents... thus they are becoming those new young leaders to carry on the important work the Jackson Community Church is all about! I am so proud of each child! Let's continue to encourage them on their path!

With much love, appreciation, and blessings to all,
Miss Sher

JCC Women's Group

The Women's Group would like to extend an open invitation to all women of the church and their friends to come for coffee and discussion. This group is open to all and it is not necessary to be part of the church, bring a friend!

Meetings are usually held on the last Wednesday of the month and are hosted by various church members and friends.

The next meeting will be held at Meg Phillips house on Wednesday April 27th at 10am.

JCC Men's Group

The Men's group has been meeting next door at The Wentworth for the Continental Breakfast on the second Saturday of each month at 7:30am.

The next meeting will be Saturday April 9th at 7:30am - Please join us! You would be welcome and it is a great group. We always have a wonderful meal along with some very interesting discussions, with a wide variety of topics.

Something for everyone!

Inside Out - Mount Washington Valley Happenings

Advanced Directives

Friday April 15, 7 pm
Whitney Community Center, Jackson

Do you know what kind of medical care you, or your loved ones would want if illness or an accident struck unexpectedly? Advance directives are legal documents that allow you to spell out your decisions about end of life care ahead of time. Americans today have great difficulty engaging in conversations about end-of-life choices. This hour-long presentation uses a historical perspective to help participants understand why we feel awkward and unprepared. Dr Marianne Jackson will describe available resources that help families explore the individual values that guide potential decisions and help attendees, young and old, comfortably engage their families in meaningful conversations about end-of-life choices.

This program is free and will take place at 7:00 pm in the Whitney Community Center in Jackson. Located in the heart of Jackson, the Whitney Center engages the community in recreation, cultural, and educational pursuits

World Religions—Islam

Monday April 18th 6pm
The Conway Public Library

The New Hampshire Humanities is sponsoring a short course on Islam for non Muslims on Monday April 18th, 6pm at the Conway Public Library. The interaction between Islam, Christianity and Judaism continues to impact events in daily life and politics on the world stage. Following an outline of Islamic beliefs and practices by Charles Kennedy, discussion will include how Islam is practiced in the United States. To register click [here](#) or call the library 447-5552



16th Annual Valley Pride Day

Saturday May 7th
Registration 8:30-10am

Its that time of year for our Valley wide clean up day. Pick up your trash bags, gloves and road assignments at your towns registration station:

- Bartlett: Bartlett Elementary School parking lot
- Jackson: Whitney Community Center
- Glen: Patch's Market parking lot

Followed by BBQ, Music, Prizes, and more at the Hampton Inn in N. Conway from 12 to 2pm

More on Zimbabwe

Political unrest in Zimbabwe continues:

Leader of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe's speech drew a paltry crowd recently, confirming the implosion of his ZANU-PF party. He seems to be taking over his wife's Grace's controversial rallies. (There is some speculation Grace is vying for the presidency.) Robert, is facing enormous pressure from factions within his party and pressure from war vets who want to dump him, so he is turning to the church and requesting divine intervention for protection and votes.



Your Help is Needed!!! Sign Up Today!!!!

Please sign up to Host Fellowship Hour and/or be a Greeter. They are both quick and simple tasks and are a part of your ministry to the church. Pick a Sunday—Sign up in Fellowship Hall near the kitchen.



Inside Out Address Changes, News Updates, Thoughts and Prayers

We strive to keep our church family, near and far, connected through this newsletter. We would love to hear from you!! Please send us information about yourself or other members of our church community, thoughts and prayers, and notices of pertinent community events. Please also let us know if your address has changed, or if you wish to be removed from the mailing list. Send any correspondence or changes to Jackson Community Church, Attn. Newsletter Editor, PO Box 381, 127 Main St. Jackson, NH 03846 or email to jcchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org

Name: _____

Street address: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____ telephone: _____

Thoughts/Prayers: _____



Steeple Light

If you would like the steeple lit in memory or in honor of a loved one, family member, friend or organization, please mail your request to:

Jackson Community Church
Attn: Steeple Lighting
PO Box 381
Jackson NH 03846

A suggested donation of \$30.00 is appreciated.

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM
Child Care Provided
Church 383-6187



Church
127 Main Street
PO Box 381
Jackson, NH 03846

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