



# *Inside Out:*

*The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church*

Vol. XIV, No. 11

December 2015

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

Greetings All!

Advent is the beginning of our church liturgical year. Here we are once again!

We get to start - anew - to remember the many parts of our time-honored story informing who we are in our faith community, what we stand for, how we choose to make decisions and how we choose to live together, allowing our faith to calm our anxieties and sooth our worries, in an atmosphere where we encourage joy and peace among kindred spirits. Let us ponder, as Mary did, about how it is represented in our family, our homes, our towns and our culture.

Recently a dear friend of mine, a Millennial, sent me a single frame cartoon that has been circulating, particularly among the Millennial's, on the Internet. It shows an image of Sesame Street's Kermit the Frog making the following statement:

"All of the Bible Belt states refusing to accept refugees put on a play about a Middle Eastern family fleeing persecution, seeking safety. But, hey, that's none of my business!"

No surprise....the Millennial who sent it to me is not sitting in any church pew on most Sundays. But, this Millennial is a deeply spiritual soul. This Millennial adores the Christmas story, wrestles with the violence espoused to the Easter story and wants to like 'the church' but 'just can't.' Bottom line: Why give up my day of rest when folks can't even live out the central message within their own four walls???

So what DOES this message mean to us in our good- natured , warm and welcoming faith community in Jackson? How are we living it out visibly? I know it's happening! Share what you believe is happening with others so we can lift it up!

This Millennial knows instinctively - it really is the business of ALL of is - especially the business of people who live the message of The Cosmic Christ. This Millennial is seeking a place where such wisdom is lived out. It is a challenge to find; it is around - but very rare indeed. It is the pearl of great price, truly!

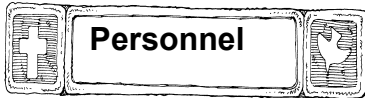
The birth and the presence of The Christ has been misrepresented by a great many fearful, power hungry, greedy, warring people for centuries - casting looming shadows over kind, compassionate, loving people relentlessly working to bring his message of Peace and Justice that is and will be - the heart of salvation for all. The message of The Christ is for all - not just the few.

We get to choose how to live out the Message of The Christ in our time. We get to choose our particular route. Who we are, how we choose to make decisions and how we choose to live together is our billboard that tells others the route we have chosen. We get to accept the responsibility for how we represent the wisdom of The Christ. Let us consider the following question: What faiths

and spiritual teachings have, across time, had the central messages so intensely focused on Forgiveness, Love, Compassion, Kindness, and Acceptance?



## Jackson Community Church



Rev. Leslie Anne Chatfield  
Interim Minister

Steve Swenson 356-9021  
Vice Moderator

Lynn Lockard 383-8011  
Vice Moderator

Judy Herrick 356-9158  
Minister of Music

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 December 16th. All are invited.

As Advent begins again...we are offered the opportunity to start over and to remember the forgiveness of losing our focus - and yes, we get to do that year after year as Advent begins. With love, compassion and acceptance showering our resolution, preparation and joyful merriment we may once again approach Advent with Hope, Faith, Joy and Peace, the focus of each of Advent's four Sunday's. Forgiveness, patience, kindness and compassion will be triumphant in the end. That is an evidenced based truth we can find in all of our lives. Thank you, Science, for encouraging us to seek such truth. Let's all get down to the work of Advent in whatever way you choose to do it!

You are the representative of the message. How do you wish to share it?

In closing, allow me to share the following poem with you.

### The Work of Christmas

When the song of angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
The work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoners,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among the brothers, and  
the sisters,  
and to make music in the heart.

- poem by Howard Thurman

I wish each and every one of you a Miraculous Advent!

May we all be filled with the most profound Hope, the most questioning and honoring Faith, the most mirthful and merciful Joy, the most ardent seeking of Peace, and - the most deeply forgiving Love!

Happy Advent! May it bring you the most soul filling Blessings!

Leslie

Inside-Out— January 2016 issue

Deadline: December 27, 2015

The deadline for submitting news and articles to be included in the January issue is Sunday December 27th. Please send information to:

Jackson Community Church, Newsletter Editor  
PO Box 381,  
Jackson NH 03846  
Email: [jcchurch@ncia.net](mailto:jcchurch@ncia.net)

# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYERS



Dec 3: Mary Anne Taylor  
Dec 9: Kate Taylor  
Dec 12: Isabella Hutchings  
Dec 13: Arden Schoen  
Doug Taylor  
Dec 15: Maeve Weeder

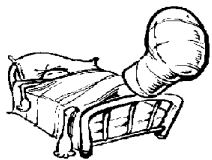
Dec 21: Barry Chisholm  
Dec 21: Anna Mays  
Dec 21: David Mays  
Dec 23: Mathew Synnott  
Dec 30: William Synnott

## Deacons

Colleen Allbee  
383-0990  
&  
Eileen McDonald  
986-5012

*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!*

The NH UCC Conference sends out a weekly newsletter that has some information that members and friends may be interested in. [click here](#) to see the latest newsletter.



In the Hospital

### Keep us informed!

It is important in this time of transition to please let Rev. Leslie or any of the Deacons know if a Church Member or Friend is ill, is in need, or has been hospitalized so that we can pay them a visit and offer support.

### Annual Meeting

The 2015 Annual Meeting of the  
**Jackson Community Church**  
will be held on Wednesday January 20, 2016.  
Please mark this on your calendar as it is a  
Very important meeting for all to attend.

Pot Luck Dinner: 6PM  
Roll Call and Meeting: 7PM

### Committee Chairpersons:

Just a reminder that your submission for the  
Annual Report is due before Christmas. When  
completed please send it into the office.

The Annual report will be available the two  
Sundays prior to the Annual Meeting in January.

Thank you.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally



Please join us in supporting the Mission Committee and other local crafters and vendors at the Silver Tea on **December 12 at the Whitney Community Center**. We will have **SERRV** items, cards for **Heifer** and **Zimbabwe** available for sale.

SERRV items and cards will also be available after the church service on **December 13 in the Parish Hall**.

The Giving Tree is adorned with tags for our Angels and Elves sponsored family with 3 children. Each tag shows the child's age and hobby or clothing needs. Please brighten a family's Christmas by helping to provide these much needed items. All purchased items should be returned to the Parish Hall collection box by December 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!

### Please keep in mind:

-We are still collecting 2016 calendars for donations to the Gibson Center. You can drop them off in the box on top of the piano in the Parish Hall.

-We would love some additional committee members for 2016! Give us the gift of your time.

-- Keep the Race to Beat Cancer in mind as it will be here before we know it.



### News From Zimbabwe

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, James Mapepa, a Deacon in the Chikanga Mutare Church and a deputy headmaster at a local school, and his wife Chipo, a nurse, were tragically killed in a terrible auto accident. They leave behind 5 children. James' picture is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall: Bottom far right. Please keep their family in your prayers.

In other news from Farai Sithole, Alpha's husband: "The Zimbabwe situation is back to 2008. Industries are closing, people are losing jobs every day, there is drought, intra-party politics is bad and you have power about 6hrs a day. It is tough." As a forester, he goes on to say: "The heat wave affected our forestry industry badly. It is one of the worst years. On our plantation we lost 300ha up to now." And as a proud Dad and Husband he says: "The boys are fine. Tadiwa is finishing A level on Thursday. He is going to college next year. Munashe is finishing form one this year. Alpha is also completing her master's in education." He closes with: "We pray for you and Jackson Community Church. May our Good Lord continue to bless all. Pray for us and our country."

## Sewing Club Silver Tea

The Jackson Women's Sewing Club will be hosting The Silver Tea (Tea for Tuition) on Saturday December 12th from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Whitney Center. Please come to support our wonderful crafters.

If you have items to donate to the White Elephant table Joyce Allan will accept items on the front porch her home at 255 Black Mountain Rd. starting November 20th. Last minute items can be brought to the Whitney Center on Friday December 11th from 11 AM to 2PM.



### Save the Date:

The Race to Beat Cancer has been set for Sunday, January 31, 2016 at Cranmore Ski Resort. The registration is free of charge and online. Please 'like' and share their Facebook page to receive updates about the event.

Don't forget: the Mission Committee will sponsor anyone from the church, or friend of the church. Join the fun and support this great cause!

### 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 a Christmas Brunch held at Colleen Allbee's home on Wednesday December 9th at 10:30am. For directions please call Colleen at 383-0990.

### 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 new location has been very welcoming with increasing attendance.

The next meeting will be Saturday December 12th 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!

# Christian Education

"TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY..."  
HAPPY DECEMBER TO ONE AND ALL!

It is my dearest hope that by the time this letter arrives in your email box/post box that you will have had a delightful Thanksgiving filled with warmth, yumminess, family, friends, good cheer, and great blessings!

Since Brad and I moved up here over 10 years ago we have begun the tradition of getting our Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving. By Dec. 1 our home, my Montessori classroom, and for the past 2 years my Rainbow Room classroom here at church has had/will have Christmas touches meant to bring a smile to young and old alike! Being a Dec. birthday girl and a friend of Santa from years as an elf, I get so excited just thinking about picking our tree out at Weston's farm!!!

As a little girl my Dad, my brother, and I would go my Great Auntie's farm in the woods of Vermont to get our trees, a big one Mom would help us to decorate, and a little one for Larry's room, and one for mine! What ever your tradition is with your family may this year hold even more meaning for you! May it truly be a joyous time of reflection and reconnection!

The focus of this season is at the very heart of all we do in Children's Church...it is all about God's presence in our lives today, the greatest love, dreams fulfilled, and it is the reason for our wonderful life full of blessings and promise! What a joy to celebrate it with the children and their so happy faces, as well as with all of you dear friends! Enjoy and savor each moment as the month unfolds, relish in the tiniest bits of wonder, "let your hearts be light"...

Leading up to all of this of course in November for Children's Church we had the first two weeks filled with our regular lessons, projects, songs, affirmations, prayer time, and art work with a focus on the spiritual tools within each of us, the infinite possibilities for hope and goodness in our lives, the hand of God upon us in all situations/circumstances, and how we can be inspirations to others...following examples of kindness Jesus had for others. We have had some wonderful discussions and brainstorming sessions in our classes this fall!

On Nov. 14 Deb Doucette began the rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant! We have a wonderful group of enthusiastic children ready to share the delights of Deb's artistry with you all very soon! Special thanks as always to her for her creative, thought provoking, and joy filled efforts! Deb, you are amazing and the children so love doing this with you!!! THANK YOU!!!

When I began this newsletter I wrote "Tis the season to be jolly" and you would find that couldn't be more true if you were to sit in on one of the rehearsals! The laughter and excitement of the children involved is delightful! 3 cheers also go out to our Mom helpers and the Church Ed. Board for their assistance through this season be it covering for me one Sunday when I was ill, helping Deb at regular rehearsals, or being a part of dress rehearsal...Lisa, Janice, Allyn, and Barry you are all appreciated!

As I shared last month I prepared lessons in the event we had any younger kiddoes joining us, visitors, or for any one not involved in the pageant but so far that hasn't been the case. I sat in on the first rehearsal, was out sick for the second, and now will again have programs planned for this week (Nov. 29) and for the first week of December. I have materials ready from special stories, gratitude work, Christmas hymns, and communion planned for Dec. 6. However, if all of the children present are involved in the pageant those 2 weeks I will assist Deb in any way I can with our group!

Dress rehearsal will be the second week/weekend of Dec. just prior to the pageant date. As I am writing this we are not sure of which day or what time but possibly Fri. the 11th in the early eve or Sat. afternoon of the 12th. We will announce it at church/have it in the bulletin once it is confirmed.

The Christmas Pageant will be held during service time on Sun., Dec. 13th! Please do try to attend to not only support these incredible kiddoes and Miss Deb, but to have your spirits lifted and to enjoy a bit of the jolly I mentioned just watching them all!

On December 20 the children and I will be finishing projects/creations that we began in Oct/Nov. We will read the traditional Christmas story and we will do recordings in our Faith Reflection Journals following that.

On Dec. 27 we will look back at our whole year in Children's Church with reviewing scripture verses, affirmations, challenges and highlights, also answered prayers! We will look ahead to the new year with that same hope as in Jeremiah 29:11 knowing and trusting that God has great things in store for us all!

May this be the year your own child like wonder takes flight and may the wishes and prayers of all your hearts be heard and answered as is meant to be...Thank you all so much again for your incredible support of me and of Brad this year! We are cherishing this Christmas so much, so much to be thankful for...

Merry Christmas dear Jackson Community Church Family!  
With all my love, Sher





## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AND CELEBRATIONS



### **Advent Worship Services**

Come celebrate the four Sundays of Advent with services to include special readings and the lighting of the Advent wreath each week by different members of our church family.

Nov 29	First Sunday in Advent Lighting of the Candle of Hope	The Hutchings Family
Dec. 6	Second Sunday in Advent & Holy Communion Lighting of the Candle of Peace	John and Wendy McVey
Dec. 13	Third Sunday in Advent & Christmas Pageant Lighting of the Candle of Love	Tish Hanlon & Family
Dec. 20	Fourth Sunday in Advent Lighting of the Candle of Joy	Lee and Meg Philips

### **Hanging of the Greens**

Thursday, December 3rd 10am. We invite all who are interested to come join us for the annual "Hanging of the Greens" when the Sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas. Each year wreaths, swags, candles, poinsettias, The Creche, window candles and our tree with its white Chrismons come out of hiding to bring us Christmas Joy.

### **Children's Christmas Pageant**

Dec. 13th Performance will be during the service. A big Thank You to Deb Doucet, Miss Sher, and our special children for their hard work and to their parents for their dedication. Please plan on attending to support our children. A special collection will also be held during the pageant to help fund the Children's programs and Missions in 2016. Please give generously.

### **Christmas Services**

Thursday	Dec. 24th	5:00pm	Family Service with candlelight
Thursday	Dec. 24th	10:00pm	Candlelight Service

### **Christmas Caroling & Choir Music**

Please watch the church bulletin for the dates and times for sharing joy to our area nursing home residents. All ages and singing abilities are encouraged and welcome to spread the Holiday Cheer.

## Dinner for 7/8

Since some groups are still trying to have their last dinner, the next session of Dinner for 7/8 will begin in January.

A review: If you would like to participate you need to sign up every year and it is a commitment for one year, but you are not obligated to rejoin.

In January, groups of 7 or 8 people will be assigned . Each group will have a “leader” who will organize the first dinner. You have all year to get together for dinner 4 times during the year, once at each home or location of the host/hostess’s choice. The hostess provides the main course and each individual or couple brings either dessert, hors d’oeuvres or a salad. Some groups combine bread and salad or a side dish, but it is generally easier for a hostess to provide all of the entree main course. Each group can make their own decision as to how they wish to proceed. Everyone gets a turn to bring a dish from each category.  
If you are away a lot, that is usually fine and the group just tries work around everyone’s schedule.

If you would like to participate for 2016, by Jan. 3, please contact:

Kit Griffin 383- 7042 [rgkggriff@gmail.com](mailto:rgkggriff@gmail.com)

or

Linda Hastings 383-9375 [jimlindahastings@roadrunner.com](mailto:jimlindahastings@roadrunner.com)

### ***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@ncia.net](mailto:jcchurch@ncia.net)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Thoughts/Prayers:

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# Jackson Community Church Calendar

## December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> 4pm Deacon's Meeting	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 10am Hanging of the Greens 6:30p AA (BWL)	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> 9a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship Service w/ Communion	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> Christmas Women's Group 10:30am @ Colleen Allbees 5:30pm Pastoral Search Committee Mt	<i>10</i> 1:30p Wldng Rehearsal 6:30p AA (BWL)	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> 7:30am Men's Breakfast @ The Wentworth 5:00p Brown/Coppola Wedding
<i>13</i> 9a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship Service Christmas Pageant	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 7:30pm Council Mtg	<i>17</i> 6:30p AA (BWL)	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 9a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship Service	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 5:30pm Pastoral Search Committee Mt	<i>24</i> 5pm Christmas Eve Service 10pm Candlelight Service	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> 9a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a Worship Service	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 3:00 Wldng Rehearsal	<i>31</i> 5:30p Herr/Fleury Wedding 6:30p AA (BWL) New Years Eve	Christmas Day	



**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



## 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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