



# *Inside Out:*

*The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church*  
Vol. XV, No. 3

March 2016

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

## Arrival of March!

Great news! Great news! The first day of Spring is just days away, Palm Sunday is close at hand and Easter is fast approaching! But the latest news nearby is ...that after much prayerful, thoughtful, and intense work, our Jackson Community Church Search Committee has completed our church's profile and will be circulating it publicly after most everyone here inside our church community has had a chance to take a look at it. It will be on exhibit at the church for the next two weeks or so. Be sure to stop and take a look at it!! See what demanded such long, hard and extensive work. Come see the creative and imaginative profile your Search Team created to represent the spirit this church brings into the world!

So then .... What has our search committee now given up for Lent? They are giving up meeting to look deeply, internally into the spirit and life of the church. They have been meeting together as a group at least every other week since the spring of 2015; and more recently, since the mid Fall, every week. Back in May, they requested I meet with them, too, while I was serving another church elsewhere; then, when I arrived -full time- in August the process deepened and developed a more reflective, interior character as they developed an intentional, very deliberate group spirit through the Fall. Your search team has worked hard for you on your behalf. And they have completed a fine profile to give a colorful and accurate representation of this church. After Easter they will begin meeting again. They will take what they have learned from their reflective, prayerful inward process and use it to look outwardly at such candidates that might make a good match with this church. They will bring the hope of new life as they begin to meet with potential candidates. A new day is drawing near! It will be Jackson Community Church's very own Easter!

And now the question turns to this: How do we walk through these days of Lent? More specifically - how are you walking through this season of Lent?

What reflections are passing through your prayer life? What reflections come to you in your daily life? How are you experiencing life in a way that corresponds with or offers insight into the last days of Jesus' experience? How is this church experiencing this season of Lent as we make our way through these days of transition? What seems challenging? What seems celebratory? What days are upon us where we want to wave figurative Palm branches with joy that God has stepped into our lives and what days are upon us that we want to toss aside our faith and church practices as inconsequential in a world that is ripped and torn by secular brouhaha? Isn't that the kind of environment that took Jesus to the cross? How do we grow and nourish our faith in such a world as this? Where do we seek signs of resurrection and new life in our church community? Where will we find 'Easter hope' among us? Let us pray for our church and one another during these days.

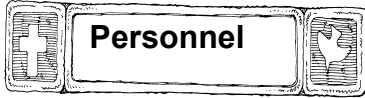
These last days of Lent offer us our yearly gift of 'ponder time' to reflect on our own life patterns. The period of Holy Week permits us to consider how God enters our lives and how we use God's presence to guide us through the vicissitudes of daily life. It is a time rich for the spirit of reflection and prayer! Welcome to this time that prepares us for Easter!

May your regular prayer and meditation time imbue your life with a holy presence! And may God's deepest blessings fill your days of Lent.

*Leslie*



**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 March 16th. At 7:30pm.

## Holy Week Services

Sunday March 20th:	Palm Sunday
Thursday March 24th:	Maundy Thursday Service 6:30Pm in the Sanctuary
Friday March 25th:	Good Friday Sanctuary will be open for meditation
Sunday March 27th:	6:30am Sunrise Service –Gazebo 10:30am Easter Worship Service

### Notes from the Treasurer.....

Take advantage of a tax break! Do you place \$5, \$10 or more cash in the plate when you come to church? Did you know if you pledge and put that cash in an envelope, or write a check, the treasurer can track your donations for you and provide a tax letter at the end of the year to include in your itemized deductions.

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

Inside-Out— April 2016 issue  
Deadline: March 27, 2016

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

Jackson Community Church, Newsletter Editor  
PO Box 381,  
Jackson NH 03846  
Email: jcchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org

# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYERS



March 5: Emily Benson

March 7: Tala Nuzzelillo

7: Holly Lovgren

March 8: Noah McLeavey-Weeder

March 8: Jack Dunn

March 10: Steve Allbee

March 26: Bill O'Shea

March 28: PJ Benson

Mar 8th: Mona and Barry Chisholm

*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!*

Remember to set your clocks ahead on Saturday March 12th before retiring for the evening. We wouldn't want you to be late for church!!



## 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 on Wednesday March 30th 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 new location has been very welcoming with increasing attendance.

The next meeting will be Saturday February 13th 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!

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally



The Race to Beat Cancer held on Jan. 31 at Cranmore Mountain was again a great success thanks to the racers, volunteers and of course, the sponsors! Our own Dick Ayer was, again, one of the highest fundraisers raising **over \$ 1300. !!**  
The whole event raised \$13,000

### Zimbabwe News

**A big thank you to all my  
sponsors in the Race To Beat  
Cancer. Dick Ayer**



Farai Sithole (left), Alpha Sithole (right) and Mr. Muchayi the Stewardship person handing over the piano which was sent as a result of generous donations from the Jackson Church.

The following was shared from a contact in Zimbabwe. **Please keep them in your prayers.**

"The country is in dire need of food as the so called El Niño has hit Africa to such an extent that even water to drink is being rationed to those in town. Hunger has affected the part of Africa with Zimbabwe the hardest hit because of its economy already in the drains."

Several of the Chikanga people are now using WhatsApp. It's an app that is like texting but can communicate between any cell phone. They receive the message instantly and it doesn't appear to cost them anything.

Farai's cell phone # +263772225223

Alpha's Cell phone # +263772587686

Muno's cell phone # +263771082376

*God is still speaking,*  
**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**



The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. You can be a part of this mission by giving in the upcoming offering through the month of March.



WARM MARCH GREETINGS TO ALL FROM MISS SHER AND THE CHILDREN'S CHURCH!

Today as I am writing this it is a gray and icy day (Feb. 24), schools are closed, sand trucks are out, and it is a day for reflection. From my studio window I was watching a squirrel dart from tree to tree, feathery seeming bits of snow falling with each jump, and a quietness prevailing that almost felt like a soft blanket being tucked around me!

I am anxious for the coming of spring but today I am resting in that late winter solitude, knowing the green shoots will be showing soon and fresh new beginnings will reveal themselves! The children in the Rainbow Room/Children's Church program have been diving into reflection with our lessons and as they have begun to pick individual "gifts" to explore and present to you all in June! Our discussions and prayer times in class have shown me once again that we have such a caring and amazing group of children in our midst!

The first week of Feb. I was fortunate to have Quinn Haggerty at church who shared with the congregation the following quote: "Keep your thoughts positive because your thoughts become your words. Keep your words positive because your words become your behaviors. Keep your behaviors positive because your behaviors become your habits. Keep your habits positive because your habits become your values. Keep your values positive because your values become your destiny." -Gandhi Following his reading Quinn and I joined his Grandma and the rest of the congregation for Pastor Leslie's message that day as his buddies were all out on the slopes.

The next 2 Sundays it was great to have more friends present for our planned lessons delving into tales from St. Francis of Assisi and about being an instrument for a blessing on Valentine's Day to stories involving humble spirits, kindness, and love last Sunday (the 21st). We focused on the ways Jesus showed us His gentle, loving, caring, kind, humble Spirit and how He encouraged His disciples (and all of us!) to be more that way. I brought my copper bowl for healing arts/spa sessions and shared about how Jesus washed the feet of His disciples while each of the children present received their own experience. The aroma of lavender and other essential oils filled the room as they wrote their thoughts/drew in their Faith Reflection Journals. This week (28th) we will be talking about what true success really means with the lesson "Nothing Fancy" and verses from II Corinthians and from Romans. The affirmation is "My success is measured in happiness and peace within."

Now for March! This month is filled with such celebration with the time changing on the 13th, Palm Sunday and the first day of spring on the 20th, and Easter on the 27th! Ski season and special wintry events our children have been involved in will be winding down and we will start our studies based on the book "The 12 Gifts of Birth" by Charlene Costanzo. Here are our plans as they stand now...

March 7: Children's Church Communion and the lesson about Harriet Tubman as we continue to play catch-up from our Feb. plans.

We will hear the story of "19 Dangerous Trips" and we will focus on making right choices/willpower. March 13: Today we will focus on the gift of STRENGTH with the lesson "God's Strength is Everlasting" with a key verse coming from Isaiah 40:31. We will be engaged in all kinds of special activities from songs, stories, games, and art on this theme. This is the "gift" Micah White has chosen to concentrate on for his Children's Sunday presentation.

March 20: We will go back to our Progressive Christianity curriculum this week and next as we celebrate Palm Sunday and Easter.

Today the children will hear the story of "Anna and the Donkey", scripture verses from Matthew, we will focus on what "Hosanna" means and how we can bring praise into our daily round! The affirmation we will focus on is "I find my true self when I put others first."

March 27: Happy Easter! Today we will celebrate with the 4 R's...Rebirth, Renewal, Reflection, and Ritual! Our activities will connect to our affirmation "My true self is ever new. I am eternal light, love, and joy!" We will share verses from I Corinthians and our story will be "Andre's New Day" and if the weather is good we may try an outdoor nature related closing circle!

As I have been writing this I can feel my senses whirling just thinking about the changes in the seasons, the hope and promise before us, the joy of celebrating together that which is wonderful/filled, amazing, and joyous...that is what I see when I look in the eyes of each of our children! Take a moment right now to reflect on all the blessings around us...take a breath, easy, in and out, and as you finish reading my words...feel the energy of your own heart beating, listen to sounds around you like the birds I am hearing now, immerse yourself in time soft and quiet solitude as winter moves on to the first breath of spring, feel that in your own shining spirit, breathe, be, blessings abound!

With love and appreciation to all,  
Miss Sher



Book review by Steve Swenson  
**COMPOSING A FURTHER LIFE: *The Age of Active Wisdom***  
by Mary Catherine Bateson\_(Vintage Books 2011)

This book was most informative and personally encouraging for a still healthy, active, eighty-two year old.

Using Erik Erikson's eight developmental life stages Bateson, now in her mid seventies, justifies adding an additional stage between Adulthood and Old Age based on the fact that people are living much longer. From her research, insights and wisdom she outlines the essential life tasks confronting those of us composing our further lives in order to maintain our integrity and self-worth. Though typically "retired" we are not totally "over the hill" and still have value.

Not only do we have time for introspection but time to explore new ventures and commitments. With wisdom and perspective from the past we can still contribute to future generations.

As our "elder identity" unfolds, Bateson says we need to adopt a healthy life style which includes staying active physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. I sense she would agree with Garrison Kieler's spin-off, "Be well, do good works and stay in touch."

I'm looking forward to reading some of Bateson's earlier writings including COMPOSING A LIFE and WITH DAUGHTER'S EYE. The latter is based on her recollections and reflections on her mother, Margaret Mead.





## Save The Date

Tin Mountain First Season Auction and Dinner  
Saturday March 12, 2016  
Fryeburg Academy Ada Wadsworth Arena

The real start of spring here at Tin Mountain is marked with the First Season Benefit Dinner and Auction. To be sure not to miss this event, mark your calendars today for the 30th Tin Mountain First Season Benefit Dinner. There will be a fabulous new chef with options for gluten free, vegetarian and vegan. Support environmental education while ushering in spring by having a stupendous time, with over 400 items up for bid, a fabulous meal, great music, and interesting company. Tickets are \$50 each and checks can be mailed to Tin Mountain, 1245 Bald Hill Road, Albany NH 03818 or given to Linda Hastings or Lori Kinsey.



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

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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