



Inside Out:

The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church
Vol. XV, No. 5

May 2016

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

Greetings, All!

As Interim times go, this interim at Jackson Community Church has gone the way of most healthy interim periods. There have been many new insights, the release of precious and tender relationships, thoughts, and hopes, no small amount of significant hard work accomplished, and new visions for a blossoming future. Such are transition times in our lives. The life of the church has the same experience. May we be blessed.

Our Pastoral Search Committee completed the Profile and the Prospectus and the advertisement for the UCC website. The Jackson Community Church Profile is circulating now; the Search Team is beginning to review profiles. They will inform us, in the most appropriate fashion, as they progress. Confidentiality is central now.

We are giving thanks for Sher Loomis' service to our Sunday religious education program with our younger members and preparing to give her a celebratory adieu on Children's Sunday. Celebration and gratitude is central to this completed cycle.

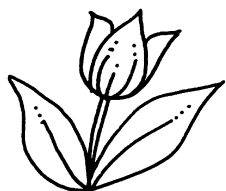
Our church community is feeling the shifting of leadership from one long-serving faithful pastor as it prepares to welcome a new one into the tapestry of believers, both in Jackson and in the Mt. Washington Valley at large. Hope, hospitality, generosity, patience, kindness and vision are most needed. May we embody such gifts of spirit.

We are called to be a community that is strengthened by its understanding of healthy boundaries in the midst of sharing and compassion, to show gratitude in varieties of celebration, and to extend our hearts, our voices, our touch, our blessings to those who need our presence. This is very much how the Jackson Community Church identifies itself. May our healthy presence be one of God's greatest treasures.

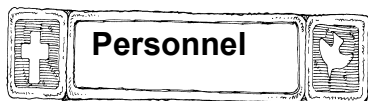
All of the changes our church is experiencing come at a time when the Church, at large, is experiencing a reinstatement of new definition. Churches across the globe are changing rapidly and the Jackson Community Church is one, here in the northeast, that is at the hub of the change as it pursues new leadership. Walk with us, Holy One.

How do we go about moving into the future thoughtfully and with intention as the foundation of "church" is shifting globally?

(continued)



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 May 18th. At 7:30pm.

The Pastoral Search Committee has voiced interest in reading the recently published book, Beyond Resistance, by John Dorhauer, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ at the national offices of the UCC in Cleveland, Ohio. Not only did the Pastoral Search Committee voice interest in reading the book for their edification during their current work, but also to extend the invitation to the Jackson Community Church's congregation so they might get more insight into the thoughts, hopes and visions of others members of the congregation. Sharing such thoughts in community is central to the future vitality of any group committed to a common future. Dorhauer kindly and honestly addresses current concerns of the 'church' struggling into a new time, beleaguered by scarcity and cynicism and pushing into a paradigm of possibility, mission, and a new reformation. He calls us all to become allies in our commitment to justice, generosity, and serving God's common good. He points the way towards a thoughtful, inspired common future, where we choose to become partners with the still speaking God. May this be so.

Jackson Community Church purchased 25 copies of Beyond Resistance at the special reduced rate of \$10/copy (Amazon offers it at \$16/copy). Ask Search Team members what they have thought about the book if you are interested in purchasing one. The books are fast disappearing. There are still a few left in the church office. Come and see, come and listen, come and share. Who are we - in the community of God's faithful - as we move into the future?

We will be gathering on Mondays for a book study focusing on Beyond Resistance beginning on May 16th at 5pm. Please join us!

We are moving into the future together. Let's celebrate what that may look like!
Holy One, nudge us along with grace and fill our hearts with gratitude. May it be so.

Blessings of peace for us all.

Leslie

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

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

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYERS



May 2: Linda Hastings
Pat Grieco
May 5: Sally Swenson
Bruce Hill
Mira Kearns
May 8: John Pepper
May 16: Steve Swenson
May 17: Cheryl Pizor
May 26: Jack Thompson
May 29: Brandi Watterson



May 18: Bruce and Vicki Hill

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



Pot Luck Brunch

SAVE THE DATE!!! Please join us for a Pot Luck Brunch on Sunday June 5th in Fellowship Hall following our regular Sunday Worship Service. Come and say Hello to many church friends before the busy part of summer kicks in. Bring your favorite dish to share!

Protestant Chapel Association Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Protestant Chapel Association was held on February 29, 2016 with many members in attendance.

The President, Secretary-Treasurer and Directors were elected as follows:

President: Joyce Allan

Secretary/Treasurer: Sandy Louis

Directors: Dick Ayer, Chris Ayer, Paul Palubniak, Alice Pepper and Meg Phillips

The hot item was discussion of the playground agreement between the PCA and Fritz Koeppel who owns the land on which the playground sits, plus the driveway exit behind the church. Fritz wants to sell this parcel and has approached JCC as the most likely buyer. Considering our plans for the future and the outreach we envision, this land has value to the church. At this time, we are waiting for Fritz to come forward with a price for the land.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally

valley to Village

On Sunday April 10, local school nurse, Helen Crowell spoke to us during Children's Time about her Valley to Village Project. The funds raised go directly to her Peace Corp connections in Nepal to help rebuild a community school that once held 600 children but got destroyed in last years devastating earthquakes. The Mission Committee presented her with \$200 towards the project. If you wish to donate to this project, feel free to drop a check in the Sunday plate, with the note of "Valley To Village" on it. Also, Helen conducts fundraisers around the valley for the cause as well. Her next one is an art show/auction on May 20th at the Bartlett School. Helen has sent her Thanks for hosting her and for the money we have provided.

Have any extra time to help with a project for our Troops?



Last year our church members and friends made hats and Christmas Stockings to be given out to our troops as they returned home and landed at Pease. Last year, it was estimated that 10,000 hats were given out and the inventory is depleted. Our church has already committed to making at least 40 Christmas Stockings but we can use your help at our 'cutting' party on May 4th from 10 -12 in the Parish Hall. Please bring sharp scissors. If you wish to help sew the stockings or knit hats, please see any Mission Committee member, or contact Meg Philips at margaret_p@roadrunner.com for more info. Volunteers can also help distribute these items as *Pease Greeters*, meeting the troops when the flights arrive.

Zimbabwe News

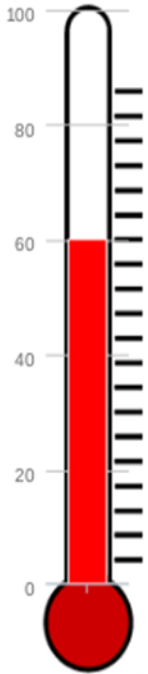
From Rev Fungayi Mutsumbei

"Yesterday I was having four hours meeting with the church members and residents of Tamandai about the food needs in the area. It was very clear that we have a serious drought this year. It was revealed that the community food output did not even come to a third of what they use to get. Last year food harvests were also below the standard harvests and this is clear that it is going down every year due to poor rainfalls. Last week we had very heavy rainfalls all over in Zimbabwe, but that was not of any benefit to the crops in the fields. We have rains, but the rains did not come at the right time, and how can those WATERS be of importance to us? I came up with mini-irrigation project plan to make use of the rains which comes the crops are dead. We have two ever flowing rivers in the area and there are limited flat lands along the rivers which can be used for small irrigations. Between 5 -10 families using one small water pump to draw water to be used to irrigate at least one hector for a family. One hector gives 8 tons of maize and a Zimbabwe family size uses 4 tons of maize a year and this leaves an extra of 4 tons to be sold to those outside the area. The cash realized will be used for other family needs including paying their dues to their churches.

I know that when you understand something, it will be difficulty for you to keep quiet, I am hereby inviting you into my campaign to make available food on the table. It is not a good idea to give people food but to walk with them into ways that can give them food. "

Rev Mutsumbei visited Jackson (2008?) and recently attended Andover Newton Seminary for two years while earning a master's in Christian Education

Our Thermometer Is Rising!



In response to the needs in Zimbabwe, Jackson Community Church is raising funds to help fund a bore hole (well) and to purchase maize, a major food staple. Several fund raisers will take place over the next few months and there will be individual opportunities to purchase “drops” of water or “buckets of maize”. The need is great, please consider giving generously.

The Mission Committee hopes you will help it reach its goal of raising \$1000 towards the drilling of a desperately needed well in Zimbabwe.

We will track our progress on our thermometer in the Parish Hall. If you wish to donate directly to the project, we have ‘raindrops’ you can purchase for \$10 each, or a ‘bucket ‘ for \$25. Feel free to put your name on either, or purchase one in honor of someone else. We will have Mission Committee representatives in the Fellowship Hall after services.

Save the Date - Plant Sale

Plant Sale – Saturday May 28th 9-12pm to be held by the Jackson Grammar School. We will be looking for donations of perennials, seedlings, cuttings, garden cast outs, potted plants, vases, etc, ahead of the date. Items may be delivered to the school between 8 and 9 AM on the 28th or placed under the stairs at the church starting Wednesday, May 25th. Please keep this in mind as you work in your Spring gardens. Thank You!



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

Christian Education

HAPPY MAY TO ONE AND ALL FROM MISS SHER AND THE CHILDREN'S CHURCH!

One of my favorite childhood memories is about May Day! When I was in third grade in the little town of Barnet, Vt. our teacher had us create beautiful paper May baskets that we filled with sweet treats, little flowers, and special notes. We then as a class took a walking trip through town and left these as surprises on the doors of our older residents! Many moons later when I operated my own private pre-school and kindergarten in Portsmouth my students and I enjoyed participating in a special May Day celebration at a local nursing home, complete with a Maypole to dance around! The children and the elder residents so enjoyed it! This year in the north country with our tree buds, flowers, and the green of spring just beginning to blossom I am reminded of these experiences when things truly seemed fresh, beautiful, and spirit lifting!

As I expect most of you are aware by now, the first Sunday in April our dear Church Education Committee member Lisa White announced that I would be stepping down as Church Education Coordinator effective after our Children's Sunday presentation on June 12. The decision to leave JCC was not an easy one as I have been blessed in so many ways being a part of the church and having the honor to work with our amazing children! However, I have been feeling the need for some time now to cut back, to enjoy more time with my husband, our families and friends, and to just focus on my work at the Mountain View Montessori School. I want to thank Lisa for the kind words she expressed on behalf of the Church Education Board. I also want to thank her, Committee Chairperson Janice Nichipor, and Committee Member Barry Chisholm for the kindness and support they have shown me over these last 2 and a quarter school year programs I have led and over the 2 summer programs I was involved in.

We are working hard on developing our Children's Sunday presentation as you know. We have decided to combine more of the traditional elements from our regular services with the contemporary studies we have been doing over the last 2 years. My hope is that our presentation will be delightful and that it will appeal to all ages at the church! My prayer is that those present on June 12 will see the true shining light within each of the children involved! They are the such a wonderful group and have so many gifts to share!

It is with that thought in mind that I chose "The 12 Gifts of Birth" as our theme this year!

On April 3rd following the announcement the children and I spent time in our Rainbow Room classroom talking about our shared experiences, going over more fully our plans for my remaining weeks, and talking about how much I have enjoyed being their teacher! One of my favorite experiences with them has been our prayer times together! We have shared prayers for our church, schools, communities, family members, friends, travel mercies, and so much more! They were such strong prayer partners for my husband a year ago when he had his open heart surgery and they know I will always be thankful for that. We also talked about how change can be exciting with new opportunities and new church adventures to come for them!

We then moved on to celebrate our Children's Church Communion together and then focused on a list of our goals and lessons for April and May.

On April 10 we began working on individual lessons that connect to "The 12 Gifts of Birth" theme for our presentation. We began with the gift Micah White has chosen, the gift of strength. We read scripture verses that focus on that such as Isaiah 40:31. We also read affirmations posted around the room from our Progressive Christianity Curriculum and each child present chose an affirmation to record in their Faith Reflection Journals that connects to their gifts.

Christian Education.....

On April 17 we focused on the gift of beauty, which is Abbey Murphy's chosen gift, sharing a Navajo prayer about beauty and also about our lessons that have connected to the beauty of God's handiwork. We touched upon the gift of imagination /creativity that is Caleb White's gift and then about reverence which is Finn Murphy's chosen gift. We spoke of reverence as sacredness and how our classes and church services are sacred, thus calling for our respect and full attention. We talked about reverence as an appreciation of all things, from this beautiful world God created to appreciating our elders just as my third grade teacher taught us on May Day and as I have been sharing with young students for 36 years in the education field.

On April 24th we focused on the gift of courage which is Quinn Haggerty's chosen gift and also about love which is Mikayla McGrath's chosen gift. When it comes to courage Quinn has portrayed that often as he has been a reader for Messages from the Children's Church, as well as having performed at school and with Mountain Top Music. He chose a scripture verse to represent his gift, as well as deciding on a focus for his art work connected to it. Each child will be sharing about a gift they feel God has given them on our presentation day! The gift of love is a perfect gift for Mikayla as she surely has a heart full of love to share with all she comes in contact with! She always has a hug, a smile, a drawing to share with all, and even surprises from jelly beans to a bunny for Miss Sher at Easter. She did a drawing about her love for her kitty and her cousin Olivia shared her love for Mikayla in her drawing. We spoke of the greatest gift of all being love and of how much God loved us in sending us His only Son!

Also the last 2 weeks of April we began readings during Messages from the Children's Church taken from 2 of our Children's Church library books "My Child You Are A Gift from God" and The Lion Book of Bible Stories and Prayers". We will continue with these readings through June.

Now for more specific plans for May...

Each week we will continue to work on preparing for our presentation with scripture, lessons from our curriculum as well as affirmations, poetry, and more connected to the gifts each child has chosen. I have called upon the members of the Church Ed. Comm. and some of the Moms of our students to be co-partners each week through June 5. I so appreciate their willingness to help out! If we have 4 or more students they will take half the group into what I have called our project room, such as where we made our Spirit Gardens and Terrariums for the Missions Fair, and they will help the children with their art work (visions, sketching, painting, collage, clean-up) while I take the other half to work on their readings. I devised a form they will be filling out including their chosen gifts, scriptures, etc that they will share with you all! We will begin our classes together in the Rainbow Room to allow for our sacred circle and prayer time, as well as Children's Church Communion on May Day! We will end each of our classes back in the regular classroom with special music time and closing circle.

June 5 Miss Janice will join me as we complete any unfinished parts to our program and then as we rehearse. She and I also will be meeting in May to go over, to sort, and to reorganize church materials, as I begin to bring home some of my personal belongings. Thank you so much in advance Miss Janice!

I will be working through my last day on June 12 to be sure things are in good order in the classrooms, that information on lessons I have taught will be available, and all else that may be needed! I so want each and everyone of you to know how thankful I am, how much I am still honored that I was chosen for the position, and for the sincere love and support given by many!

Blessings, good health, and much happiness to you all through this lovely month of May and beyond! With hugs and appreciation,

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 on Wednesday May 25th at 10am. Location TBD

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 May 14th 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!



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 jccchurch@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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