



Inside Out:

The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church

Vol. XVI, No. 2

February 2017

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



In a time when ice forms, then melts, then freezes over again, it's tough to find our footing. February finds us in the place between absolutes: hot and cold, bright and dark, open and closed, fearful and hopeful, screaming and silent, violent and peaceful, settled and uprooted. Yet it is when we struggle for balance between such binaries, living in a place of tension, that we sometimes gain the most perspective and uncover the greatest capacity for transformation.

Our time is not so different from 2,000 years ago, when Paul wrote to the community of Corinth during a period of oppression, upheaval and change. He wrote, "I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom ... I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling." As I mentioned last month, that's how I feel, when I'm learning how to ski, especially at the top of the hill or the bottom of an awkward fall. It's also how I sometimes respond, faced with news and events that seem overwhelming.

Paul spoke straight to God's people. No bravado. No poetry. The times stressed him out. The message he carried put him at risk and made him uncomfortable. Despite his own worries and wonderings, he encouraged God's people to discover what it meant to live out their faith, especially in difficult and demanding times. He was certain that they'd be given the resources necessary to continue.

In these days, as we're also called into a prophetic place as part of the church, we also need straight talk, without lofty words, and to look each other in the eye. And to listen first, with empathy and respect, before we speak or act.

So how do we enter into our prophetic calling as a church that makes a difference? I would say we do so by balancing joy and service. After last Sunday's service, two people offered some great advice about how to successfully go downhill on skis, rather than remaining stranded and frozen -- afraid to move in any direction -- at the crown of the hill. I add the tips below to ones my teachers already shared: crouch down to center yourself, make a plow with the skis, lean forward, and look where you want to go.

This new wisdom about going downhill is simple:

- * Smile. Smiling relaxes your face and then your whole body. It changes your posture. It sends a message to your mind. It opens you up and reduces the tension in your whole being.
- * Call out something brave and playful. One person was taught to sing out "Ooh-la-la!" before starting downhill. Another family always cries out, "Yukes and away!"

Maybe listening to the wisdom of others, then smiling and calling out, is one help way to move ourselves from that place of uncertainty and stillness to a point of communication and action.

We aren't promised that our work and play -- here or elsewhere in the world -- will be easy, or that all the issues and challenges that we face will be reconciled. We are simply promised that God will be with us and we will have the gifts essential to being participants in this world. Paul writes, "Now we have received ... the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God." The most important aspect of a prophetic call is that we don't do it alone ... we do it together in sustainable ways.

Take a moment to reflect. What are some of our gifts? I would say that we often start with love for this place and our people. These mountains, skies, woodlands, and rolling waters are in our keeping, though they will endure beyond us. And the people of this valley, as well as the communities beyond it, are our neighbors and friends. We are meant to tend to each other and the creation in which we live. Yet we are also accountable for lives and landscapes beyond familiar horizons and beloved faces: being rooted in this village church connects us to a bigger world and offers balance.

So what are the Spirit-given gifts that support us in these prophetic times? Each of us will have a different answer. Some of the Spirit-given gifts provide us with the resilience, hope, wisdom, humor, and compassion necessary to learn, work and serve in this world. The Spirit also invites to find inspiration, creativity and delight, to immerse ourselves in play and celebration, which leads to personal and communal renewal. Always, the greatest Spirit-given gift is relationship: the ways we find connection to our Creator.

Throughout this newsletter you'll find ways to engage in the prophetic life of the church. Let me highlight some of them:

Reading and learning:

- In February, we'll read the memoir *Learning to Fall* by Philip Simmons.
- Mentor Doug Bixby facilitates a session on Sat, Mar 4 in the morning to think about how to spend more time on mission and service and less on administration, by simplifying church committees and structures.
- In March and April, we'll hold a Lenten study group that works with *Secrets of the Dark Wood* by Eric Elmes.
- Take useful and inspiring classes offered by the UCC. The church will cover the cost of participation at upcoming workshops:
 - ◊ 'Prepared to Serve' in New Hampshire Conference in Pembroke, NH on **Sat, Feb 25** (more info and registration: nhcucc.org)
 - ◊ 'Super Saturday' at the MA, RI and CT conferences on **Sat, Mar 17** at Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham, MA (more info and registration: macucc.org)
- Register for Horton Center camp sessions for children, families, and adults. Childrens' scholarships via Bushy Thorne Fund for children who attend Horton Center or other summer camps, with preference for Christian camps). Forms available from church and camp info: <http://www.hortoncenter.org/camps/>
- Watch for the activities of our youth and children this spring, and how they engage us in awareness of how we may learn and serve in the world.

Moving and being:

- Yoga in the nearby 'old library' every Tuesday morning for women 50 and older
- In February, Hope on the Slope at Cranmore
- Winter outings: we're getting outside to walk, snowshoe, and ski and simply enjoy the snow and cold and each others' company.
- Weekly afternoon meditation in March and April as Lenten spiritual practices

Eat with us. We're planning many chances to celebrate with food, music, and good company:

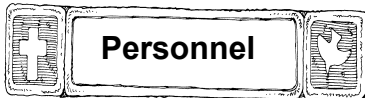
- Superbowl Sunday brunch church (potluck)
- Jazz and food during Mardi Gras
- Soup suppers in Lent.
- Women's group meets at the church this month for food and conversation
- Men's group meets at the Wentworth.

Serve with us as the church becomes involved in the community:

- Outdoor volunteer days with local causes:
 - ◊ Hope on the Slope in February @ Cranmore
 - ◊ Jackson XC Center events
 - ◊ Horton Center (UCC camp opening preparations)
 - ◊ Event with Katy Murphy Foundation to support children with heart conditions
- Eating lunch with seniors at Gibson Center
- Preparing and hosting community suppers



Jackson Community Church



Rev. Gail Pomeroy Doktor
doktalk@gmail.com
978-273-0308

Bob Carper
Moderator

Diana Germain
Music Director

Jeanette Heidmann 383-5959
Treasurer

Joanne Turner 383-6187
986-5018
Administrative Asst.

Tom Pizor
603-383-6050
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 February 15th at 7:30pm.

Worship: Sundays and during interfaith events

In a season filled with absolutes, we are people who thrive in the nuances of our creation. As humans, we're designed to practice self-care of spirit, body, and mind. At the same time, we are urged to stretch beyond our comfort zone, to become what we aren't.

As we seek balance in these tense, transformative times, let's be honest with each other. Let's listen. Let's reflect. Let's act. And let's remember, as we seek the courage to leave the heights, to move from safe places into risky ones, that if we do so while smiling and calling out, we may just enjoy the experience, and grow from it, too!

In love and hope born of God's grace and justice – Rev. Gail

Church Family News and Prayers



Feb. 5: Donovan Spaulding
Feb. 9: Talia Hutchings
Feb. 11: Caleb White
Feb. 21: Gabriel Scott
Feb. 25: Esmae Doucette

Directory Update....

Steve & Colleen Allbee
56 Cannonball Court
Watersound, FL 32461

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

Rev. Gail is making pastoral visits to homes and local care-giving institutions. If you're aware of someone who might benefit from a bowl of homemade soup and a visit, please let her know.

Thank You



A BELATED thank you to Rev. Gail, Alice Pepper, Gloria Hutchings, Wendy McVey, Sam Harding, Dick Ayer, Betsey Harding, and Arden and Ray Schoen for helping to "De Green" the church. (I hope I didn't miss anybody) Sam and Dick took down the tall boughs with the ladder and the others finished the job in 1 1/2 hours. Looking forward to next year.

Lynn

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally



Have any extra skeins, or even small amounts of leftover, worsted weight yarn, or unused knitting needles laying around? Our talented knitters can put the yarn to good use “whipping” up a number of hats to donate again this year to the Pease Greeter project. The knitting needles will be redistributed to knitters in need. You can bring it the parish hall where we will be collecting it .

Though we are still in the thick of winter, it is never too early to start thinking of plants and greenery. Please keep in mind, we will have another plant sale over Memorial Day weekend and all funds will be donated to a charity (yet to be determined). You can start now by saving containers, splitting up unruly houseplants to start new ones, order extra seeds, etc.

This is such a wonderful, fun, way to fundraise and it benefits folks all around; gardeners get to thin their gardens while helping other gardens prosper, and the funds go to worthwhile charities. We look forward to your help in making it a success again this year.



40th Anniversary
Hope on The Slopes
A Race to Beat Cancer
Sunday, February 12, 2017
Love on The Slopes
Whether you're a recreational skier, hotshot snowboarder, downhill racer, or just want to help in the fight against cancer, please join us for 40th Anniversary of the Race to Beat Cancer.
A fun-filled day on the slopes
All ages and abilities welcome
Register:
www.HOTSNH.org
Registration 8:30am
Raise \$100 receive a race shirt
CRANMORE
MOUNTAIN RESORT north Conway
Questions: 603.471.4112
bianca.beaudoin@cancer.org

Hope on the Slopes / A Race to Beat Cancer is back for it's 40th Anniversary! If you would like to participate as a skier, snowboarder, or racer—the Mission Committee will sponsor each participant with a \$25 pledge.

Contact Meg Philips if you would like to be sponsored. Margaret_p@roadrunner.com

Food Pantry News : The shelves are full right now!

Lynn Lockard will be stepping down as volunteer, but will remain the Jackson Church liaison and will still be taking the collected food from the basket to the pantry when needed and will be advising us of the needs. The JBFP is always looking for people to help out, if you are interested in being a volunteer, please call Lynn @ 603 986-6960.

The bulletin board in the Parish Hall gets updated frequently with newsworthy items. Recent postings include; the Horton Center 2017 Schedule, and Thank You's received from Jen's Friends, the Gibson Center, and the White Mountain Community Health Center. Be sure to check it occasionally .

Horton Center

Visit: www.hortoncenter.org for a listing of the 2017 schedule.
Registration has begun - look for more information in the March Issue



MARDI GRAS NIGHT TUESDAY FEBRUARY 21ST 5-8PM

In Christianity, Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday" and also known as Carnival and Shrove Tuesday) is the last day before the beginning of Lent, a period of fasting and repentance leading up to Easter, which celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Come celebrate Mardi Gras with us with Jazz music provided by local musicians and a taste of New Orleans food.

Jackson Community Church - Dinner for Seven/Eight

Please consider joining us for Dinner for 7/8 which we will be organizing in March for the next year. Everyone who has participated has loved it and made new friends or became better acquainted with other church members.

Here is how it works:

Seven or eight people will comprise your dinner group. You will meet for dinner at each home on a rotating basis three or four times during the year. Each group can make their own plans to accommodate individual schedules. Even if you are not around all the time, the group can usually find a meeting time good for everyone.

The group decides when to meet and who will be the host each time. The host provides the main course. The main course can be anything, such as a favorite family dish, cookout, picnic, or theme night.

Others bring the following:

Salad

Hors d'oeuvres.

Dessert.

Wine is optional.

At the next dinner everyone will bring a different portion of the menu. If "You don't cook" the food could be purchased or ordered from a caterer. If you feel you don't have the space to host the meal, you could make arrangements with the office and have your "turn" at the church or another location, such as a picnic. The meal can also be a brunch or anything the group decides to do.

To participate or for more information please contact: Kit Griffin: rgkggriff@gmail.com or Linda Hastings at 603-383-9375 Email: jimlindahastings@roadrunner.com. One member of the group will be designated as the first host and will contact the others to select the first dinner date. At the first dinner, plans can be made for the next dinner. Deadline March 26

Please do not assume that you will be included this time just because you participated in the past you need to sign up every year.

Hope you will join us! See you at the dinner table.

Kit and Linda



Star Island
Isles of Shoals, NH

Star Island, the UU and UCC Conference Center on the Isles of Shoals off of Portsmouth, has just published the conference schedule for 2017.

I usually go to the Mid-Week 1 conference Sept. 4 to 8 this year (Mary Edes is the minister of the week and organizes a great choir) and I may also go to the ISHRA (a historical research conference dealing with the Isles of Shoals) Sept. 8 to 10.

They have many discounts this year including 30% off on room and board for new shoalers or those who have not been there for more than 3 years. I also get a discount if you are new and go to one of the conferences I attend. I am encouraging people to attend because you will love it, not because I may get a discount.

I will include more information in future newsletters, but if you want more information now, you can visit starisland.org. (starisland.com is a completely different place).

I enjoy sharing information about Star and would be happy to answer questions.

If you have a family, you will find many conferences geared to families. Children have the most amazing time there. Most of the family conferences are offering the 30% discount on room and board to encourage new people to experience Star Island.

Linda Hastings



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.
Jump right in and give it a try.



Inside-Out— March 2017 issue
Deadline: February 24th, 2017

The deadline for submitting news and articles to be included in the March issue is Friday February 24th.
Please send information to: jcchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org



TIN MOUNTAIN – FIRST SEASON

Dinner & Auction

March 11, 2017

Ada Cram Wadsworth Arena—Fryeburg Academy

Join Tin Mountain trustees, staff and friends for a fabulous evening at the First Season Benefit Dinner Auction. Enjoy good cheer and bid on hundreds of exciting items donated by local businesses and craftspeople. The First Season Benefit Dinner & Auction provides critical support for Tin Mountain's environmental education programs offered to area children and adults.

The evening begins from 5:00 PM to 7:00 with hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and bidding on about 400 different items followed by a wonderful buffet with seafood, hand carved prime rib, a vegan dish, salads, etc. \$55.00 a person

Checks can be mailed to Tin Mountain 1245 Bald Hill Road, Albany NH 03818 (603) 447-6991
Or contact Pat Heiges (383-8005) or Linda Hastings (383-9375) for tickets or with assistance in organizing table seating.

Prepared to Serve

Saturday February 25, 2017

Prepared to serve is a fantastic and fun learning event that is put on each year by our New Hampshire Conference UCC. With over 70 workshops to choose from, over 30 exhibits, inspiring worship, and great food and fellowship it surely will be a special time for those who wish to go.

To view the workbook log onto www.nhcucc.org. It would be wonderful to get a group from the Jackson Community Church and to be able to carpool together. If you are interested in attending let the church office know. Registration (\$40/ per person) deadline is February 11th and the church will cover the cost for those who would like to go.

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!

The January Women's group will meet on Wednesday February 22th at 10am at the church. We are still looking for a volunteer to host this month. Please call or email the church if you are available.

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 Feb 11th 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.

There is always something for everyone!



Upcoming

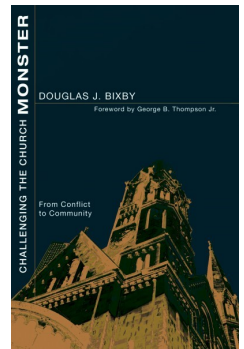
Book Study: February 28th

The next book we will be reading in the new monthly Book Study will be **Learning to Fall: The Blessings of an Imperfect Life** by Philip Simmons.

Everyone is invited to read the book and join in the discussion on Tuesday February 28th at 4pm in the Pastors office.

Mentor: Doug Bixby March 4th

Everyone is welcome to join us as we learn different ways we can think about restructuring OUR church. We will have copies Doug's books available prior to his workshop on March 4th. Contact the office if you would like to reserve a copy. There should be enough to share.



Scholarship applications available online

The following applications are available online at www.jacksoncommunitychurch.org under outreach

Bushee Thorne: The Bushee Thorne Scholarship is available to those wishing to attend summer camp with priority going to those attending Christian based camps such as the Horton Center on Pine Mountain, but are also available for special needs, YMCA, YWCA, Tin Mountain, ect.

Olive Godfrey Scholarship: The Olive Godfrey scholarship is available to any full time Jackson residence pursuing a secondary education showing a financial need and obtaining a 2.5 GPA.

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: _____

February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4pm Book Study	2 6:30p AA	3 Wentworth use of Fellowship Hall	4 Wentworth use of Fellowship Hall
5 9am Choir 10:30 Brunch Church	6	7 9-12 Gail's Office Hrs	8	9 6:30p AA	10	11 Avalanche Course
12 9am Choir 10:30aWorship	13	14 9-12 Gail's Office Hrs	15 7:30 Council Meeting	16 6:30p AA	17	18 Avalanche Course
19 9am Choir 10:30aWorship	20 Presidents' Day	21 9-12 Gail's Office Hrs 5-8 Mardi Gras	22 10am Women's Group @ church	23 6:30p AA	24	25
26 9am Choir 10:30aWorship	27	28 9-12 Gail's Office Hrs 4pm Book Study				

Find Us...

On the Web

www.Jacksoncommunitychurch.org

On... YouTube

Jackson Community Church NH



Steeple Light

The Steeple will be lit in the month of February in memory of Michael Cline, long time Tin Mountain Director and loving husband of Lori Kinsey who passed away in January. With fond memories, - The Hastings.

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



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