

Jackson Community Church 2018 Annual Report

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Ministers Report

Psalm 121 A song of ascents.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?
- ² My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
- ⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The LORD watches over you—
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶ the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;
- ⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

One of the Hebrew texts we read at the end of 2018 was Psalm 121. The passage begins with a cry that we lift up our eyes to the hills, to the mountains, when seeking help from the Lord. The song continues. It reminds us that the summits surrounding us and the valley cradling us are home to our Creator. Holiness — instead of being distant and unattainable — is here in the world and the people all around us.

The song of Psalm 121 then ends with a promise that God’s Love will keep us and watch over our comings and goings, now and forever. It is a covenant to be present from our arrival in this world to our exodus from it, and to welcome us into our next home, when we leave this earthly experience.


Perhaps we can consider Psalm 121, and its promises, as we remember 2018. Last year was indeed a time of coming and going for Jackson Community Church, which serves as both a spiritual and physical home for many people. While we put our building to the service of the town, we also go outside our walls to connect with our community.

In many ways, we literally and metaphorically built homes in this valley. Volunteers from our congregation helped Habitat for Humanity work on a new house for one family. Others gathered to winterize neighbors’ homes in collaboration with other valley churches through Neighbor to Neighbor: weatherizing windows, painting, building ramps, and moving cords of firewood. Other members and friends helped raise the frame of a post-and-beam pavilion with the local grammar school!

One family at a time, we worked to provide shelter for local children and families. As we enter the new year, our church is helping co-found and launch the Way Station, a new day resource center for homeless adults, families and adolescents in the Mt Washington Valley. It provides wrap-around services such as showers, laundry, lockers, internet access, post office box, social and emotional support, and connection to nearby social services.

Housing issues took other forms, too. Church staff and congregation members served on local and regional housing task forces in the village and valley, seeking long-term solutions to make housing more accessible to a variety of populations through regulatory and policy changes. Viable housing is hard to find for local workers like EMTs, police, firefighters, and teachers; young families just starting out; and people who want to age in place.

Then we focused on the physical wellbeing of spiritual homes: church buildings. At the end of 2018, skilled professionals repaired and even improved the front entrance of our historic 1847 church. The doors, which are unlocked and open 24/7 for anyone seeking sanctuary in the church, are now aesthetically appealing and safe to use. Additionally, we changed over to LED lights throughout the church, providing a more fiscally prudent and environmentally sensitive system.



Meanwhile, we continue to build up our sister church: Chikanga Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe. They sent photos of the trusses and roofing that they have installed, as well as the interiors that are coming to life. Zimbabwean delegates visited our church during their travels to New Hampshire, sharing a meal, songs, stories and worship with us. We sent back a banner — made by our children — to adorn the new walls that Chikanga has raised with our financial support.

Our little village church offered humanitarian aid several times during domestic crises: often to address the need for homes and belonging for other people. In the aftermath of gas explosions in MA and fires in CA, we offered tangible assistance to people whose homes were devastated. Some of our friends even helped dig out families and homes overwhelmed by those natural disasters. We sent humanitarian aid to groups working with refugee children held in government custody on the border. We also learned about asylum-seekers in need of sponsors and homes here in NH, and began working with the United Church of Christ's Immigrant & Refugee Support Group to support individuals who need advocates and host families while they go through the immigration process. We continue to collaborate with other Mt Washington Valley churches on this initiative.

The comings and goings of friends and neighbors directly impacted Jackson Community Church. Beloved families relocated to other states or countries; we said good-bye more than once. Students, recent graduates, gap-year explorers, and young people serving in the military, all living in far-off places, received care packages to remind them of their roots. Balancing out those farewells, new friends and neighbors have relocated to our valley and village, and found a spiritual home here at Jackson Community Church.

Our neighbors provided feedback about how the church could become a more active participant in the social and cultural life of Jackson. We developed deeper ecumenical and interfaith partnerships through shared worship, prayer vigils, celebrations and community service in the valley. The church has also strengthened its collaborations with and ties to civic partners: town staff, schools, libraries, community centers, and other nonprofits.

Over this past year, friends and members knocked on neighbors' front doors to drop off soup and groceries, hold hands, offer hugs, listen to stories, deliver cards and flowers, bring prayer blankets, pay visits, and sing Christmas carols. Far beyond our own front doors, we gathered for walks, dances, races, marches, hikes, climbs, bike rides, ski events, and other activities that raise funds and awareness for different causes. We made a difference in local households!

While folks were out in the community, our building provided a civic, spiritual and social hub for many constituents. We hosted scout troops, youth groups, and adult learners. We supported classes for physical and spiritual wellbeing: yoga, reiki, balance, and fitness. We welcomed music teachers and their students; we hosted lecturers, performers, and concert goers. We created spiritual gatherings around town — along the river, on hiking and ski trails, near the original church site, at the gazebo, in the old church, and at the cross-country ski center — and held worship experiences here in our historic village church.

We appreciate our handsome, historic church building. Yet we know the church isn't the walls and roof: it's the people with whom we are connected who make Jackson Community Church a home. Together, we take up our daily comings and goings and once-in-a-lifetime hellos and good-byes. Our doors are open, our hearts are wide, and our hands reach out to hold on ... and sometimes to let go.

As Psalm 121 reminds us, our Creator is watching over us and caring for us through our comings and goings. The sacred song reminds us that not all people have shelter, safety, and a sense of belonging ... a spiritual and physical *home* is one of the gifts our church offers. Right here in the mountains — offering and receiving help — we are in God's keeping.

With blessings for 2019! — Rev Gail Pomeroy Doktor

Jackson Community Church 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes	
Date/Location	January 24, 2018 – Jackson Community Church
Attendees	Rev. Gail Doktor, Joyce & Huntly Allan, Emily & Peter Benson, Bob Carper, Gail Doktor, Betsey Harding, Jim & Linda Hastings, Jeanette Heidmann, Lori Jean Kinsey, Sandy Louis, Roy & Nancy Lundquit, Laurie McAleer, John & Wendy McVey, Joan & Paul Palubniak, Meg Phillips, Cheryl & Tom Pizor, Arden & Ray Schoen, Irene Sullivan, Sue Carrigan and Joanne Turner

The meeting began at 7:00 with a prayer from Rev. Gail Doktor

Pastors Report:

Gail reported on upcoming events Feb 4th Superbowl Sunday Brunch Church, Tues Feb 6th Mardis Gras Party with Miss Mabel and Slim Pikins, Thurs Feb 1st Dine to Donate at the Shannon Door for Race to Beat Cancer, Tues Feb 14th Second Tuesday Community Panel Conversation on Buddhism and Christianity and Feb 11th Race to Beat Cancer.

Clerks Report:

Motion to move members to the inactive list and off of the active membership roll. Motion seconded by Jim all in favor. From this point on all inactive members will not appear in the Annual Report.

2018 Budget:

Bob Carper reported that the council prepared 2 budgets to present tonight. The first budget labeled as “stripped down” budget gets us as close as we can to a balanced budget. The second budget is our ideal budget that will keep our church active.

Jeanette pointed out Page 18 of the annual report shows each line item that becomes either reduced or eliminated with the stripped down budget. As we have been showing a deficit budget year after year we wanted to show what we would miss out on to balance the budget. We do have some carry over funds from 2017 but that wont cover the deficit and will be slowly reduced year after year. We need to find a revenue source. As a community we need to step up and support our WHY.

Bob commented that we are very lucky to have a large portion of our budget coming from trust funds.

Peter Benson: With a church of our means we should be able to raise \$100,000 per year. Always should look at the budget in thirds: 1/3 trust, 1/3 members and 1/3 plate.

Jim Hastings: I don't like deficit budgets but sometimes you need one to move forward.

Jeanette: Some items we were able to save on in 2017 we cannot cut out in 2018. We have eliminated all possible “extras” in the budget.

Motion to proceed to accept the fully funded budget. Betsey first, Meg second.. discussion.

Peter: Staff is really important and the backbone of the church. We need to show appreciation and keep the raises.

Meg: Is there anything glaring that we do not need

Betsey: Christian Ed stipend for \$1200 – Agree with Peter that staff if really important.

Emily: Support the staff but if we don't have all our members pledging then we need to show the consequences of why we don't have programs.

Arden: Coffee, tea, crackers, cookies are all supplied. Ask hosts to supply them weekly.

Betsey: put out a donation basket to help cover expenses.

Motion to accept the fully funded budget: Yes 16 No 8 with 2/3rds voting the budget is passed.

Protestant Chapel Association:

Joyce Allan announced the next Board meeting will be held on January 23rd.

The next PCA meeting will be on Feb 26th and subjects will include:

Uses and policy of old library building, archiving minutes, open door policy, pews and handicap accessibility.

2017 Annual Meeting Minutes Continued

Trustees:

Jim reported that they met with the investment advisor once this year.
The Pojen Lee Scholarship fund has dried up after all the scholarships were awarded this year and the balance was merged with the Godfrey scholarship.
The Godfrey Organ fund was merged with the Chadbourne fund.
Gail brought up social responsibility in regards to our trusts and it was reported that the s&p has a carbon emission of 204 and JCC is at 155.
We met our benchmark this past quarter, however our advisor is pulling back a little because he feels some areas are over rated right now.

Response from members

Paul Palubniak mentioned not seeing a building and maintenance committee report. Who is in charge of maintenance? Joanne, Bob, Gail, Chris, Jeanette – whoever notices something needs to be done. Who is in charge of shoveling? Deacons, Gail – whoever sees a need.
Pastor Parish Committee is comprised of Jeanette, Jim and Andy Kearns. If you know someone who is struggling with issues with the church and you can not go to Gail then point them to the Pastor Parish Committee. This is a process for communication and keeping the church healthy.
Tish: As a nonmember, I don't know the history of the endowments, as a community Gail is making an effort for outreach – Maybe a good time for the community to help out supporting the church.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted

Joanne Turner

Jackson Community Church 2018 Special Congregational Meeting	
Date/Location	July 8 , 2018 – Jackson Community Church
Attendees	Rev. Gail Doktor, Linda Gray, Bob & Kit Griffin, Emily Benson, Bob Carper, Sam & Betsey Harding, Jeanette Heidmann, Joan & Paul Palubniak, Meg Phillips, Cheryl Pizor, Arden & Ray Schoen, Tony DeLuca, Irene Sullivan, Sue Carrigan and Joanne Turner

On July 8, 2018 the Jackson Community Church Council held a Special Congregational Meeting to discuss 2 proposed Capital Projects which included the repair of the rotten front entrance and the installation of LED lights throughout the church.

The total cost of the LED light project to be completed by NH LED to repair, retrofit and replace light fixtures was presented at \$4,555 with a rebate coming from NH Electrical Coop of 50% (% 2,277.50). Motion was passed for the project to go forward.

The estimated repair of the rotted wood at the front entrance by Tamarack Construction came in at \$8,150. A discussion of the bid resulted in the possibility of church members doing some of the work such as painting to reduce costs. PCA approval was obtained by Rev. Gail. A motion for this project to go forward and not to exceed \$8150 was unanimously approved.

Clerks Report

Membership on Church Roll as of December 31, 2017.....	95
New Members Received in 2018.....	7
Melanie Sleime 1/21/18	
Janice Brodil 1/21/18	
Susan Carrigan 1/21/18	
Sandra Himmelwright 11/4/18	
Ginger Perkins 11/4/18	
David Perkins 11/4/18	
Judy Botsford 11/4/18	
Members Lost by Death recorded in 2018.....	1
Carl Fuller 12/8/18	
Members Lost by Withdrawal (Transfer) in 2018.....	0
Members moved to active status 2018.....	5
(After a motion to remove members from active roll at 2017	
Annual meeting, 5 members were identified as potential active	
Members and will remain on the church roll)	
 TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017.....	 106
 Baptisms in 2018:.....	 0
 Memorial Services held in the Church in 2018.....	 2
Brooks Dodge 02/10/18	
Ron Hill 07/21/18	
 Memorial Services held offsite.....	 1
Stephen Farish 07/14/18	
 Weddings performed in 2018.....	 6
Weddings performed offsite.....	0
Weddings performed in the church with own clergy.....	1
Weddings performed in the church.....	6

Active Membership List

In Order of Joining As of December 31, 2018

1. William Botsford
2. Cynthia Welch
3. Janet Green
4. Deanna Botsford
5. Lori Jean Kinsey
6. Eileen McDonald
7. Lee Phillips
8. Richard Hill
9. Margaret Phillips (Associate)
10. Judith Fuller
11. Tim Scott
12. Clare Long
13. Emily Benson
14. Peter Benson
15. Huntley Allan
16. Joyce Allan
17. Leslie Schomaker
18. Warren Schomaker
19. David Hovey
20. Joan Palubniak
21. Paul Palubniak
22. Christine Ayer
23. Richard Ayer
24. Philip Gravink
25. Shirley Gravink
26. Alice Pepper
27. John Pepper
28. June McLeavy-Weeder
29. Michael Weeder
30. Linda Gray
31. Eleanor Woodason (Assoc)
32. William Woodason
33. Martha Miller
34. Donna Schiegoleit (Assoc.)
35. Gloria Hutchings
36. Gordon F. Wood
37. Barbara Browne
38. Kay Leigh Kearns
39. Andrew Kearns
40. Jim Hastings
41. Linda Hastings
42. Lauren Orsini
43. Betsey Harding
44. Sam Harding
45. Sue Titus Reid
46. Christine Thompson
47. Nancy Lundquist
48. Roy Lundquist
49. Gary Methot
50. Sue Ann Methot
51. Richard Quint
52. Barry W. Trudeau
53. Cathy Trudeau
54. Bob Thompson
55. Barry Chisholm
56. Ramona Chisholm
57. Irene Sullivan
58. Gordon Head
59. Nancy Head
60. Sandy Louis
61. Arden Schoen
62. Ray Schoen
63. Lisa White
64. Will White
65. Jeanette Heidmann
66. Kimberly Proulx
67. Christopher Proulx
68. John B. McVey
69. Wendy M. McVey
70. Jennifer Hagerty
71. Shawn Hagerty
72. Beulah Jodrie
73. Lynn Lockard
74. Linda Little
75. John Little
76. Kristen Corrigan
77. Dawn Brauel
78. Robert Bowman
79. Lori Tradewell
80. Tony Deluca
81. Marv Bihn
82. Wali Bihn
83. Deborah Moffett
84. Janice Nichipor
85. Charles Bierce
86. Gail Prelli
87. Jan Chernick
88. John Chernick
89. Katherine (Kit) Griffin
90. Robert Griffin
91. Bob Carper
92. Bob Corrigan
93. Jackie Corrigan
94. Rachel Pitman
95. Laurie McAleer
96. Tom Pizor
97. Cheryl Pizor
98. Rev Gail Doktor
99. Mary Dindorf
100. Melanie Sleime
101. Janice Brodil (Assoc)
102. Susan Carrigan (Assoc)
103. Sandra Himmelwright
104. Judy Botsford
105. David Perkins
106. Ginger Perkins

- (Associate) = full membership in another church

Active Membership List - Alphabetical

Allan, Huntly
Allan, Joyce
Ayer, Christine
Ayer, Richard
Benson, Emily
Benson, Peter
Bierce, Charles
Bihn, Marv
Bihn, Wali
Botsford, Deanna
Botsford, Judy
Botsford, William
Bowman, Robert
Brauel, Dawn
Janice Brodil
Browne, Barbara
Carper, Bob
Carrigan, Sue
Chernick, Jan
Chernick, John
Chisholm, Barry
Chisholm, Ramona
Corrigan, Bob
Corrigan, Jackie
Corrigan, Kristen
Deluca, Tony
Dindorf, Mary
Doktor, Gail
Fuller, Judith
Gravink, Phillip
Gravink, Shirley
Gray, Linda
Green, Janet (Emeritus)
Griffin, Katherine (Kit)
Griffin, Robert
Hagerty, Jennifer
Hagerty, Shawn
Harding, Betsey
Harding, Sam
Hastings, James
Hastings, Linda
Head, Gordon
Head, Nancy
Heidmann, Jeanette
Hill, Richard
Himmelwright, Sandra
Hovey, David
Hutchings, Gloria
Jodrie, Beulah
Kearns, Andrew
Kearns, Kay Leigh
Kinsey, Lori Jean
Little, John
Little, Linda
Lockard, Lynn
Long, Clare
Louis, Sandy
Lundquist, Nancy
Lundquist, Roy
MacDonald, Eileen
McLeavey-Weeder, June
McAler, Laurie
McVey, John B.
McVey, Wendy M
Methot, Gary
Methot, Sue Ann
Miller, Martha
Moffett, Deborah
Nichipor, Janice
Orsini, Lauren V.
Palubniak, Joan
Palubniak, Paul
Pepper, Alice
Pepper, John
Perkins, David
Perkins, Ginger
Phillips, Lee
Phillips, Margaret (Associate)
Pitman, Rachel
Pizor, Cheryl
Pizor, Tom
Prelli, Gail
Proulx, Christopher
Proulx, Kimberly
Quint, Richard
Schiegoleit, Donna
Schoen, Arden
Schoen, Ray
Schomaker, Leslie
Schomaker, Warren
Scott, Tim
Sleime, Melanie
Sullivan, Irene
Thompson, Christine
Thompson, Bob
Titus, Sue Reid
Tradewell, Lori
Trudeau, Barry
Trudeau, Cathy
Weeder, Michael
Welch, Cynthia
White, Lisa
White, Will
Wood, Gordon F
Woodason, Eleanor (Associate)
Woodason, William

Inactive Membership List

According to the Constitution and By-laws of the Jackson Community Church—Page 2, under Article III—Membership; D. Termination, second paragraph:

“Members whose addresses have been long unknown, or who, for a period of two years, in spite of kindly approaches, have not communicated with this Church or contributed to its support may, by recommendation of the Deacons and by vote of the church, be transferred to the status of inactive member. If possible, they shall be informed of such action. From the date of such transfer, they shall cease to be reported on the active membership roll.”

The following members were identified as potential active members at the 2017 Annual Meeting and were not moved to the inactive list for 2018.

John Little
Linda Little
Clare Long
Christine Thompson
Bob Thompson



Jackson Community Church Draft Mission Statement

As a community of Faith ~ we welcome all who seek understanding;
As a community of Hope ~ we offer friendship and comfort to those in need;
As a community of Love ~ we provide caring support and shared fellowship to all.

Jackson Community Church Covenant

We, the members and friends of this Church, believing in God the Father Almighty, and in faith having accepted Jesus Christ as our Savior, and committed our lives to Him as our Lord and Master, do now solemnly and joyfully pledge together, in the presence of God, and of one another as one body in Christ:

That we will endeavor to live as worthy disciples of Him Whose Name we bear, seeking Christ likeness in character and in conduct, and striving to know and obey God's will, that He may use in establishing His kingdom on Earth.

That we will attend with regularity, as we are able, the worship services of our Church, that through our united witness, we may acknowledge our Maker, sit at the feet of the Master, and grow in spiritual understanding, stature and devotion.

That we will contribute regularly, as to the best of our ability, to the financial support of the ministries of this Church, locally, nationally and throughout the World, that we ourselves, our families, and others, may enjoy the priceless privileges of the Gospel, and advance the high cause of justice, peace and compassion for one another.

That we will promote the work of our Church, by devoting our time and talents, as we are able, to the Master's service and by giving our Church a sacred pre-eminence over all institutions of human origin.



Mission Committee

Mission Committee Annual Report for 2018

The Mission Committee has had another successful and rewarding year. We met and planned for numerous events and communicated by email at regular intervals. Reverend Gail has been able to join us at our meetings.

Linda Hastings was chair, Jeanette Heidmann treasurer, Kit Griffin secretary, and Gloria Hutchings was in charge of publicity. Meg Phillips, Catherine Kyle and Betsy Harding were an integral part of our group, chairing committee projects.

Goals

Our group is interested in local, national, and global projects. We feel the mission work is the life-blood of the church and helps the church to be part of the community. Plans for the year included: 1. Publish information about Mission Committee activities in the monthly edition of Inside Out. 2. Give regular presentations in church about our mission work. 3. Remind our members of conditions in Zimbabwe and ask for prayers for our partner church. 4. Encourage church members to be involved in our mission projects and fundraising activities.

Specific Activities

- * Support local food collection organizations.
- * Support the Pease Greeters Project.
- * Provide a giving tree for the Christmas Stocking Project.
- * Support for the people of Zimbabwe.
- * Support of other local and international fundraising missions.
- * Maintain the mission bulletin board and keep it up to date.

We continued our support of the roof for our partner church in Zimbabwe, sending a check for \$3,100 in the fall. In October we had a potluck supper for a delegation from Zimbabwe and representatives from local churches. We sent a wonderful wall hanging made by our Sunday School children to the new church in Zimbabwe.

We continued our support of Honduras Hope. Meg has been selling beautiful handmade baskets made in Honduras, and plans to return in January. Meg, Sam and Betsey manned a booth at the Sandwich Fair to raise money for the project.

Gloria delivered 41 handknit hats to the Pease Greeters in March, and this fall 37 more hats and 64 Christmas stockings were delivered! Many thanks to our knitters, to all who traced and cut at the cutting "party", and to the 7 seamstresses who sewed the stockings together.

Members of the Mission Committee delivered much needed food and personal items to the Food Pantry each month. We checked to see what was most needed, and reported back to the congregation.



Mission Committee (Cont.)

The End of 68 Hours of Hunger Program was appreciative of our donation from the church. They seem to be a well organized group.

We had a plant sale on May 26th, the same day as the church estate sale. We decided to donate the earnings to the Homeless Teen Initiative, now called the Way Station Day Resource Center. Gail and Jeanette are active in this group.

Along with the Women's Group, we assembled care packages for young adults who are away from home. Our goal is to let the young people know they are an important part of our community.

During the month of December we sold Heifer and Zimbabwe cards, and organized a group to go Christmas caroling to local housebound residents. Thanks to the generosity of church members, we provided gifts for a 14 yr. old boy through the Christmas Stocking Project.

Our total budget this year was \$10,700. From that budget, we allocated 26% to local projects, 8% to national projects, 28% to conference projects, and 37% to international projects.

We made new donations to MWV Supports Recovery (substance abuse charity) and to Alzheimer's Support in memory of Steve Farish. We supported the Race to Beat Cancer, Jen's Friends Climb against Cancer, One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need, Our Church's Wider Mission, the Clergy Christmas Fund, and Strengthening the Church. Other contributions included: White Mountain Community Center, the Horton Center, Habitat for Humanity, Star Island, Children Unlimited, The Dinner Bell, Gibson Center, Northern Human Services, and Starting Point.

AGAIN, THE MISSION COMMITTEE FEELS VERY BLESSED TO BE A PART OF SUCH A CARING AND GIVING COMMUNITY.

Kit Griffin

Church Operations - Treasurers Report

For the third year in a row we passed a deficit budget at the annual meeting in January 2018. The JCC 2017 annual report showed two budget proposals for 2018. One budget was (almost) balanced with only a \$1124 deficit if all projections were 100% accurate. This budget, called the stripped-down version, flat-lined staff salaries, eliminated: outreach ministries, the pastor's discretionary fund, the JCC contribution to the UCC mission fund, educational materials, curriculum materials, Sunday school supplies, youth ministries, guest instrumentalists and music supplies, on line communication (website, video/security storage etc.) and supplies for coffee hour (coffee, tea, cheese & crackers, cookies). Equipment repair and postage were significantly reduced or eliminated and there was no allowance for church improvements or contribution to the capital reserve trust fund. A summary of the amounts for each of these line items was shown on page 18 of the 2017 annual report.

A second 2018 budget was presented which funded all of these items but which resulted in a projected deficit of \$15,812. This second proposal was the budget which was approved.

At the end of 2017 we carried over a cash balance of \$12,500 from the Chadbourne Fund helping to reduce that shortfall. Throughout 2018, we received several generous gifts, the May Estate Sale fund raiser brought in \$2503 toward expenses, contributions have been steady and expenses have been kept lower than budgeted. All these factors allowed us to delay taking any of the \$21,500 in 2018 allowable withdrawal from the Chadbourne endowment fund until the 4th quarter when we withdrew \$8000 to cover some large bills due at this time each year. Once again "The Lord has provided," as our Zimbabwe friends constantly pray.

At years end the expenses were realized as follows:

Church Wide Mission: \$100,466.50 or 64% of the total expenditures
Administration: \$24,639 or 16% of the total expenditures
Facilities: \$31,858 or 20% of the total expenditures

Total Expenditures: \$156,396
Original projected total expenditures: \$169,513

2018 Income from all sources were realized as follows:

Member giving	\$48,360	Plate cash	\$17,898
Fund raising	\$ 5,886	Other	\$11,496
Special contributions	\$ 4,465	Total Contributions	\$88,105

Contributions covered 56.3% of the total actual expenditures.
Original projected totals for these sources of income: \$79,000



2018 Income transfers from all the endowment funds were broken out as follows:

General Fund	\$32,900	Lila Pond	\$0
Chadbourne	\$8,000	Capital Reserve	\$2,353
Mission	\$6,400	Parsonage	\$9,200
Chikanga building	\$2,300	Total Endowment	\$61,153

Endowment funds covered 39.1% of the total actual expenditures.
Original projections for these sources of funds: \$74,700

The checking account reserves from 2017 accounted for 4.6% of the total actual expenditures.

Total Income from all of the above sources: \$149,257

We normally withdraw the balance of the funds available to us from the Chadbourne fund to help cover the deficit in the following year. This year the balance of that withdrawal would have been \$13,500. However, because of the increased giving projections for 2019 and the available cash on hand from higher 2018 gifts and lower 2018 expenditures, we left those funds in the investment account. This is a first in many years! Thank you for your continued generosity!

The saving account balance as of 12-31-2018 was \$33,578.36 distributed as follows:

Education fund	\$1,368.15	Flower Fund	\$ 230.75
Missions	\$ 272.59	Prepaid 2019 Weddings	\$ 2,300.00
Misc & interest	\$ 64.17	Prepaid 2019 pledges	\$24,370.00
Pastor Discretionary	\$3,400.00	Memorial fund	\$ 1,572.70

All of these savings account amounts are restricted funds which, with the exception of the 2019 prepaid pledges, are not included in budget projections, and are funds held for a specific purpose.

Two Capital fund repairs were completed in 2018: The first was the replacement of all lights with LED bulbs costing \$4630 which was offset by a 50% rebate from the New Hampshire Electric Co-Op. Anticipated savings was to be realized in a reduction of the monthly electric bill. The second repair was the renovation and repair of the front entrance area. We received special contributions of \$2,025 to help offset these capital expenses with the balance being funded from the Capital Reserve Trust fund. The building project got off to a late start in the fall and will be billed in 2019.

Ours is a very generous community. When a need arises, the response is always generous. Thank you.

2019 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	2019 Proposed Budget Request
<u>ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE</u>					
INCOME					
RESTRICTED GIFTS/DONATION					
4050	Mission, Gifts	1,500.00	1,500.00	600.00	500.00
4060	Long term Maintenance - Restricted			2,025.00	
4070	Steeple Light, Gifts	200.00	200.00	90.00	200.00
4080	Youth group gifts		1,000.00		1,000.00
4090	Minister's Restricted			50.00	
4091	Heat/parking Supplement	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
	SUB-TOTAL	3,400.00	4,400.00	4,465.00	3,400.00
ENDOWMENTS					
4130	General Fund	32,900.00	32,700.00	32,899.92	33,300.00
4135	Norton/Pond Fund	1,700.00	1,600.00		1,700.00
4140	Chadbourne Fund	21,600.00	21,500.00	8,000.00	22,200.00
4145	Capital Reserve Fund	1,100.00	1,000.00	2,352.50	1,100.00
4150	Mission Fund	6,400.00	6,400.00	6,400.08	6,500.00
4155	Chikanga building Fund	1,200.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,400.00
4180	Parsonage Fund	9,200.00	9,200.00	9,200.04	9,400.00
	SUB-TOTAL	74,100.00	74,700.00	61,152.54	76,600.00
UNRESTRICTED GIFTS/DONATIONS					
4215	Miscellaneous Gifts	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,116.38	1,000.00
4225	Parish Hall & Church Usage	800.00	1,000.00	1,999.65	2,000.00
4230	Member Support	50,000.00	50,000.00	48,360.00	55,000.00
4235	Non-Member Support	6,000.00	4,000.00	385.00	4,000.00
4240	Plate	7,000.00	7,000.00	17,512.80	10,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	64,800.00	63,000.00	72,373.83	72,000.00
WEDDINGS					
4255	Wedding income-church	2,220.00	2,220.00	1,510.00	2,220.00
4257	Wedding income-Custodian	780.00	780.00	520.00	780.00
4260	Wedding income-Pastor	4,200.00	4,200.00	2,350.00	4,200.00
4265	Wedding Income-Music	2,400.00	2,400.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	9,600.00	9,600.00	5,380.00	9,200.00
FUNDRAISERS					
4285	Other Fundraisers	500.00	500.00	2,989.22	500.00
4290	Mission - Special Offerings	2,000.00	1,500.00	2,896.57	1,500.00
	SUB-TOTAL	2,500.00	2,000.00	5,885.79	2,000.00
		15			
	TOTAL INCOME	154,400.00	153,700.00	149,257.16	163,200.00

2019 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	2019 Proposed Budget Request
EXPENSE					
CHURCH WIDE MISSIONS					
COMMUNITY OUTREACH					
6005	Outreach Projects	2,000.00	1,000.00	1,066.97	1,000.00
6010	Outdoor Ministry	0.00	500.00	134.40	500.00
6020	Pastor's discretionary	1000	1,000.00	995.37	1,000.00
6025	Pastor's discretionary member contribution	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
SUB-TOTAL		3,000.00	2,500.00	2,246.74	2,500.00
MISSION GROUP					
6055	Mission outreach	6,400.00	6,400.00	6,399.85	6,500.00
6060	Mission UCC	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
6065	Zimbabwe Building fund	1,200.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,400.00
6070	Mission designated offering	2,000.00	1,500.00	1,776.00	1,500.00
SUB-TOTAL		11,600.00	12,200.00	12,475.85	12,400.00
DEACONS					
6105	Deasons Fund	250.00	250.00	298.00	250.00
6110	Deason's & Worship Supplies	400.00	400.00	248.88	400.00
6115	Conference fees and travel	200.00	200.00	170.00	200.00
6120	Visiting minister	500.00	1,000.00	750.00	1,000.00
SUB-TOTAL		1,350.00	1,850.00	1,466.88	1,850.00
MEMBERSHIP & CHURCH LIFE					
6155	M&CL supplies	1,200.00	900.00	534.11	900.00
SUB-TOTAL		1,200.00	900.00	534.11	900.00
PASTOR					
6205	Salary	41,275.00	42,850.00	42,849.96	44,441.00
6207	Christian Education Work	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
6210	Housing Allowance	12,383.00	12,383.00	12,383.04	13,692.00
6215	Annuity/pension	7,512.12	7,901.00	7,732.64	8,307.00
6220	SS/medicare offset	4,105.00	4,317.00	4,317.00	4,539.00
6225	Life insurance / disability	805.00	846.00	0.00	890.00
na	Pastor Medical Dental	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6235	professional allowance	500.00	500.00	188.68	500.00
6240	continuing education	0.00	600.00	369.37	600.00
6245	mileage/travel expenses	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,054.41	3,500.00
6250	pastor comp weddings	4,200.00	4,200.00	2,350.00	4,200.00
SUB-TOTAL		74,280.12	78,297.00	74,445.10	81,869.00

2019 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	2019 Proposed Budget Request
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION					
CE Coordinator					
6305	Salary	3,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6315	SS& Medicare	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
na	CE car allowance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUB-TOTAL		3,750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Educational Materials/Activities					
6355	Bible Study	250.00	250.00	161.38	250.00
6360	Curriculum	175.00	150.00	185.00	150.00
6365	Confirmation	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6370	Sunday School Supplies	150.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
6375	Youth Ministry	250.00	500.00	152.25	500.00
6380	Retreats	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6385	Playground Upkeep	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
SUB-TOTAL		2,075.00	2,150.00	498.63	2,150.00
MUSIC					
6415	Music Director	7,800.00	8,012.00	6,975.00	
6420	Music Director SS & Med	596.70	613.00	149.19	
na	Organist/accompianist salary				3,900.00
na	Organist/accompianist SS & Med				298.35
	Choir Director/Soloist				3,900.00
6425	Guest instrumental/Soloist	250.00	250.00	150.00	400.00
6430	Organ/Accompianist Substitutes	400.00	400.00	225.00	0.00
6435	Organist/Accompiaist Weddings	2,400.00	2,400.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
6440	Music supplies	500.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
6445	Piano Tuning/organ repair	1,000.00	500.00	300.00	500.00
SUB-TOTAL		12,946.70	12,425.00	8,799.19	11,248.35
SUB-TOTAL TOTAL CHURCH WIDE MISSION		110,201.82	110,322.00	100,466.50	112,917.35

2019 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	2019 Proposed Budget Request
ADMINISTRATION					
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT					
6510	Salary	14,527.80	15,109.00	15,108.96	15,713.36
6515	SS & Medicare	1,111.38	1,156.00	1,155.84	1,202.00
6520	Car allowance	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
	SUB-TOTAL	15,889.18	16,515.00	16,514.80	17,165.36
PERSONNEL					
6535	Payrole services	660.00	660.00	684.00	750.00
6540	Workers comp insurance	1,330.00	1,343.00	1,158.73	1,203.00
	SUB-TOTAL	1,990.00	2,003.00	1,842.73	1,953.00
COMMUNICATIONS/ SPECIAL PROJECTS					
6550	Consultant	900.00	0.00		0.00
6551	On line communication	1,000.00	1,000.00	836.41	750.00
	SUB-TOTAL	1,900.00	1,000.00	836.41	750.00
CONFERENCE DUES					
6565	UCC Dues (per member dues to confer-	1,450.00	1,019.00	1,092.50	1,127.00
	SUB-TOTAL	1,450.00	1,019.00	1,092.50	1,127.00
OFFICE					
6605	Church supplies	800.00	800.00	374.19	700.00
6610	Equipment & Repair	700.00	500.00	280.69	500.00
6615	Office Supplies	800.00	900.00	571.05	900.00
6620	Postage	1,200.00	750.00	304.00	750.00
6625	Publicity	2,080.00	2,000.00	1,655.70	2,000.00
6630	Phone - Church	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,166.79	1,250.00
	SUB-TOTAL	6,780.00	6,150.00	4,352.42	6,100.00
	SUB-TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	28,009.18	26,687.00	24,638.86	27,095.36

2019 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2017	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	2019 Proposed Budget Request
FACILITIES					
BUILDING					
6705	Insurance	4,779.00	4,906.00	4,623.27	4,430.00
6710	Wentworth playground/parking lease	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
6715	Building Security	528.00	1,280.00	903.54	1,280.00
6720	Repairs/Maintenance Supplies	2,760.00	2,000.00	1,548.56	2,000.00
6725	Church Improvements	500.00	500.00	334.00	500.00
6730	Sprinkler Mx	920.00	4,650.00	3,563.23	1,250.00
6735	Snow plow & landscape	4,084.00	4,200.00	4,576.00	4,200.00
6740	To Capital Reserve	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	3,500.00
6745	Capital Expense	1,100.00	1,000.00	2,352.50	1,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	16,671.00	20,536.00	19,901.10	19,160.00
CUSTODIAL SERVICES					
6805	Salary	5,572.00	5,572.00	5,353.02	5,794.88
6810	SS & Medicare	426.00	426.00	381.96	443.30
6815	Wedding Clean-up	780.00	780.00	520.00	780.00
	SUB-TOTAL	6,778.00	6,778.00	6,254.98	7,018.18
UTILITIES					
6905	Electric	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,882.23	2,000.00
6910	Oil & Propane	4,900.00	3,480.00	3,819.24	3,480.00
6915	Water	10.00	10.00		10.00
	SUB-TOTAL	6,610.00	5,190.00	5,701.47	5,490.00
	SUB-TOTAL FACILITIES	30,059.00	32,504.00	31,857.55	31,668.18
	TOTAL EXPENSES	168,270.00	169,513.00	156,962.91	171,680.89
		-13,870.00	-15,813.00	-7,705.75	-8,480.89

Bushee Thorn Mountain Trust Fund

The Bushee Thorn Mountain Trust is invested in the Consolidated Investment Fund (CIF) of the NH Conference of the UCC. Dividends from the fund continue to provide "...an opportunity for groups to meet in the ecumenical spirit to foster Christian growth through inspiration, study, fellowship, and recreation." Representatives from the four Mt Washington Valley UCC Churches (Conway, N. Conway, Jackson, and Bartlett) administer the funds. The majority of the fund disbursements are for camp scholarships benefitting youth in the Valley. It also provides a unique opportunity for inter-church projects and events.

CIF Valuation as of : December 17, 2018
 Book Value: \$ 166,949.15
 Market Value: \$ 178,027.96

Priorities for awarding funds for camperships are established in the following categories:

1. Christian Camps, Retreats, or other Christian events
2. Special Needs/Special Camps
3. Girl/Boy Scout, Tin Mountain, and YMCA/YWCA Camps

In 2018 twenty-seven (27) camperships were awarded: Fourteen to Christian Camps (Category 1), none to special needs (Category 2) and thirteen to Scout, Tin Mt. or Y Camps (Category 3).

2018 Income and Expenses

Income	Expenses	2018 Starting Balance: \$ 5433.13
Withdrawals \$ 6,000.00	Camperships \$ 7135.00	Income: +6000.00
	Postage \$ 20.00	Expenses: - 7155.00
		2018 Ending Balance \$ 4278.13

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Miller, Treasurer



Trustees of Trust Funds

Trustees of Trust Funds 2018

The Trustees of Trust Funds are responsible for investment and administration of all moneys given to the Jackson Community Church in trust. The trustees met twice in 2018 including once with the organization's financial advisor, F. L. Putnam. One step taken this year to protect the integrity of the Trust Fund was to review the Investment Policy Statement ("IPS") which states that, among other things, the Fund can be invested in Equities (50 – 70%), Fixed income (30 – 50%) and Cash (0 - 10%). During 2018, no changes were made in the IPS.

The table shows the amounts in each fund and the transactions therein for the last few years addition to the amounts listed below, there is \$721 in a Northway Bank checking account which is primarily used for disbursements of scholarship awards.

Contributions to any of the funds are welcome. Checks can be made to the Jackson Church with a designation to the Trustees and naming the fund to be supported.

The Funds of the Trustees and their purposes are listed below:

The Jackson Church Investment Fund

Funds from the Jackson Church Investment Fund are disbursed for use in church operations.

The Olive Z. Godfrey Scholarship Fund

The Olive Z. Godfrey Scholarship awarded \$23,500 to nine students during 2018 for the 2018 - 2019 school year to the following Jackson residents: Timothy Allen, Pearse Benson, River Hayes, Nora Miller, Donovan Spaulding, William Synnott, and Frank Thompson.

The Marjorie T. March Mission Fund

The Trustees oversee the investment of the March Mission Fund with the Mission Committee administering the operations of the Fund.

The Chadbourne Bequest

During 2018, the Trustees acknowledge that at least forty worship services were held in the Jackson Community Church which meets the conditions set forth by the Bequest. Disbursements during 2018 were expended primarily on capital updates relating directly to the historic structure, parsonage, meeting room and church offices.



Trustees of Trust Funds

The William K. Norton and Lilla M. Pond Memorial Fund

The William K. Norton and Lilla M. Pond Memorial Fund was established to support the general operations of the Jackson Community Church.

The Capital Reserve Fund

The Capital Reserve Fund is used to assist in providing financial resources in major, non-recurring building maintenance of the church

The Parsonage Fund

The Parsonage Fund was established for the purpose of assisting in providing housing support for the minister. Proceeds of the sale of the parsonage were used to establish this fund.

The Chikanga Partnership Fund

The Chikanga Partnership Fund is to provide ongoing support in construction and maintenance efforts to the Chikanga Partner Church in Zimbabwe. The Trustees oversee the investment of the Chikanga Partnership Fund with the Mission Committee administering the operations of the Fund. Disbursements are prohibited if the Fund balance is less than \$50,000.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hastings, Secretary/Treasurer, Roy Lundquist, Bob Griffin, Trustees

Trustees of Trust Funds

TRUSTEES of the JACKSON COMMUNITY CHURCH
FOR THE YEAR TO DATE JANUARY 1, 2018 to December 30, 2018
FUND

	Beginning	Income	Contributions	Withdrawals	Transfers	Ending
Jackson Church Investment	\$ 761,529	\$ (33,578)	\$ -	\$ (32,900)	\$ -	\$ 695,051
Godfrey Scholarship	551,088	(23,973)	-	(23,500)	-	503,615
Mission	147,913	(6,521)	-	(6,400)	-	134,992
Chadbourne	499,654	(22,829)	-	(8,000)	(1,000)	467,825
Norton/Pond	39,140	(1,815)	-	-	-	37,325
Capital Reserve	27,245	(1,114)	1,000	(2,353)	1,000	25,778
Parsonage	213,474	(9,414)	-	(9,200)	-	194,860
Chikanga Partnership Trust	56,093	(2,500)	-	(2,300)	-	51,293
	\$ 2,296,136	\$ (101,745)	\$ 1,000	\$ (84,653)	\$ -	\$ 2,110,739

YTD Fees --> \$ 10,786
Annualized Return--> -4.62%
Income includes dividends, interest, change in market value less fees.

Historical Report of Balances December 31,

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Jackson Church Investment	\$ 761,529	\$ 712,237	\$ 706,495	\$ 766,252	\$ 751,818	\$ 676,626	\$ 630,065
Godfrey Organ	-	3,473	3,351	3,400	3,256	2,859	2,492
Godfrey Scholarship	551,088	509,058	513,437	542,082	540,782	495,199	465,205
Mission	147,913	138,351	140,446	149,445	149,178	134,446	119,653
Chadbourne	499,654	462,908	468,053	489,955	492,318	546,411	416,595
Norton/Pond	39,140	35,011	33,782	34,273	32,820	52,368	48,526
Capital Reserve	27,245	22,404	21,617	30,053	20,604	-	-
Parsonage	213,474	199,633	201,563	208,296	209,101	-	-
Chikanga Partnership Trust	56,093	51,297	49,497	51,202	-	-	-
Pojen Lee Scholarship	-	3,768	17,179	-	-	-	-
	\$ 2,296,136	\$ 2,138,141	\$ 2,155,420	\$ 2,274,958	\$ 2,199,877	\$ 1,907,909	\$ 1,682,536



Membership and Church Life

The Membership and Church Life Team's primary work is to oversee the Sunday fellowship coffee hour. Tasks include procuring food and supplies. The team also worked with the Deacons during 2018 to support the Annual Meeting Potluck, Brunch church and various special welcome and farewell events.

The team thanks everyone who helped with fellowship hour/hospitality and special events. We ask that church members and friends/attendees consider volunteering regularly to host fellowship hour. We truly appreciate your contributions – both yummy goodies as well as money donations.

This is an easy way to help make fellowship hour enjoyable and provides a time to connect with both members and visitors.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Pizor

Flowers

The flower committee is responsible for the altar flowers throughout the year. This year the committee was comprised of Wendy McVey, Gloria Hutchings, Joyce Allan, Irene Sullivan, Lynn Lockard and Alice Pepper and each member took 2 months, providing the flowers for that period of time however they wished to do it. The remainder of the time was split between the members.

Gloria organized the annual flower collection for the Easter Lillies in the sanctuary, where people could purchase flowers in memory or honor of a loved one. New this year the flower committee added a special collection for Christmas Poinsettias that beautified the church during the holiday season. Thank you to Gloria and Wendy for pulling this off on such short notice.

We want to thank Lynn for the many years of service she gave to the Flower Committee before moving away. We are always looking for those who would like to join the committee or dedicate flowers for the altar on Sunday to a loved one.



Functions and Weddings

The scheduling of church and outside groups meeting at the Parish House is coordinated through the church office. Calendars are kept up to date as to when and where meetings and functions will be held.

In 2018 the church sanctuary was used for worship services, weddings (6), music programs and memorial services. We have been keeping the sanctuary open for all to enjoy.

The Jackson Church continues to host ongoing programs such as the Thursday night AA Step Group in the Betty Whitney Library. In Fellowship Hall we host weekly yoga and fitness classes, as well as periodic music lessons. The Jackson/Bartlett Cub Scouts use Fellowship Hall for their biweekly meetings. Memorial Hospital held their "Matter of Balance" program over the summer to help prevent falls as we get older and a local group has continued to offer avalanche safety classes in the winter.

We have an ongoing agreement with the Jackson Grammar School to be their emergency shelter in case of an emergency.

Those who wish to use the meeting rooms or Fellowship Hall can contact the church office directly to inquire about availability.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Turner, Administrative Assistant

Music

Since the retirement of Diana Germain we have been searching all corners to find her successor. This has been a daunting task given the array of churches and the very limited number of choir director/accompanists up here in our Valley.

In our search we have been very fortunate to find Alan Labrie, our spirited accompanist on piano and organ. Also as we continue to search, members of the congregation have volunteered to join in to share their musical talents and passions during the service. The choir, though sometimes small, is always ready to sing together on those Sundays when we can find someone to teach and direct. Music has always been an important dimension of the Jackson Community Church and we are determined for it to always be so.

Sam Harding, Music Committee



Finding Our Why - Results

Jackson Community Church held conversations with friends and members, active in the church, as well as local neighbors, civic leaders, business owners, town employees and volunteers. We asked what comes to mind, when participants think about Jackson Community Church? We discussed participant's wishes in connection with the church.

Then we held more in-depth brainstorming sessions and conversations. The primary concept that emerged from these conversations was: Community. This overarching idea was enriched by additional themes: People. Service. Families. Kids. Local. Center. Connect. Involved. Feel. Discuss. Activity. Program. Change. Tradition. Music. Open. Welcoming. Caring. Mission. Social. Friends. Fellowship. Supportive. Caring.

In response, we suggest the following scriptures as excellent reminders of the core values that motivate this church at this time. They help us prioritize how we use our energy, time, and resources. They guide our decisions as a faith community.

Framing Scripture(s)

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. — 1 John 4: 11

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. — Galatians 5: 22-23

Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. — Ephesians 6:23

And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another. — Hebrews 10: 24-25a

CORE VALUES: Our Why

CENTER for SHARED SPIRITUALITY: Jackson Community Church

Community

- Common experience
- Meet people where they are
- Provide comfort and peace

Connector through Spectrum of Life

- Common experience
- Connect to something deeper
- Traditions and rituals that transcend origins



Summary of Themes from Participant Conversations

CENTER for SHARED SPIRITUALITY: Common experience

Participants see the church as a center for shared spirituality. People perceive it through the lens of common experiences.

For some participants, the white clapboard, green-shuttered church with its bell-and-steeple exists as a visual and physical part of the local landscape. It completes the picturesque, postcard setting of a rural New England village center. It also evokes an iconic, historic role in the village. One person mentioned, "When I see the post office, the school, the library and the church, I say, 'oh, it's a community.'" Another participant called the church and library the heart of the community, and another recognized the church as part of the village's emotional infrastructure. One person observed, "Jackson is a great place for a wholesome, family, Christmas experience," and then included the church and its seasonal programs as part of that recurring rhythm. For residents and guests alike, the church is part of the village's core identity.


At an experiential level, the church is also a center for shared spirituality. It offers one of the village's few large shared spaces. Its playground, sanctuary, hall, library, and classrooms provide gathering places for spiritual and cultural events and milestone moments. At its best, people gain a sense of welcome and connection here. As one participant offered, "There is something about a shared experience or shared values that make a village a community."

This experiential bond with the community also translates into a deep relational connection through the church. One person said, "We have a lot of ... feelings about sharing things together, either here in the church or outside the church." The church fosters significant social ties. People develop camaraderie by "seeing the familiar faces, the fellowship" and participating in "shared meals, outings, activities." It is also a launchpad for community service. One person observed, "It brings everyone together, working together in certain situations as a team, building relationships." Of course, the church provides a home for cultural and intellectual events. Additionally, people get to know each other on a more intimate level in study and support groups, AA meetings, or during worship when people "share concerns and celebrations, for prayers to be said."

CENTER for SHARED SPIRITUALITY: Meet people where they are

As a center for shared spirituality, the church also meets people where they are, both geographically and also as spiritual beings. It serves as a connector. As mentioned above, the church's building provides a hub for programs at different intervals in people's lives. Part of the atmosphere (relationship) that the church cultivates includes being open and available to everyone. One participant observed, "We'd like to allow people to feel warm, welcome and supported." The front doors are open 24/7 into the sanctuary, allowing access at any time, for any need. When people are present, friends and members strive for an inclusive, friendly approach at different events and activities, so that anyone may feel, "This is our community, this is our church, this is our neighborhood."

As a connector space, the church cultivates its own programmatic offerings, usually open to the public. It also extends its facility as a resource for others. It hosts the activities of community groups, from Scouts and AA to performing artists and wellness practitioners "who use the space and get to connect with the church and others in the community." Additionally, the church serves as the site of life's rituals. These include faith-based experiences such as regular worship and faith formation classes to milestones such as baptism, first communion, confirmation, plus seasonal celebrations. It also hosts life-cycle rituals that affect a broader population. As one person recalled, "I remember ... services in the church, as well as weddings and funerals."



Working beyond the building, the church serves as a connector — through staff and congregation — by fostering a presence out in the community. The most direct form of this presence is through staff and teams of friends and members engaged in volunteerism and community service. One person noted, “When I engage in mission work, I feel connected to a larger community.” Another observed, “Everyone does a lot of community stuff on the local level.” Finally, one neighbor commented on the church’s “local involvement as a group.” In such initiatives, the church’s representatives work through existing relationships or develop new partnerships with other nonprofits and community groups, working in collaboration to provide broader support and services where they are needed.

Part of the church’s role in the wider community is to maintain an ethical presence. This occurs through community engagement and education. One neighbor noted that the church’s friends and members, and how they engage the broader community, is civic-minded. “The church plays a really important role in the community. The people who go to church have a sense of being invested in their town. It makes for a very vibrant, involved community.” Additionally, the church offers the role of bearing witness in difficult situations and serving as advocates around humanitarian and environmental causes and social justice issues. One participant commented, “The more advocates those causes can find, the more ... support ... to create a more sustainable community.”


CENTER for SHARED SPIRITUALITY: Provide comfort and peace

As a spiritual center that provides comfort and peace, people seek specific spiritual, mental, and emotional experiences through the church. It starts with the simple sense of being welcome. For instance, non-judgment is part of what some people value. “You come in here and are not judged ... accepted for who you are, not what you have.” Others find a sense of safety. “People look for a place that is centering, a place that is safe.” Many participants appreciate that the church supports inner equilibrium by creating a sense of quiet and stillness. “I like the spiritual quiet time as well. I feel that this church, spiritually, feeds all of us.” Another person said, ““When people come to church, they want to leave better than when they came in.” Repeatedly, people desired a sense of joy, laughter, and being uplifted through church. The practice of listening, “learning what is going on in people’s lives,” is another experience some people want from the church. For many, music is a “unifying experience.”

CONNECTOR through SPECTRUM of LIFE: Available to everyone

Again, the church serves as a connector through the circle of life. It meets the needs and integrates the stories and experiences of different populations.

Ideally, the community church is available to everyone. One participant observed, “In the grand scheme of things, God counts on all of us, not just if we are old or young. It is important that we include everybody.” What does that mean? First of all, the church engages different constituent populations: children and youth as well as older people, individuals and families, different genders and sexual preferences. We offer a spiritual home for year-round residents, seasonal occupants, and guests. We include or serve people of different economic classes, states of mental and bodily wellness, races, faith backgrounds, and temperaments.



For both friends and members, and the broader community, we serve as a partner and resource. Some suggest offering volunteer time and energy to provide community service and support for civic partners such as the school, library, and local nonprofits. They value “church members who are willing to share their time and talents.” Some participants suggested, “Connect church members to their neighbors” or create broader village-wide or valley-wide neighbor-network opportunities. Others identify access to the church’s grounds and building for use by parents and families or nonprofit and community groups, as a form of outreach and connection. Many suggested the church as a “venue to offer other organizations for holding programs.” Others envision the church’s role as facilitator of high-impact, public programs about “pressing social issues. Offer chances to have open discussions.” Some participants want the church to provide a place for more light-hearted, recreational or communal experiences, such as concerts, dances and meals.

CONNECTOR through SPECTRUM of LIFE: Connect to something deeper
(God, Christ, Spirit, Love, what we understand as holy and/or sacred)

Additionally, the church’s role as a connector across the spectrum of life also includes the theme of connecting people to something deeper. Many people value the way that the church uncovers people’s character. One person added, “Providing a barometer for learning about and experiencing kindness and helping. Learning about those spiritual parts of ourselves.” This also extends to cultivating leadership from many different community members. “We are not only led by the adults, but our children can be leaders, too.”

People also seek connection from a personal narrative to the ongoing, sacred stories that are part of the church’s distinctive spiritual heritage. One participant noted, “It helps to relate and connect more to stories from the Bible and God’s presence.”

Ideally, experiences at the church also foster reflection. As one person noted, the church serves as a “place where people can ... make sense of what’s going on.” Or as another participant suggested, the church helps people engage “There is a spiritual need, the need to know why am I? Why is the world the way it is? These big questions everybody has.”

CONNECTOR through SPECTRUM of LIFE: Depart and Return

Finally, as a connector, the church remains a consistent presence — provides a sense of home — throughout people’s lives. Its traditions and rituals become rhythmic touchstones. “We have here today some people who want tradition and familiarity.” Some are commonplace, such as singing familiar hymns in worship, serving on a committee, or attending community meals. Others are seasonal, such as participating in holidays such as Easter and Christmas. Others may include life moments such as attending weddings and funerals.

Then again, people noted how they and their families dip in and out of the church’s physical space, its communal relationship, and its many programs and ministries. People leave and return, and experience cycles of engagement with the church. One person noted, “Most people have had childhood experiences in the church that have been meaningful and helped build our character throughout the years.” Another noted the family’s connection across generations. And one parent observed, “Coming to church and having that time for the kids to have their space to learn, achieve goals around confirmation and communion and bible study. ... we want to continue to have that base for our children.” People remember past connections, experience current connections, and anticipate future connections to the church’s physical building and its temporal, cultural, and spiritual presence in the community.



Board of Deacons

Your Board of Deacons is charged with assisting the pastor with worship and caring for our members and friends in the Jackson community.

Let me itemize some of our responsibilities and the actions we have taken in that area:

- **Weekly Worship** Deacons prepare the sanctuary, which includes setting up the altar, sound system and posting hymn numbers. One deacon is appointed for every Sunday.
- **Communion Sunday** In addition to setting up for regular worship, we prepare the elements (bread & cup) and serve it to your pew.
- **Greeters** One or two greeters are needed to welcome members, newcomers & visitors. This later part is especially important so that people feel comfortable in finding a seat, know where the restrooms are and where we keep toys & books for children. Greeters ring the bell before the service and also take up the offering.
- **Weddings & Funerals** A deacon assists the pastor in setting up the sanctuary and serves as the greeter (as above).
- **Lay Readers & Liturgists** In the past, our clergy have secured for themselves lay readers for scripture lessons. Going forward, lay readers will also lead the call to worship and the invocation. In doing so, we are integrating more lay persons into the worship service. Deacons will coordinate volunteer readers for each week's service. When you are invited to be a reader, please answer "yes".
- **Caregiving for our Community** When a JCC member or a neighbor who is not a member, are facing illness, financial need or other concerns, our church seeks to respond as Christians in the ways in which we are able. Pastor Gail provides most of the direct contact with these persons, but deacons send prayer cards and work with other boards to provide meals, rides and other services as best we are able.
- **Pastoral Support** The board of deacons serves as a sounding board for the pastor for issues facing the church. This is especially important when preparing for special services such as Lent and Easter plus Advent through Christmas. Secondly, we arrange for substitute pastors to come in during Gail's vacation. Last summer we conducted a Deacons' Sunday, where the entire service, including prayers and sermon, was created and led by board members.

Deacons have lost several members in the past years. We want to add at least two members in 2019. We delight in creating a positive worship experience for everyone. Doing our job well makes this possible. We invite you to join with us.

Your 2018 deacons have been:

Tish Hanlon
Cindy Katsapetses (joined August 2018)
Kay Leigh Kearns (relocated July 2018)
Chuck Kyle
Eileen MacDonald (except January – May)
Laurie McAleer
Wendy McVey
Tom Pizor, Senior Deacon



NEW HAMPSHIRE CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2018 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the NHCUCC was held in Concord on Saturday, October 20, 2018, with approximately 350 delegates and officers representing the majority of UCC churches in the state.

The meeting opened with a very moving and uplifting worship hour, which was prepared and led by our own Rev. Gail Doktor and her committee.

The keynote speaker was Rev. Dr. Stephen G. Ray, Jr., the newly appointed president of Chicago Theological Seminary and an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. He has written and lectured broadly in the areas of African American religion, human rights and the intersection of religion and politics. President Ray current work focuses on reinvigorating the public square as a place for all

The meeting agenda included passage of three resolutions/bylaw changes and the budget for 2019 which passed unanimously.

The highlight of the meeting was the introduction of Rev. Gordon M. Rankin, the newly elected Conference Minister. Rev. Rankin held a Town Hall style Q&A session with interested delegates. Through this event and by his overall leadership of the meeting he demonstrated himself to be knowledgeable, warm, funny, intellectually curious, and very invested in the future of the NHCUCC.

My conversations with individual delegates and in workshop sessions was very informative:

- Rev. Gordon M. Rankin is the New Conference Minister. He started working just three days before the conference and was bursting with enthusiasm. I believe the search committee make a great and natural choice. He comes to New Hampshire from serving as conference minister in the states of Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota. He's already discovered that New Hampshire is a far smaller state, but as for the roads . . . "well, you just get there from here."
- Churches in the North Country and other rural areas are going through a difficult time. Many churches have no called pastor. They are getting by with part-time clergy or a series of interim ministers or substitutes. Some are considering mergers with a nearby church, but none felt good about that outcome. Needless to say, attendance and membership are declining and the churches are limited in the mission work. I was very proud when I discussed Jackson Community Church.
- This was a very well-run meeting. Having served as delegate to three other conference meetings in another jurisdiction, I can assure you that this was the best managed and most productive meeting I have attended. To do so requires an excellent planning committee, an experience conference moderator and effective conference staff.

Tom Pizor, JCC Delegate to NHCUCC



Mens Fellowship

Our Men's Fellowship meets every second Saturday of each month for breakfast at the Wentworth Hotel. The agenda is simple: hot coffee, cordial conversation and warm fellowship. We meet at 7:30 am so that everyone has time for their other Saturday activities, such as skiing, golf or hiking. The Men's Fellowship is open to all men of the Jackson church, their friends and guests. There are no dues, just the cost of your food. The Wentworth offers a cold buffet plus many hot items from their menu. Never a complaint on the menu!

\$544.00 question! Previous Men's Clubs amassed a total of \$544.00 which is deposited in a local bank. This is an asset that we can use for a good need today or grow until it can do a greater good. Please join us and get to know the men of our church: young or old, those who are new to the area and those new to the area and those who are longtimers.

On behalf of the Men's Fellowship,

Tom Pizor