



Inside Out:

The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church
Vol. XIX, No.6

October 2020

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

Friends & Neighbors, Children of Light —



Recently some friends spent an afternoon savoring the autumn ritual of making fresh cider. The press came out, and so did bags and buckets full of apples. With proper social distancing, masks and caution, we gathered outside to taste the transformation. The neighborhood's nosy dogs, curious children, and glad-to-get-out grownups all joined the fun. Admittedly, some of us helped by talking, eating, watching ... and asking lots of newbie questions. Others actually took turns doing the real work. In the end, everyone got sips of the cider!

Making cider seems an apt image for these days in which we live. The wheel turns, the gears grind, the press falls, and we're caught inside the inexorable process of breaking-down and being remade. Many people feel tumbled, troubled, and overturned by current events. Out of that stress and strain, look what emerges!

We've been studying the epistles of Paul. His words to Corinth resonate even now. He identified difficult circumstances and urged communal practices that support hope and resilience. *"We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed ... the life of Jesus ... made visible in our bodies."* Or as the great author, playwright and activist James Baldwin said, "Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

In these times, we have been called upon to be creative and supportive. To face and engage the change that has come upon us, whether we invited it or not. Rather than simply enduring such events, we choose, as people did in Paul's era, to adapt and flourish. Members of our community expressed concern and curiosity as social unrest occurred: some marched and moved, many read and learned, and others also organized and initiated projects and processes for change. Instead of remaining powerless in the wake of pandemic, people reach out to each other with care, compassion, and courage with meals, rides, visits, cards, calls, and companionship. One person in our community went west to help in fight against forest fires! Our children and adults sing and make music. Students take classes, play sports, and model many ways to attend school at all ages. Meanwhile, in the village and valley, we connect with neighbors and attend to guests and strangers. Our doors remain open, so people can come inside the church to pray and worship, or to borrow a hard-to-find racial justice title. We're also visible outside: inviting public prayers and — this month — offering pumpkins to be converted into animals for Noah's Ark. We rebuild the stairs, replant the window boxes, and return to the sanctuary for worship. We welcome people to use other parts of the building with caution and forethought. Soon many people will volunteer at local polls and vote, another act of faith, based on ethics and values that aspire toward equitable, sustainable outcomes for all people. Yes, as a community of faith, we want to do better than survive, we want to help each other thrive.

Back to cider-making. There's hope inside this process. We've tasted it.

Apples, bruised and fallen, discarded as too imperfect to sell or serve outright, find a second life as the source for cider. Rinsed in clean water, they tumble into the hopper, broken down into smaller chunks by the grinder. One person uses old-fashioned elbow grease to turn the crank while other volunteers dip the apples and roll them down the chute.

The fruit chunks fall into a bucket lined with cheesecloth. Once the bucket fills, the grinding ends, and now our hosts put muscles to work spinning a different wooden handle. The spiraling descent of the circular press crushes ground-up apples. Amber juice, squeezed out of the fruit pulp, sluices into the bright stainless steel pot below. Several more layers of cloth and strainers then filter the first pressing. At last, it's ready!

After much anticipation, stomping around in rubber boots and taking turns at the wheel, our hosts pour this fresh, raw beverage into quart canning jars and half-gallon jugs. Samples fill empty, waiting cups! Notably, since this cider isn't pasteurized, care must be taken with its consumption.

Every batch takes on the concentrated flavors of the apples from which it began. The history of the orchard is shared via the palate. The first batch we bring home is particularly tart, crisp, and lip smackingly satisfying! Especially delicious with other fall favorites such as apple crisp, sweet potato fries, barbecue ... or fresh cider donuts from the local bakery.

The cider press has come down on us as a community, a valley, a state, a nation, and a world. Often now, we may feel like the fallen apples: tumbled, broken, and squeezed. How will we respond? As people of faith, we offer ourselves as a revitalizing, refreshing, and renewing cup of love. Ours tastes like a love that flows from a deeper source: a holy and infinite wellspring of compassion, grace, and justice. And our love — at its best — is filtered enough so that it tastes of remembrance and accountability for common history, gathers up the most beautiful and battered parts of our human legacy within its body and being, and pours itself out as again as deep connection, tangible hope, and meaningful change.

In these times, people report feeling overwhelmed, exhausted, and uncertain. We brace for the unknown. Along the way, we return to school and reopen businesses. Monitor worldwide pandemic trends and public health developments. Engage and grapple with systemic challenges and social changes. Get back to our jobs and work for economic recovery. Volunteer in new ways. Connect by surprising methods. Resist allowing the upcoming election to divide our community, instead acting in ways that show that we belong to each other.

Throughout this crushing and creative process, we remember Paul's words: we will not be pressed down, driven to despair, or destroyed. Rather, we choose to embody transformation and new life!

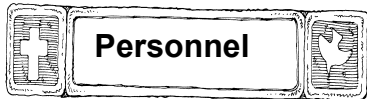
What will the flavor of our first fruits — our harvest, our pressing — taste like on the other side of this unasked-for era of upheaval and re-creation? Fresh and sour-sweet? Intense and raw? Cold and clarifying? Fermented and intoxicating? Warm and spiced-up? Let us face and embrace these times with hope and resilience, responding in ways that cause challenge and change to bring out the best in all of us. We embody life and we embrace love (while wearing masks and bumping elbows, of course)!

Blessings! — Rev Gail Doktor, gaildoktor@mac.com, cell: 978.273.0308

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gail".



Jackson Community Church



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Jeanette Heidmann 733-7733
Co-Moderator

Linda Gray 356-5683
Co-Moderator

Joanne Turner 383-6187
Administrative 986-5018

Church Council

The Church Council meets once a month on the 3rd Wednesday at 7:00pm. All Church members are welcome to attend. The council is made up of the Moderator, Pastor and all committee representatives. The next council meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, October 21st at 7pm.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting news and articles for the fall newsletter will be Tuesday, October 27th. Items can be mailed to PO Box 381, Jackson, NH 03846 or emailed to: jcchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org

Church Family News and Prayers



October 3rd: Patti Dunn

If you would like a special anniversary or birthday mentioned in the newsletter please let us know by sending an email to the office. 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!



Judy Herrick: A celebration of life for long time church member and friend will be held at 4 p.m. on Oct. 11, 2020, at the Jackson Community Church. Strict adherence to social distancing and masks are required.

RSVP: Limited space due to COVID restrictions on indoor gatherings: please RSVP to thecin1@yahoo.com if you would like to attend in person.

For those unable to attend in-person, the church will be available via ZOOM and live-streaming to JCC's Facebook page.

ZOOM: Join Zoom Celebration of Life on Sun, Oct 11 @ 4pm:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84491907278?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84491907278?pwd=VFFOaGh3doc2SlRlYTFKVTNwdGhUQT09)

[pwd=VFFOaGh3doc2SlRlYTFKVTNwdGhUQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84491907278?pwd=VFFOaGh3doc2SlRlYTFKVTNwdGhUQT09)

Or call by touch-tone phone: 929.436.2866, Meeting ID: 844 9190 7278, Passcode: 209301



Rev. Gail continues to make pastoral visits to homes through physical distancing, phone call or by remote video. If you're aware of someone who might benefit from a bowl of home-made soup and a visit, please let her know.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally



The Mission Committee is always excited when new members are interested in joining. Are you passionate about a cause that is either local or international? Bring your ideas and positive energy to the Mission Committee—everyone is invited. Current members are Linda Hastings, Jeanette Heidmann, Kit Griffin, Meg Phillips, Jean Melczarek and Gloria Hutchings.

Pease Greeter Project

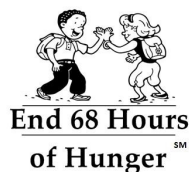


The Pease Greeter project is run by volunteers who in the past would greet each military member as they departed for their 'tours' from Pease Air Force base. Due to coronavirus concerns as well as airport terminal remodel and repairs, the greeters have not been out to 'greet' folks but are still compiling and sending care packages.

The Mission Committee continues to make beautiful 'Care' Stockings, for this project, out of felt and decorated with red, white and blue stars that will be filled with essentials for military personnel. A total of 60 of these handmade stockings will be sent as care packages to deployed military members as a token of our thanks for their sacrifice.

A hearty thank you goes out to the following folks that assisted in the creating and distributing of these stockings: Jeanette Heidmann, Sandra Himmelwright, Claire Mallette, Meg Phillips, Mary Miller, Kit Griffin, Joan Palubniak, Jan Chernick, and Gloria Hutchings. In addition to the stockings over a dozen hand knit hats were donated to the project. These are much appreciated gifts and the stories of appreciation from some of the members are truly heartwarming!

Preparation of stockings for 2021 have begun! If you wish to assist in this project, by cutting fabric, sewing, knitting, donating materials, etc.. please contact Meg Phillips for more information at Margaret_p@roadrunner.com



Thank You

End 68 Hours of Hunger was thankful for our donation of \$200 which will go directly towards the purchase of food for the local program.



Donations for those with food insecurities

The Food Pantry continues to seek donations of non perishable food staples such as peanut butter, canned tuna, or canned soups, as well as toiletries including toilet paper, toothpaste/toothbrushes ect. They will always accept and appreciate grocery store gift cards. Please do not donate expired foods as they can not be distributed.

Donations can be dropped off in the basket in the narthex.

UCC Mission Collection

United Church of Christ Special Mission Offerings sponsor vital ministries that bring hope to people in the U.S. and around the world. Our church has identified four areas where critical human needs exist:

- in places lacking health and educational resources and/or where disaster has struck;
- within systems of injustice which oppress daily life and opportunity;
- in the lives of church leaders without sufficient resources to live with dignity;
- in the nurture of youth and congregations just beginning their lives of faith.

We believe these Special Mission Offerings collectively serve to lift people closer to the abundance and wholeness to which Jesus Christ has called us to work together to bring about. Typically, in past years we have asked for donations 5 times throughout the year, however we have changed this to where we are now only asking for donations twice a year, in the spring and the fall. **Until we can meet in person again we hope you will carefully consider the options, and generously support the funds you choose by mailing a check to JCC, PO Box 381, Jackson NH 03846 with details on where you would like the donations to be applied.**



Channels resources for international programs in health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response, administered by Wider Church Ministries, Global Sharing of Resources.



Re-imagines and builds the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC does not have a strong presence. Its also provides support for existing church's new initiatives.

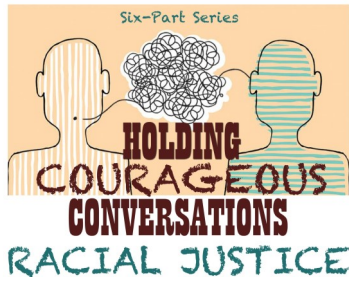


Supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, including the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), justice and advocacy, and direct service projects supported by Justice and Local Church Ministries.



Funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties. Active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses may be eligible for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and/or Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks.

Racial Justice Initiatives



Courageous Conversations: Racial Justice Wednesdays 5:30pm

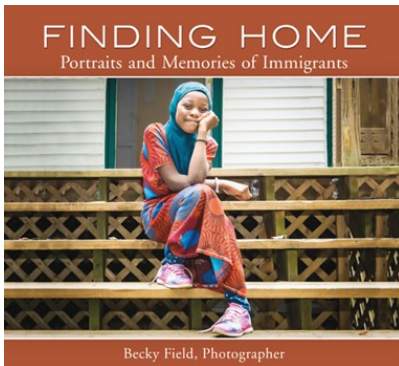
This six week conversation is co-sponsored by the Jackson Library and JCC and uses peer-reviewed curriculum.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83640998864?pwd=aU96VjNBUEWFpazZocmxGbVROZG5Bdz09> Alternate: Call by touch-tone phone: 929.436.2866, Meeting ID: 836 4099 8864, Passcode: 722476

Reading & Community Book Clubs:

- The Church has a lending library out front by doors. Sign books out as you wish.
- Book club suggested readings from Meredith at the Jackson Public Library can be found [here](#).
- Library is developing a broad selection of children's and adult reading options

Finding Home: Portraits and Memories of Immigrants Hosted by the Seacoast Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition



What does it feel like to come from another country and find a home in New Hampshire? Photographer Becky Field has been asking that question for the past decade. What started as a photographic journey has grown into a series of stories, told by people of different ages, genders, New Hampshire communities, and countries of origin. Some came to escape violence, some came for love, some came for education. Each story tells of a unique journey to find a new home in a new land.



Join us on **Oct. 18, 2020, 4-5pm via Zoom** as Becky Field, Martin Toe, and Sindy Rios Montenegro share stories of people who have come from other countries and who now reside in the Granite State.

Please use this link to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88310141419>
pwd=V1VFcXhDVIVORHowSkhjcU1XTS9ldz09
Meeting ID: 883 1014 1419
Passcode: 658168
Phone: 1 929 205 6099



For more information about Becky Field's work and her publications, visit <http://differentrootsnh.com/>
All net profits from book sales go to nonprofits that support immigrants and refugees.

Pledge Cards and Giving Status

Members and friends of the Jackson Community Church please check your mail. In the next few days you should be receiving a letter from our Church Council and Treasurer in regards to your 2020 financial giving and where you stand with your 2020 pledge. Please take a moment to read this important letter about the financial status of the Jackson Community Church— please do not just toss this letter aside. Also enclosed in the envelope is your 2021 pledge card. By returning your pledge card promptly you can help us plan next years 2021 budget. Your contributions make the work and life of this church possible.

Thank you!!!



Did you know.... the **Charitable IRA Rollover**, also known as a **Qualified Charitable Disbursement (QED)** allows Americans age 70 ½ and older to make gifts to one or more nonprofit organizations (such as Jackson Community Church) without federal tax penalty, by simply requesting a transfer of IRA assets from the plan administrator directly to your charities.

Gifts can be made up to \$100,000 annually and count towards the owner's Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for individuals age 72 and older. QCDs from pre-tax IRAs are still a tax-savvy giving strategy in 2020 if you are between age 70 ½ and 72, even though RMDs are not required until age 72.

Consult your tax advisor for the best advice. This is a very painless and tax-advantaged way to support JCC and other favorite charities!

Planned Giving

Have you considered naming Jackson Community Church in your estate plans?

Everyone has the capacity to leave a legacy – large or small – to the organizations that they care about most. There are many simple ways you can make a lasting gift to the church. JCC can be named as a beneficiary in your will, IRA, or charitable trust. Charitable Gift Annuities are available through the United Church of Christ that will provide you with income for life, a tax deduction, and a substantial gift to the church in the future.

Jackson Community Church is fortunate to have several trust funds that were given by generous church members in the past. We rely on the income from these funds to help balance our budget each year. But we could do much more if we had the resources.

Won't you consider leaving a legacy to JCC for future generations? Please let Pastor Gail know if you would like confidential information about these options.

"Giving liberates the soul of the giver" – Maya Angelou



APPROACHING THE NEW NORMAL: WORSHIPPING DURING COVID-19

The following guidelines will be enforced for the health and safety of all who join us in person: In person worship and Zoom worship will be held at the same time 10:30am

- Masks will be required for everyone entering the church and are to be worn at all times. Worship leaders may remove masks when speaking to the congregation.
- We will use only designated open pews. Please note that 2 out of 3 pews are roped off for safe distancing.
- Only families or attendees in a joint quarantine bubble who have already been in close proximity may sit together.
- We will ask you to refrain from any physical contact including passing of peace, handshaking, hugs, or standing within 6 feet of others. This is for everyone's safety.
- We ask that you use hand sanitizer when entering the building. There is also hand sanitizer in the pews as needed.
- Worship will be also live streamed via Zoom with live music by Alan Labrie. Please be patient with the transition.
- There will be no congregational singing.
- When worship ends, participants are asked to leave the church with social distance between each group; We will not be staying for a social time.
- If you have any signs of illness such as fever, cough, congestion, stomach upset, you are courteously asked to remain home and take care of yourself.

We will continue to offer our Zoom-based Worship at 10:30am. This worship will be broadcast live via the Jackson Community Church Facebook page as well as on the website.

You will see this sign
at all entrances as a
friendly reminder.
We Thank You!!



Mask Required In This Location

Appropriate facial coverings (covering the nose and mouth) are required at the Jackson Community Church in all public spaces and bathrooms.

This helps keep you and our staff safe. Those who do not adhere to our guidelines will be asked not to use the space. (we do have safety cameras clearly marked)

For small groups meeting with permission at the church: there will be no serving of food and beverages on property, for example no potluck or serve yourself food. It is ok to bring your own individual beverages and individually wrapped food items.

**Thank you for your cooperation!
#StopTheSpread #StayHealthy**

*Thank
you*

Thank you to local resident Jimmy O'Donnell of Jackson for donating a large picnic table to the Jackson Community Church. It will be used for everyone's enjoyment of sitting by the river.



Scan me

Jackson Community Church Online Giving

The Jackson Community Church now offers the convenience of online giving. Just scan the QR Code and it will link you to our giving page.

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: _____

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



OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:00 Interfaith Worship – Ga-zebo 9:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship Service – In person and Zoom	28	29	30	1 12:30-2:30 Sewing Club 5:30-8 AA Private Grp	2 5pm Cocktails & Christian Conversations	3
4 8:00 Interfaith Worship – Ga-zebo 9:00 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship Service – In person and Zoom	5	6	7 5:30 Courageous Conversations	8 12:30-2:30 Sewing Club 5:30-8 AA Private Grp	9 5pm Cocktails & Christian Conversations	10
11 8:00 Interfaith Worship - Ga-zebo 9:00 Zoom Choir 10:30 Worship Service – In person and Zoom 4pm Judy Herrick Memorial	12 Columbus Day	13	14 5:30 Courageous Conversations	15 12:30-2:30 Sewing Club 5:30-8 AA Private Grp	16 5pm Cocktails & Christian Conversations	17 UCC Annual Mtg Botstord Wedding (offsite)
18 8:00 Interfaith Worship - Ga-zebo 9:00 Zoom Choir 10:30 Worship Service – In person and Zoom	19	20 4pm Deacons Mtg	21 5:30 Courageous Conversations 7:00 Council Meeting	22 12:30-2:30 Sewing Club 5:30-8 AA Private Grp	23 5pm Cocktails & Christian Conversations	24
25 8:00 Interfaith Worship - Ga-zebo 9:00 Zoom Choir 10:30 Worship Service – In person and Zoom 2:30 Kaplan/Parsons Wdg	26	27	28 5:30 Courageous Conversations	29 12:30-2:30 Sewing Club 5:30-8 AA Private Grp	30	31 Halloween