

# Inside Out:

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

The Newsletter of the Jackson Community Church Vol. XX, No.6 July2021



Brothers & Sisters — This month launches us into reflections on liberty. Then, traditionally, releases many folks to personal explorations and adventures during a season of play and hospitality, travel and vacation. For some people, summer means a relaxation of the work schedule. For others, it means more jobs, thus less time for rest and ease, yet perhaps more resources to offset the lean times.

As we're told in the Gospels, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.

Jesus' answer was based on tradition, and included the core prayer of Judaism, the *shema*. He referred to his own upbringing as an ethical framework and guide for how to follow God and live justly and well. Yet his response also turned the people of his time, and people now, toward each other. He gave us a transformative understanding of love as a path to freedom. Through his living, dying, and returning, he also offered a path that forgives and liberates, even when we cannot earn or deserve such grace, since we are accepted and beloved because of — not in spite of — our messy and imperfect selves!

A poet wrote the words at the end, as if they came from the Statue of Liberty on her centennial, on Independence Day, just before she was refurbished. Her commentary makes us wonder ... How does the embodiment of our spiritual beliefs align with our civic and societal values? As we balance labor and leisure this summer, do we follow the Way that is equitable, just, merciful, and redemptive for all people? How does our everyday living connect to the great commandments Jesus gave us? Take a moment to notice others around you this summer: old friends, new acquaintances, well-known family, unknown strangers, full-time neighbors, part-time occupants, seasonal workers, year-round residents, passing visitors, and returning guests. See each other in new ways. Be curious. Ask questions. Allow yourself to be changed, as well as to cause change in others.

This summer, be free to embrace both joy and delight. Set apart time for renewal and recreation. Along the way, discover how you are able to love Godself — as you are commanded — with all the parts of yourself: your thinking, your speaking, your acting, your working, your playing, your learning, and your relating to others. Let love be your guide this summer.

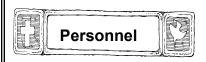
Liberation is a journey that continues, not a destination at which you arrive, nor a single day on which we set off fireworks and wave flags. It is the ongoing work of holy love and overwhelming grace, and it chooses all of us, including you! You are being set free, even if you don't yet feel it or know it.

- Blessings, Rev Gail

Rev Stil



#### Jackson Community Church



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Joanne Turner 383-6187 Administrative 986-5018

Alan Labrie Organist

William Carleton Choir

Valarie Willman Custodial

#### **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. There will not be a council meeting in July. The next council meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, August 18th at 7pm.

#### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting news and articles for the August newsletter will be Monday, July 26th. Items can be mailed to PO Box 381, Jackson, NH 03846 or emailed to: jcchurch@jacksoncommunitych urch.org

#### lady liberty (excerpt) By Tato Laviera

for liberty... but the symbol suffered one hundred years of decay, climbing up to the spined crown, the fractured torch hand, the ruptured intestines, palms blistered and calloused, feet embroidered in rust, centennial decay, the lady's eyes, cataract filled, exposed to sun and snow, a salty wind, discolored verses staining her robe.

she needed re-molding, re-designing, the decomposed body ... just before she was touched, just before she was dismantled, lady liberty spoke, she spoke for the principles, for the preamble, for the bill of rights, and ... peaceful presidential transitions, and, just before she was touched, lady liberty wanted to convey her own resolutions, her own bi-centennial goals, so that in twenty eighty-six, she would be smiling and she would be proud. and then, just before she was touched, and then, while she was being re-constructed, and then, while she was being celebrated, she spoke.

if you touch me, touch ALL of my people who need attention and societal repair, give the tired and the poor the same attention, AMERICA, touch us ALL with liberty, touch us ALL with liberty.

hunger abounds, our soil is plentiful, our technology advanced enough to feed the world, to feed humanity's hunger... but let's celebrate not our wealth, not our sophisticated defense, not our scientific advancements, not our intellectual adventures. let us concentrate on our weaknesses, on our societal needs, for we will never be free if indeed freedom is subjugated to trampling upon people's needs.

this is a warning, my beloved america.

so touch me, and in touching me touch all our people. do not single me out, touch all our people, touch all our people, all our people our people people.

and then i shall truly enjoy my day, filled in splendor, july fourth, new york harbor ... midnight sky, fireworks splashing, heaven exploding into radiant bouquets, celebrating in the name of equality, in the pursuit of happiness, god bless america, land of star-spangled banner that we love.

### **Church Family News and Prayers**



July 3: Micah White July 11: Mary Dindorf July 19: Ray Schoen July 27: Charlie Scott July 31: Claire Mallette 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!



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 homemade soup and a visit, please let her know.



The long awaited return of Fellowship / Coffee hour is just around the corner. To start back slowly we be holding coffee hour only on Communion Sundays—the first Sunday of the month following worship service.

The Deacons will host to start us back up on Sunday August 1st.



#### Free Fitness Classes on Wednesdays

Laurie McAleer offers a free weekly exercise classes at the church. Classes are held on Wednesday mornings at 9am.

All are welcome to participate, please remember your masks.

## 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, Jean Melczarek and Gloria Hutchings.



Save the Date: Jen's Friends Climb Against Cancer will be **September 18th.** 

Jen's Friends Climb Against Cancer is an annual event held at Cranmore Mountain Resort. It has become symbolic of the hurdles that cancer patients, survivors, and their families must overcome to win the battle against cancer. Many people participate to celebrate survivorship; others come to commemorate the lives of those who lost the battle with cancer. And still others hike to raise money for their friends and neighbors who are being helped by Jen's Friends. People of all ages participate, and many bring their four-legged family members.

More information about this wonderful event will be available at the end of July.

### Alzheimer's isn't stopping. Neither are we.



For several years, dedicated walkers and fundraisers have participated in a "local" Walk to END Alzheimer's. 2021 will be our 5<sup>th</sup> year and we are hoping you will join us on team Eagle's Rest.

The walk event we have chosen is Saturday, September 18 in York Maine. We did this walk two years ago and it was a beautiful route along the coast and beaches. The walk is short, about 3 miles, but there are hundreds of people doing it and it is a festive occasion.

Get more information and sign up to participate at: <u>Eagle's Rest Team Page</u>. Or Google Alzheimer's walk, select Sep 18 and look for team Eagle's rest. Questions? Talk to Jeanette Heidmann



The Mission Committee continues to collect food donations for the Bartlett/ Jackson food pantry and the Way Station. Food donations can be dropped off anytime at the Jackson Community Church foyer in the basket.

The Bartlett/Jackson food pantry and Way Station also accepts gift cards and other monetary donations.

#### The Bartlett/Jackson food pantry is in need of:

- · Condiments: ketchup, mayonnaise, etc.
- · Canned meat, veggies (carrots and peas), jams/jellies
- · Paper towels and toilet paper
- · Laundry and dish detergent/ shampoo/conditioner, deodorant/, toothpaste (things that can't be purchased with food stamps)
- · Snacks for children
- · Gluten Free items

Donations of non-food items can be sent to PO Box 279, Glen, NH 03838

#### The Way Station is in need of:

- · Hearty soups, stews, canned spaghetti, canned tuna or chicken. (Only with pop tops).
- · Energy bars, fruit drink boxes, individual fruit cups, peanut butter, bottled water.
- · Wrapped snack crackers and small raison boxes.

Donations of non food items can be sent to Way Station PO Box 1888, North Conway NH 03860



### **Drive Thru mobile food panty**

The New Hampshire Food Bank with the help of funds from The Cares Act is able to provide fresh produce and non-perishable items in different areas of the state. If you or anyone you know is in need, you just drive up and they load the food in your car.

The next local drive thru food pantry will be at:

- Gorham Thursday July 8th 12:00pm 2:00pm Chapman's 459 Main Street, Gorham, NH
- Gorham Thursday August 12th 12:00pm 2:00pm Chapman's, 459 Main St., Gorham, NH
- Conway Thursday August 19th 12:00pm 2:00pm Ham Ice Arena, 87 W. Main St., Conway

This is available to anyone in need while supplies last.





### Jackson Community Church Choir

### Golf Tournament

The Jackson Community Church Choir is hosting its first annual scramble golf tournament at the Wentworth Golf Club in Jackson, NH on Tuesday August 17th, 2021 (rescheduled) starting at 9:00am.

Come join us for a morning of golf, mini-games, raffles and fun! All proceeds go to the JCC Choir and Music Programs.

When: August 17th, 2021. Tee times will range from 9:00am to 11:30am. Tee times will be assigned before the tournament out of an abundance of caution regarding CoVid-19.

Format: 4 person scramble/best ball.

Price: \$70 per person. This includes round of golf, a riding cart, lunch and a gift T-shirt.

If you are interested in being a tournament sponsor, packages are available at \$30/\$50/\$75

**Registration Form** 

**Sponsorship Form** 



**Visit our Website** 

### How can you donate to the Jackson Church?

The Jackson Community Church now offers the convenience of online giving. The donate button on www.jacksoncommunitychurch.org will link you to our giving page or find it <a href="https://example.com/here/">here</a>.

OR

Donations can also be sent to: Jackson Community Church

PO Box 381

Jackson NH 03846



#### **Steeple Light**

The Jackson Community Church Steeple is lit every evening to shine our love, hope and to remind us of those who hold a special place in our hearts. The steeple will be lit in July in appreciation of Sue Carrigan, Wendy McVey, Meg Phillips and the rest of the team for leading the worship service on June 27th.

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 along with a donation to:

Jackson Community Church Attn: Steeple Lighting PO Box 381 Jackson NH 03846

#### 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:		