



Inside Out:

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

June 2023

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



Brothers and Sisters —

June is a month of growth and beginnings. Blossoms brighten the landscape. Bees explore early flowers, gathering pollen and feeding new generations. Gardens rise up, green and lush with promise.

People share such verdant life with each other. We pass along seeds and cuttings that have been handed down from family to family, generation to generation, neighbor to neighbor, yard to yard. We eat the fruit, savor the flowers, and stand in the shade of each other's stories.

Some of us are connected to deeply-rooted life that keeps us in one location: one geographic place that we call home. For others, seedlings and stories are portable; we travel with dogeared pages and soil-filled pots containing small samples of our origins.

The gleanings of our gardens, like our stories, go with us. Whether we stay nearby or travel afar, people are marking milestones and accomplishments. For instance, young people (and sometimes venerable folk, too) celebrate graduation from high school and college. As summer comes, individuals and families launch new adventures: jobs, internships, seasonal work, vacations, camps, retirement, volunteer roles ... unknown futures and next steps!

Others are saying farewell. Deaths, challenging diagnosis, end of careers or relationships, and other changes in circumstances cause people to make major moves. Some are arriving here in our valley while others are leaving in all sorts of ways. Sometimes a patch of beloved leaf and familiar soil, to signify home and/or connection, helps us through such transitions.

As you take time in your garden and throughout your summer journeys, let the prophet Isaiah come with you. Connect to ancient spiritual stories, as well as contemporary narratives. After many challenges and hardships, the people to whom Isaiah spoke, and for whom he advocated, learned to "look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed." Isaiah's words fell upon reluctant soil, yet his message took root over time. For his own people, Isaiah's story cultivated resilience and gratitude over hundreds of years among homesick exiles, forcibly removed to distant lands, oppressed and ensnared, disconnected from culture and kindred, without social home or spiritual center. As we read Isaiah's words this month, they are handed down over millennia, carrying a sense of home and hope, of belonging combined with new beginnings. May his message flourish in us, too.

Along with this ancient truth-teller, listen for modern-day prophets this summer. Whose questions and insights work within the fertile loam of your mind and spirit, taking hold and cultivating transformation? Is it a songwriter or poet? An artist or journalist? A public figure who makes headlines and demonstrates extraordinary leadership? Or is it someone unexpected and local? Could it be a neighbor who shows up, day after day, with care and concern for nearby issues or homegrown concerns? Might it be someone recovering from addiction or living with a life-threatening diagnosis, who has gained a new appreciation for and perspective about life? Or could your prophet be a young child with fresh questions and keen observations?

Look for prophets, for stories, for the seeds of change, in church and in our community. This summer, who helps you pay attention? Who notices you? Whom do you notice? Commencement speakers are sure to reflect on social conditions in the next few weeks. During Pride month, our church will sponsor a booth at Pride Festival, giving away free lemonade and offering plenty of spiritual solidarity with our LGBTQ+ community; we'll certainly witness prophetic people choosing to speak out about their experiences. Meanwhile, during June we look forward to the insights of Mr. Mt. Washington Valley, Dan Lavigne, on Father's Day: he will reflect on faith, fatherhood, and the causes about which he is passionate. As Independence Day approaches, the Rev. Bill Briggs will lead two Sundays of worship, sharing stories about his own revolutionary way of living out his faith.

Finally, we invite you to begin your summer with another prophet's deep questions, shared from her own corner of the natural world. Let poet Mary Oliver, or the prophet Isaiah, or some other truth-teller, become the catalyst of growth in your life. This summer, may your life, and your soul, become a garden in bloom.

Blessings as summer starts! — Rev. Gail Doktor



The Gardener — Mary Oliver

Have I lived enough?
Have I loved enough?
Have I considered Right Action enough,
have I come to any conclusion?
Have I experienced happiness with sufficient gratitude?
Have I endured loneliness with grace?

I say this, or perhaps I'm just thinking it.
Actually, I probably think too much.

Then I step out into the garden,
where the gardener, who is said to be a simple man,
is tending his children, the roses.

**The Leaf and the Cloud
(excerpt from a booklength poem) — Mary Oliver**

When loneliness comes stalking, go into the fields, consider
the orderliness of the world. Notice
something you have never noticed before,
like the tambourine sound of the snow-cricket
whose pale green body is no longer than your thumb.

Stare hard at the hummingbird, in the summer rain,
shaking the water-sparks from its wings.
Let grief be your sister, she will wither or not.

Rise up from the stump of sorrow, and be green also,
like the diligent leaves.

A lifetime isn't long enough for the beauty of this world
and the responsibilities of your life.

Scatter your flowers over the graves, and walk away.
Be good-natured and untidy in your exuberance.

In the glare of your mind, be modest.
And beholden to what is tactile, and thrilling.
Live with the beetle, and the wind.

**The Leaf and the Cloud
(excerpt from a booklength poem) — Mary Oliver**

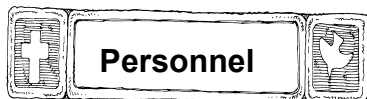
If you are in the garden,
I will dress myself in leaves.
If you are in the sea
I will slide into that smooth blue nest,
I will talk fish, I will adore salt.
But if you are sad,
I will not dress myself in desolation.
I will present myself with all the laughs I can muster.
And if you are angry I will come, calm and steady,
with some small and easy story.

I Worried — Mary Oliver

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not how shall I correct it?
Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven, can I do better?
Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well, hopeless.
Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism, lockjaw, dementia?
Finally, I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning, and sang.



Jackson Community Church



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

Joanne Turner 383-6187
Administrative 986-5018

Rob Weinstein IT/Tech

Sharon Novak Music

Valarie Willman Custodial

Church Council

The Church Council meets once a month on the 2nd 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, June 14th at 7pm.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting news and articles for the June newsletter will be Thursday June 29th. Items can be mailed to PO Box 381, Jackson, NH 03846 or emailed to: jchurch@jacksoncommunitychurch.org

Church Family News and Prayers



June 7: Lynn Lockard
June 16: Ellory Kearns
June 17: Emma McLeavey-Weeder
June 20: Daniel Weeder
 Janice Brodil
June 27: Hannah Benson

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!



Thank you to the Flower Team for providing beautiful arrangements in our Sanctuary.

This months flowers are provided by Laurie McAleer

If you have a special occasion and would like to supply flowers please let Laurie know.



Rev. Gail continues to help members of the church and community with pastoral visits, phone calls 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.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ... locally and internationally



Mission Group

Are you passionate about a cause that is either international or local? Bring your ideas and positive energy to the Mission Team.

The Mission Group is always excited when new members and friends are interested in seeing what they are accomplishing.

Current members are Linda Hastings, Jeanette Heidmann, Kit Griffin, Meg Phillips, Jean Melczarek, Claire Mallette Sue Carrigan and Gloria Hutchings.



The Mission Committee's 8th Annual Plant Sale was a HUGE success! We couldn't have done it without YOU though!

Many thanks to those of you who donated beautiful plants, seedlings, pots or who volunteered time to water, set up / take down the sale, and to those who went home with some new greenery, we thank you for your part in making the sale successful.

The sale raised \$1712—WOW! ALL monies raised will go to support those displaced and in need of assistance here in the MWV and internationally.



4th Annual Mini Golf Scramble

There is still time to participate in this fun event. If you missed the June 2nd scramble, you can still purchase your 36 holes of mini golf at Pirates Cove online (\$10) before June 8, 2023. All rounds sold online are good from June 2, 2023 to June 30, 2023 and 100 percent of the proceeds benefit Jen's Friends Cancer Foundation.

Golf Tournament

The 15th annual Jen's Friends Golf Tournament is returning Thursday June 8, 2023, with some old favorites including shotgun starts, luncheon awards, and the popular 50/50 raffle. This year they will be playing at two local courses, The Wentworth Golf Club and Hale's Location Golf Course. Register online at [Jen's Friends](#) \$150 per person.

26th Annual Jen's Friends Cancer Foundation Climb Against Cancer

Save the date: Saturday September 16, 2023 8am Cranmore Ski Resort

JCC will once again have a team! A link to register will be sent when available, be sure to sign up with our team. You can walk all the way up, part of the way, ride the chair, hang out at the base!

Let's get the biggest team ever!

There are pre-climb fund raisers to also consider:



The Mission Team supports the Mount Washington Valley's Habitat for Humanity each year.

This year Habitat for Humanity are looking for volunteers to help with their pickups for their Home Furnishing Sales. The Home Furnishing Sales are an important fundraiser that helps build homes allowing deserving families to purchase affordable homes. Pickups will start Saturday, April 22, 2023. Pickups are done by a 2 person team and a box truck. Volunteers are only asked to do 1 pick up per month.

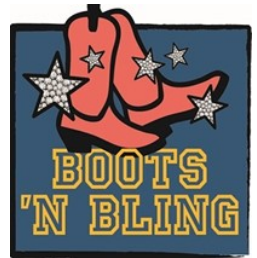
If not you, do you know someone that might be interested? Details:

- One Saturday a month 8:30-1:30pm (meet in Glen)
- Pick ups are from April to October
- Drivers only need a regular drivers license
- Must be 18 or older
- All items to be picked up will be on the 1st floor.

For more information or to volunteer email yardsale@mwv-habitat.org or call 603-356-3832



Starting Point's 11th Annual Boots N' Bling
returns to the Wentworth Inn in Jackson on June 8th 5pm.



Join in Dinner, Dancing, Silent and Live Auctions to benefit the victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence.

Tickets are available at Startingpointnh.org



Way Station Appreciation Reception

Sharing the Mission, Progress and Future of the Way Station.

Tuesday June 13th 5-7pm
15 Grove Street, North Conway

In appreciation of your generous support in directly making a difference to the housing insecure individuals and families in our community, the Way Station will hold an Appreciation Reception. Light refreshments will be served.

If you would like to attend please register [HERE](#).

Ongoing Mission Support



THE WAY STATION is in NEED OF FOOD ITEMS,

- Hearty soups, stews, canned spaghetti, canned tuna/chicken. (Pop tops please)
- Energy bars, fruit drink boxes, fruit cups, peanut butter, shelf stable milk
- Wrapped crackers and small raisin boxes.

Items can be left in the pantry box in the church entryway.

For monetary donations for the Way Station contact Jeanette Heidmann or send to the Way Station at PO Box 1888, North Conway 03860.

THE BARTLETT/JACKSON FOOD PANTRY :

The Bartlett/Jackson Food Pantry is located at 9 Dundee Road, Intervale (off Route 16A—former location of Faith Bible Church). The pantry is open on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00am to 12 noon.



Feeding the Community

For more information contact a Mission Team member or Brenda Mederios (bartlettjacksonfoodpantry@gmail.com or 603-383-9246)

The pantry accepts all donations of unexpired food as well as paper products. They are currently in need of: coffee, tea, cereal, toilet paper and mayonnaise.

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE JCC FOYER ANYTIME IN THE DESIGNATED BOX. MONETARY DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO BJFP, PO BOX 279, GLEN NH 03838



Working on houses and talkin about Jesus

The journey of Mike and Joyce Scott with Samaritans Purse

Hello to all! Update on our Mission. Mike and I are at home for the next few months more or less. We both have a training course for Samaritan's Purse we need to attend. I will be going to the Annual Gathering of the Conservative Congregational Christian Churches that holds my ordination...that will be in July. And of course we have family vacation in August! So we'll see what God is up to in the midst of all that!!!

Blessings to all!

Shalom Shalom,

Joyce and Mike Scott

[May Newsletter](#)



alzheimer's association®

There are many causes, near to our hearts which those in our community support. One of them is the fight against Alzheimers. Several of the walkers on our Eagle's Rest team have lost loved ones to this disease which is still working toward its first survivor. That's why we walk – to raise monies for research, for education, and for encouragement to those who are plagued with this disease and for their caregivers hoping for a better future.

Planning ahead: Past participants of this walk have selected Oct 14th for this year's event. Although we are using the Greater Portland Walk site to register and record donations, we will be walking locally at Great Glen and maybe indulging in lunch afterward at the Glen house, depending on the tourist traffic.

We welcome new participants to the event. Join our Eagle's Rest team, walk with us, or donate to one of the registered walkers. Once you register, others can contribute toward your walk goal. Show your support for finding the solution enabling the first survivor of this horrible disease.

To register please go to. [Eagle's Rest Alzheimer's walk](#)

Thanks, and spread the word. It will take more than one of us to stop this disease, but one is a start.

Jeanette Heidmann – Former caregiver to husband Steve, who died in 2018 from Alzheimers. Feel free to call with questions: 603-733-7733



Free Fitness Classes on Tuesdays and Fridays

Laurie McAleer offers a free weekly exercise classes at the church. Classes are held on Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9:30am.

All are welcome to participate.



The success and sustainability of the national ministries of the United Church of Christ relies on churches contributing to basic operating support and mission. Being 5 for 5 means our church provides support to Our Church's Wider Mission along with the four Special mission Offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen The Church, Neighbors In Need and The Christmas Fund. The Jackson Community Church is proudly a 5 for 5 church.

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. The Mission Team will be highlighting One Great Hour of Sharing in the month of June. There will be collection envelopes at the church to donate to this cause or donations can be mailed to JCC, PO Box 381, Jackson NH 03846 (please mark OGHS on the check). Donations will be accepted all month long—even a small donation combined with ALL other UCC Churches can make a big difference.

What is One Great Hour of Sharing?



One Great Hour of Sharing channels resources for international programs in health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster responses. It is administered by Wider Church Ministries, Global Sharing of Resources.

This years OGHS theme is **It's Time To Share** and your generosity makes all the difference.

An example of where One Great Hour of Sharing helps is in Nueva Frontera, Honduras. In Nueva Frontera (New Frontier) and other rural areas in the department of Santa Bárbara, Honduras, a new program is unfolding, and has already reached 500 families. The program has helped Esmerelda Robles, a 27-year-old wife, mother, and farmer who lives in the Macuelizo region. She has benefitted greatly from the installation of an eco-stove which has significantly reduced the soot that previously covered her home. "Before, I had a permanent cough," Esmerelda says. "Now, with just a load of firewood, you cook, you don't need much (unlike the stove we had before), and it is very helpful for our lungs that there is no smoke."

Additionally, Esmerelda was part of a "pass chain" activity in the program, where she received several foster animals. This activity consists of a family receiving a pregnant pig, sheep, or cow and feeding and caring for it. When the next piglet, lamb, or calf is born, it is passed on to another family, which in turn will do the same. Esmerelda describes her village as "a beautiful place with friendly people, with good coexistence. We all know each other because we have always been there. I was born and raised here."

This is just one example on how your generous donations can help. This collection will be ongoing for the month of June.



Looking for Volunteers to Host Coffee Hour

Are you available to host a coffee hour this summer? We know that folks enjoy getting to connect and chat briefly after the service. Can you commit to a Sunday or two to assist? We have simplified the process with a Keurig coffee machine and electric tea kettle. Paper products are provided to make clean up easier. There is a supply box with snacks - crackers, cookies, etc. You may choose to bring fruit or baked goods if you wish, but it's not necessary. Just arrive at church 15 - 20 minutes early to set up.

Please help us continue this tradition. Contact the church office to schedule or call or email Cheryl Pizor - 383-6050, cherylpizor@gmail.com with any questions.

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

Please welcome and thank the following guest speakers/ preachers who will be visiting with us this summer.

June 18th: Dan Lavigne
July 2nd: Rev. Bill Briggs
July 9th: Rev. Bill Briggs

Steeple Light



The Steeple Light will be lit in the month of June in memory of Jeanne Rose Croteau, Gloria Hutchings mother by Jim and Linda Hastings.

If you would like the steeple lit in memory or in honor of a loved one, family member, friend or organization, please mail your request along with a donation to:

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



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 2021 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!



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.

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

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

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

Name: _____

Street address: _____

Mailing address: _____

Email: _____ telephone: _____

Thoughts/Prayers: _____

