

Jackson Community Church

Jackson Village, New Hampshire 03846



2023
Annual Report

Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 24, 2024

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Jackson Community Church 2023 Annual Report

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Ministers Report

January 2023

Friends & Members of Jackson Community Church —

As 2024 begins, we add this 2023 overview and annual report to the many ways we re-visit our history and tell our story anew as a church and community.

For instance, we spent time, and will continue to do so, caring for the wellbeing of the church as a building and also the church and its neighbors as a community of people. As Isaiah once wrote for God's people, *"Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in."* This is a wonderful metaphor for the work and play of our village church in these times. This promise also presumes that we remain in relationship with God and choose God's Way. As children of God, we can imagine that these words are offered for our time and our community, too. Certainly Jackson Community Church is going back to basics, strengthening our foundations, opening our doors wider, and setting the keystone of our spiritual home for years to come.

Always, the deeper question becomes, with what will we fill the heights of the sanctuary, the chambers of our hearts, and the span of our lives?

Last year, church leaders and staff dug into the process of transforming our church's governance model to become more proactive and aspirational. Consequently, our 2024 governing Council will change its focus, so that it becomes a more inspired and strategic group who asks deep questions and works on near-term and long-term objectives. Additionally, last autumn we commenced the 'Appreciative Inquiry' process with a consultant, interviewing individuals and groups to gather stories, strengths, and hopes for Jackson Community Church. That work continues as well. At the same time, a handful of representatives from our church also joined a cohort of small churches in New England working on resiliency through a program called Refugia offered by the BTS Center. This approach to church vitality challenges us to grow deeper rather than grow bigger, acknowledging that we are small-sized churches who thrive in unique ways. In all of these initiatives, and others we undertake this coming year, we support growth and change in an era when many small churches struggle and close.

As stewards of a landmark structure, we celebrate the completion of renovations and improvements to the exterior of the building. In 2022, we painted and repaired elements on the belfry and steeple, as well as all the facades of the historic sanctuary building and the Parish Hall annex. Note that the shutters are now installed correctly; they used to be upside down! In December 2023, the final phase of this exterior restoration project was completed with the construction and installation of a new sign near the front entrance. All of this work was completed with much contribution of time and material by church friends and members, as well as the work of professional contractors. Learn more details in the Building Team's update.

Throughout these projects and processes, we have continued to BE the church by caring for each other and our neighbors. Different reports within this overview share how the Missions team served local and global causes, how our church social life has revived, and many ways we have thrived together. We gather to worship and study. We serve the wider community hands-on. We play and socialize together! Our sanctuary stays open to everyone all day, every day, throughout the year.



Minister's Report (Con't)

This church is more than its bylaws or its walls. Our village church — working alongside many other congregations and nonprofit organizations — remains vibrant and relevant, because we act on our beliefs and values. We continue to help provide care for neighbors and residents in Jackson and Bartlett and throughout the Mt Washington Valley. Our responses are specific, tangible, and meaningful, whether we offer gatherings for bereaved people, deliver community care packages as part the Whitney Center initiative, offer engaging cultural programs, build ecumenical and interfaith relationships, sing and walk and hike and climb to support local causes that range from cancer prevention, curing Alzheimers, aiding asylum-seekers and rescuing animals to tackling regional homelessness. Much of what we accomplish occurs in partnership with other faith communities and in collaboration with local civic partners. In some cases, we also work with international partners. Together, the church's staff, members, and friends serve as part of an ongoing social and spiritual safety net.

Jackson Community Church follows the Way that Christ taught us; this is the path to which we are called. As a community church — as people of faith — our focus includes humanitarian compassion, environmental stewardship, loving perspective, and the hard work of hope. As you read, the pages of this report recount the one year in a much longer story. May we continue to add new chapters to the great, holy story of Holy Love walking and working in the world.

Blessings throughout the coming year! — *Rev Gail Pomeroy Doktor*



Moderator's Report

My first attempt at writing up the past year for the JCC Annual Report included my farewell as moderator of the council. However, after much prayerful reflection, I have decided to stay on for another year. Why you may ask? In reflecting on the past year, I realized that the best is yet to come and I'd like to be a part of it. This is an exciting time for the Jackson Community Church and congregation and I encourage everyone to take part, get involved and explore new and different ways to contribute to this dynamic church community.

Prior to the pandemic, the Jackson Community Church voted to suspend its by-laws. These were the standard bylaws set forth by the UCC and adopted by the church. Following them would require approximately 65 people to hold various volunteer positions. Then, our church, along with many others, faced the challenge of serving its membership, while dealing with a global pandemic and its restrictions and cautions. Now, more than three years later, it's time to face a new challenge of revising and reinstating a set of bylaws that better 'fit' our church and church family.

Through a process known as Appreciative Inquiry, the Council is developing a more strategic and streamlined way to operate for both the near and distant future. Another group is working on a process known as Refugia – again to look at the future of the church and move towards becoming an Open and Affirming congregation that serves EVERYONE.

Two sessions were held in November to begin the process outlined in Appreciative Inquiry and between the two sessions about 30 people participated. If you attended one of these sessions – Thank you. If you missed them, it's not too late to get involved. There will be more opportunities to get involved and provide input as we shape the future of the church so keep your ears, hearts and minds open to listen, learn and contribute to new ideas.

Our dynamic church does a great deal and continues to contribute to the local as well as the greater Mt. Washington Valley community. We support Zimbabwe through our mission committee, another successful plant sale provided funds for Ukraine and the Way Station helped ensure the safety of our local homeless population after the recent flooding. As a congregation, we once again helped provide a Merry Christmas to children through Angels and Elves and this year's Hanukkah celebration was well-received by all attendees and was a welcomed respite given the unrest in the Middle East. We finished painting and got a new signboard, and the choir began rehearsing in time for Christmas. This list goes on and on.

One of my favorite holiday movies is "It's a Wonderful Life" and as I reflect over the past year, I realized "We're a Wonderful Church" with a strong congregation, that steps up when needed; much like George Bailey's friends stepped up to support him. As we move into the New Year, I hope you will step up, and get involved. When you look back, as I did when I first started this, you'll realize how much your gifts are appreciated and how they make a difference.

Wishing you a New Year overflowing with health, happiness, joy and peace.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawson Winch

Moderator

2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

	Jackson Community Church 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes
Date/Location	January 18, 2023 – Jackson Community Church
Attendees	Rev. Gail Doktor, Joyce & Huntley Allan, Emily & Peter Benson, Bill & Judy Botsford, Sue Carrigan, Barry Chisholm, Jackie Corrigan, Linda Gray, Kit & Robert Griffin, Jim & Linda Hastings, Jeanette Heidmann, Gloria Hutchings, Susan Licardi, Sandy Louis, Roy Lundquist, Wendy McVey, Joan Palubniak, David & Ginger Perkins, Meg and Lee Phillips, Cheryl & Tom Pizor, Tim Scott, and Kathleen Wishard. Non members in attendance Tish Hanlon, Stephen Weeder, Chris Doktor, and Joanne Turner

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

Meg Phillips has agreed to Moderate the meeting. This is the 2022 Annual Meeting where we approve what has happened in 2022 and plan for 2023.

Roll Call

Approval of Congregational Mtg Minutes:

- 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve Jeanette (1st), Linda Gray (2nd), all in favor.
- Approval of Council Actions for 2022: Motion to approve Lee (1st) Sandy (2nd) all in favor

Approval of Clerks Report:

- Joanne read the Clerks report. Discussion: Was there a review of inactive members for 2022? The Deacons review the potential inactive members then Joanne reviews if there has been a financial contribution in the past year. There were no members added to be considered inactive for this meeting.
- Motion to approve the Clerks Report: Joyce Allan (1st) Linda Gray (2nd) all in favor

Treasurers Report (Joanne Turner reported for Donna Dunn)

- The year ended up pretty much where we expected it to be.
- Our income was higher than projected, which can be attributed to the generosity of our member support.
- With additional donations to the pastors discretionary fund, Rev. Gail was able to help many people with one time needed or emergency expenses.
- We tried to minimize expenses where we could, however, we spent a little more than anticipated on infrastructure repairs and improvements. We had unexpected Chairlift and Sprinkler System issues that needed attention.

2023 Budget (Joanne Turner)

- (Jeanette) Line item 4091 Income – Parking Supplement. Has anyone contacted the Wentworth to request payment per the agreement. (Joanne) Rev. Gail was in contact with the Assistant General Manager and a letter was sent requesting the donation.
- (Jeanette) Line item 6155 Expenses- Membership and Church Life. Is there a reason we are keeping the funds in the budget? (Gail) We are resuming fellowship activities on a regular basis. (Cheryl) We are leaving the funds in there for supplies as well.

- (Jeanette) Line item 6424 Expense Organist IT Supplement. Do we still need this? Is Sharon capable or available to do IT? No. We can remove this \$250 from the budget.
- (Jeanette) Line item 6910 Expense Oil & Propane. Given the current cost of fuel should we increase this amount. (Joanne) We are currently on a budget program and have a significant credit with White Mountain Oil. We should be ok with the current budget.
- (Cheryl) Did we include funds to update the technology in the Sanctuary? (Joanne) Line item 6725 Expense has \$2,000 allocated to technology under Church Improvements.
- (Joanne) An infrastructure expense that we were unaware at the time of the budget being approved to be presented at the Annual Meeting at the December Council Meeting involves the sprinkler system. It has been discovered that the sprinkler system has some air leaks which has been causing the compressor to not hold the pressure that is needed in case the power goes out. This was discovered the weekend in December that Jackson lost power. Within 3 hours of loosing power the system was in danger and luckily Rev. Gail was around to shut the system down with the help of Pope Security and the Jackson Fire Department. This could be a very costly problem if it happens again and there is no one nearby that can safely turn the system down. The cost to repair a pipe in November and the emergency visit to get the system back up and running has been almost \$3,000. We should add some funds to the current budget to assess and repair any current leaks. (Peter Benson) We should add an additional \$5,000 to the current budget, which is a small amount to potentially stop a larger – more expensive issue. (Linda Gray) This is a no brainer – obviously prevention is the way to go. Motion to add \$5,000 to the budget Wendy (2nd) All in favor.
- Motion to accept the Finance Report and the amended 2023 Budget (remove \$250 from Organist IT supplement and add \$5,000 to Sprinkler Maintenance) Tim Scott (1st) Sandy Louis (2nd) All in favor.

Trustees' Report: (Jim Hastings)

- A warning that the results from 2022 are not very pretty. Thank you to Roy Lundquist and Bob Griffin for being active on the committee.
- As of December 31, 2022 we have over \$2,450,000 in investable funds. The good news is that as of today the valuation has increased by \$23,000. • The Olive Godfrey Scholarship has awarded 14 scholarships for a total of \$28,000. Scholarship funds are available to Jackson residence and do not have to be used strictly for college.
- 2022 Return on assets: We lost \$488,000 which is loss in market value less dividends. Last year our profit was \$477,000. We paid \$16,000 in fees which average for the year to .58 percent.
- Performance vs Benchmark: FL Putnam did not beat the benchmark for the year. JCC loss was 16.1% while the benchmark was 12.9%. FL Putnam tends to do much better in an inclining market.
- The current portfolio consists of fixed 24%, Equities 58%, Exchange traded (mutual) 15%, Alternatives (real estate, gold, silver ect) 1% and cash 2%.
- Our ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance). FL Putnam philosophy is that it looks for good companies which tend to perform better on the ESG scale. Our ESG is 7.0 out of 10 compared to S&P Index with 6.5 out of 10.
- Thank you again to Roy Lundquist for the time, energy and many years of service to the trustees.
- Motion to accept the Trustees report: Sue Carrigan (1st) Peter Benson (2nd) all approved.



Acceptance of reports of all Champions and Groups: • Discussion:

- (Meg Phillips) I highly recommend everyone to read the reports and see what is going on at the Jackson Community Church. All Groups/Teams have been working hard all year. If you would like to join or learn about a team contact a member to learn more.
- Motion to Accept Linda Gray (1st), Tom Pizor (2nd) – all in favor.

Election of Officers and Volunteers:

- Dawson Winch will be the 2022 Moderator
- Sandy Louis will be the Chair of Deacons
- Cheryl Pizor and Ginger Perkins will join Membership and Church Life
- Claire Mallett will be joining the Mission Team.
- Deacons would like to welcome 1 or 2 new members.
- Building and Maintenance could use 1 or 2 people to help. Bob Carper, Stephen Weeder and Huntley Allan have been very helpful.
- At any point during the year, we welcome people to participate in active teams. Feel free to express your interest in what you are passionate about.
- Thank you to Donna Dunn who fulfilled the role of Treasurer for the last 2 years. This role will be filled at a later date with someone who has talent and interest. Thank you to Roy Lundquist who is stepping down as a Trustee. There are a few people interested in this role and the council will discuss at a further meeting. The council will call a special meeting in March for recommendations to fill the roles.
- Motion to approve slate of officers and volunteers – all approved.

Response from members

- (Rev. Gail) If you read the Annual Report you may have noticed that Joanne and I have written most of the reports. We are at a growing spot at the church and we need more volunteers to help. We have purchased multiple copies of the book : Governance in Ministry and would like council and others to take a look at it and see how it can help the JCC.
- (Meg) If you are passionate about this then being a Council Member at Large will be a great start.
- (Rev. Gail) We are exploring the process of being more inclusive. If you are interested in this we have some training and learning sessions coming up.
- (Meg) Thank you to Rev. Gail for her tremendous work and compassion.

Motion to adjourned at 7:54pm. (Linda Hastings and Emily Benson – All in favor)

Respectfully submitted
Joanne Turner

Clerks Report

Membership on Church Roll as of December 31, 2022.....	101
New Members Received in 2023.....	0
Inactive members moved to active status 2023.....	0
Members Lost by Death recorded in 2023.....	1
Gordon Wood (2/2023)	
Claire MacRae (inactive) 8/2/2022	
Members Lost by Withdrawal (Transfer) in 2023.....	0
Members moved to inactive status 2023.....	0
 TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023.....	 100
Baptisms in 2023:.....	0
Memorial Services/Celebration of Life held in the Church in 2023.....	2
Gordon Lang 6/10/23	
Gail Erickson 10/15/23	
Memorial Services/Celebration of Life held offsite in 2023.....	3
Lynn Stevens 5/6/23	
Ed Good 6/11/23	
John Chernick 9/16/23	
Weddings performed in 2023.....	4
Weddings performed offsite (not through church).....	2
Weddings performed in the church with own clergy.....	0
Weddings performed in the church.....	2
Vow renewal.....	1

Active Membership List

In Order of Joining As of December 31, 2023

1. William Botsford
2. Judith Botsford
3. Cynthia Welch
4. Deanna Glover
5. Lori Jean Kinsey
6. Eileen McDonald
7. Lee Phillips
8. Margaret Phillips
9. Tim Scott
10. Clare Long
11. Emily Benson
12. Peter Benson
13. Huntley Allan
14. Joyce Allan
15. Leslie Schomaker
16. Warren Schomaker
17. David Hovey
18. Joan Palubniak
19. Paul Palubniak
20. Alice Pepper
21. June McLeavy-Weeder
22. Michael Weeder
23. Linda Gray
24. Eleanor Woodason (Assoc)
25. William Woodason
26. Martha Miller
27. Gloria Hutchings
28. Barbara Browne
29. Kay Leigh Kearns
30. Andrew Kearns
31. Jim Hastings
32. Linda Hastings
33. Lauren Orsini
34. Steve Allbee
35. Colleen Allbee
36. Sue Titus Reid
37. Christine Thompson
38. Roy Lundquist
39. Gary Methot
40. Sue Ann Methot
41. Richard Quint
42. Barry W. Trudeau
43. Cathy Trudeau
44. Bob Thompson
45. Barry Chisholm
46. Ramona Chisholm
47. Irene Sullivan
48. Gordon Head
49. Sandy Louis
50. Arden Schoen
51. Lisa White
52. Will White
53. Jeanette Heidmann
54. John B. McVey
55. Wendy M. McVey
56. Linda Little
57. John Little
58. Kristen Corrigan
59. Dawn Brauel
60. Robert Bowman
61. Lori Tradewell
62. Tony Deluca
63. Marv Bihn
64. Wali Bihn
65. Deborah Moffett
66. Janice Nichipor
67. Jan Chernick
68. Katherine (Kit) Griffin
69. Robert Griffin
70. Bob Carper
71. Jackie Corrigan
72. Rachel Pitman
73. Laurie McAler
74. Tom Pizor
75. Cheryl Pizor
76. Rev Gail Doktor
77. Mary Dindorf
78. Janice Brodil (Assoc)
79. Susan Carrigan (Assoc)
80. Sandra Himmelwright
81. David Perkins
82. Ginger Perkins
83. Antonella Bliss
84. Kevin Hamory
85. Jean Melczarek
86. Chris Osborne
87. Susan Osborne
88. Kathleen Wishard
89. Kate Battenfelder
90. Allyn Roberts
91. Hank Dresch
92. Linda Dresch
93. Donna Dunn
94. Dawson Winch
95. Cindy Gilmore
96. Susan Licardi
97. Elizabeth Polansky
98. Maureen Carpenter
99. Ken Carpenter
100. Bilu Bell

- (Associate) = full membership in another church
- (I) = potential inactive

Active Membership List - Alphabetical

Allan, Huntly	Hastings, Linda	Polansky, Elizabeth
Allan, Joyce	Head, Gordon	Quint, Richard
Allbee, Colleen	Heidmann, Jeanette	Reid, Sue Titus
Allbee, Steve	Himmelwright, Sandra	Roberts, Allyn
Battenfelder, Kate	Hovey, David	Schoen, Arden
Bell, Bilo	Hutchings, Gloria	Schomaker, Leslie
Benson, Emily	Kearns, Andrew	Schomaker, Warren
Benson, Peter	Kearns, Kay Leigh	Scott, Tim
Bihn, Marv	Kinsey, Lori Jean	Sullivan, Irene
Bihn, Wali	Licardi, Susan	Thompson, Christine
Bliss, Antonella	Little, John	Thompson, Bob
Botsford, Judy	Little, Linda	Tradewell, Lori
Botsford, William	Long, Clare	Trudeau, Barry
Bowman, Robert	Louis, Sandy	Trudeau, Cathy
Brauel, Dawn	Lundquist, Roy	Weeder, Michael
Brodil, Janice	MacDonald, Eileen	Welch, Cynthia
Browne, Barbara	McLeavey-Weeder, June	White, Lisa
Carpenter, Ken	McAler, Laurie	White, Will
Carpenter, Maureen	McVey, John B.	Winch, Dawson
Carper, Bob	McVey, Wendy M	Wishard, Kathleen
Carrigan, Sue (Associate)	Melczarek, Jean	Woodason, Eleanor (Associate)
Chernick, Jan	Methot, Gary	Woodason, William
Chisholm, Barry	Methot, Sue Ann	
Chisholm, Ramona	Miller, Martha	
Corrigan, Jackie	Moffett, Deborah	
Corrigan, Kristen	Nichipor, Janice	
Deluca, Tony	Orsini, Lauren V.	
Dindorf, Mary	Osborne, Chris	
Dresch, Hank	Osborne, Susan	
Dresch, Linda	Palubniak, Joan	
Dunn, Donna	Palubniak, Paul	
Doktor, Gail	Pepper, Alice	
Gilmore, Cindy	Perkins, David	
Glover, Deanna	Perkins, Ginger	
Gray, Linda	Phillips, Lee	
Griffin, Katherine (Kit)	Phillips, Margaret	
Griffin, Robert	Pitman, Rachel	
Hamory, Kevin	Pizor, Cheryl	
Hastings, James	Pizor, Tom	

- (Associate) = full membership in another church



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 Champions

The Mission Team has had a rewarding and successful year. We met and planned for numerous activities and communicated in person, by emails, by phone and through zoom at regular intervals.

Again, Linda Hastings was chair, Jeanette Heidmann was treasurer, Kit Griffin secretary, Gloria Hutchings our connection to the Jackson Bridge and Birdy Ellsmore and Sue Carrigan our connection to the Food Pantry, Gibson Center and Way Station. Claire was our lead person for Jen's Friends Climb Against Cancer. We were all pleased to have Sue Carrigan join our team.

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 the Mission Committee activities in the monthly edition of Inside-Out.
2. Give regular presentations in church about our mission work.
3. Encourage members to be involved in our mission projects and fundraising activities.

We continued our support of the Way Station. Rev. Gail and Jeanette continue to be actively involved as members of the board. Sue and other members of the church are involved with sorting and delivering food, as well as with other activities. Members of the church participated in a meal prepared by Lillian, the mother of the family living at the Way Station. We had a baby shower at the church for the Honduran family.

We sent donations from our allocated funds to the 5x5 charities listed below. In June we asked the congregation for additional donations for One Great Hour of Sharing.

Early in the year we raised \$765 to be sent for Turkish earthquake relief. The Mission Team added another \$100.

In April we sent \$3600 to Zimbabwe to continue work on their church and another \$400 for additional needs.

Members of the committee met with the organizers of the Food Pantry in hopes of involving more families in need. Most of us have volunteered during the two Saturday mornings a month that the food pantry is open. We helped organize food items for a complete Thanksgiving meal for 25 local families.

During the year we collected and delivered needed food, clothes, and personal items to the Way Station, Jackson/Bartlett Food Pantry, and the Gibson Center. We delivered numerous 2024 calendars to the Gibson Center for their clients.



Mission Champions (con't)

Our plant sale was a tremendous success! The community gave us wonderful support by both donating and purchasing plants. We received donations from Lucy's, Home Depot, Lowe's and Dutch Bloemen Winkel. We were able to raise a total of \$1712. We sent \$300 to the Nativity Church for the Ashlee assistance fund in support of the Honduran family living at the Way Station and the remaining money was sent to The Common Man Ukraine Fund. Our theme this year was refugee relief and support.

Claire did a great job in organizing our church family for the Jen's Friends Climb against Cancer in September. We were able to raise \$4078! Some members joined the Jen's Friend's fundraiser and played mini golf at Pirate's Cove. Claire also organized workers at the JCC booth for White Mountain Pride Day where JCC teamed up with the Lutheran Church. Donations from both booths totaled about \$300 which was donated to Kennett High School LGBTQ+ support.

Jeanette organized a group on the trails at Great Glen as a fundraiser for Alzheimer's research.

In November we sponsored a family of 3 children through Angels and Elves. The congregation provided needed and wanted clothing and toys for the children. We purchased poinsettias to leave after caroling and donated money to the Whitney Center for their community friendship baskets.

We were able to send money to Honduras in December to purchase a few street lights.

Our total budget this year was \$11,800. From that budget we allocated 32% to local projects, 2% to National projects, 21% to conference projects, 41% to international projects with 4% unallocated for emergencies or carry over to next year.

During the year we supported: MWV Supports Recovery (substance abuse), Alzheimer's Assoc., Jen's Friends, 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 Health, The Horton Center, Habitat for Humanity, Star Island, Children Unlimited, The Dinner Bell, Gibson Center, Northern Human Services, Starting Point, Bartlett/Jackson Food Pantry, Honduras Hope, 68 Hours of Hunger, and to the UCC Immigrations and Refugee Fund.

Our church continues to be very active and visible in the local, national and global community thanks to Reverend Gail and the generosity of our members and friends. We are blessed to be a part of this church community!

Kit Griffin

Church Operations and Proposed Budget

The Jackson Community Church ended the 2023 fiscal year with a total income of \$198,821.89 and total expenses of \$185,282.40.

Income

The following table shows 2023 actual total income received from specific sources, associated 2023 budgeted amounts and 2024 budget estimates:

Income Source	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Restricted Gifts/Donations	\$9,706.76	\$2,850.00	\$2,850.00
Endowments	\$82,629.30	\$89,800.00	\$89,700.00
Unrestricted Gifts/Donations	\$100,092.83	\$83,800.00	\$87,000.00
Weddings	\$1,665.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Fundraisers	\$4,728.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Total	\$198,821.89	\$182,050.00	\$185,150.00

Income items to note include:

- Member support was \$73,244.53, exceeding its budget forecast of \$65,000.
- Plate contributions were \$17,856.94, exceeding its budget forecast of \$8000.
- FY2024 income estimates increase approximately 3K over FY 2023 to \$185,150.

Expenses

JCC expenses comprise three major expense categories: Church Wide Missions, Administration, and Facilities. The 2024 proposed budget enables recommended cost of living increases for salaried positions and modest increases to some expense categories. Most expense category forecasts are the same or lower than FY2023. FY2023 expenses along with FY2024 budget proposals are shown in the table below:

Expense Category	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Church Wide Missions	\$126,980.78	\$125,836.77
Administration	\$29,633.00	\$32,936.05
Facilities	\$29,668.92	\$34,369.69
Total:	\$186,282.40	\$193,142.51

The following tables offer additional information about the expense categories, showing 2023 actual expenses along with 2023 and 2024 budget estimates. Budget increases for 2024 are denoted by an asterisk in 2024 Budget columns.

Church Wide Mission Expenses:

Church Wide Mission Expenses	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Community Outreach	\$10,777.21	\$2500.00	\$2500.00
Mission Group	\$16,863.00	\$13,600.00	\$13,600.00
Deacons	\$1,822.62	\$2000.00	\$2000.00
Membership & Church Life	\$294.73	\$400.00	\$400.00
Pastor	\$87,359.22	\$89,881.00	\$92,302.00 *
Christian Education	\$112.06	\$1200.00	\$1200.00
Music	\$9,951.94	\$13481.00	\$13,834.77 *
Sub-Total	\$126,980.78	\$123,062.00	\$125,836.77

Church Wide expense items to note include:

- Increased 2024 Pastor budget allows for NHUCC guidelines of a 4% cost of living adjustment.

Administration Expenses:

Administration Expenses	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Administrative Assistant	\$19,710.01	\$19710.01	\$20,331.05 *
Personnel	\$1,929.09	\$2555.00	\$2825.00 *
Communication/Special Projects	\$785.59	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
Conference Dues	\$1,616.00	\$1207.50	\$1680.00 *
Office	\$5,400.31	\$7400.00	\$7100.00
Sub-Total	\$29,441.00	\$31,827.35	\$32,936.05

Administration Expense items to note include:

- Increased 2024 Administrative Assistant budget allows for 3.2% cost of living adjustment.
- Conference dues projection based on 105 members x \$16 per member.

Facilities Expenses:

Facilities Expenses	2023 Actual	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Building	\$17,811.47	\$23,591.00	\$20,671.00
Custodial Services	\$6,361.44	\$6477.04	\$6688.69 *
Utilities	\$5,495.71	\$8010.00	\$7010.00
Sub-Total	\$31,368.62	\$38,078.04	\$34,369.69

Facilities Expense items to note include:

- Custodial Services increases allow for a cost-of-living adjustment.

2024 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2022	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	2024 Proposed Budget Request
<u>ORDINARY INCOME/EXPENSE</u>					
INCOME					
RESTRICTED GIFTS/DONATION					
4050	Mission, Gifts			0.00	
4060	Long term Maintenance - Restricted	20,000.00		0.00	
4070	Steeple Light, Gifts	150.00	150.00	50.00	150.00
4080	Youth group gifts	200.00			
4090	Minister's Restricted		1,000.00	8,956.76	1,000.00
4091	Heat/parking Supplement	1,700.00	1,700.00	700.00	1,700.00
	SUB-TOTAL	22,050.00	2,850.00	9,706.76	2,850.00
ENDOWMENTS					
4130	General Fund	37,600.00	37,700.00	40,446.70	37,400.00
4135	Norton/Pond Fund	2,200.00	2,300.00	0.00	2,400.00
4140	Chadbourne Fund	26,600.00	27,100.00	21,500.00	27,100.00
4145	Capital Reserve Fund	1,800.00	2,000.00	0.00	2,200.00
4150	Mission Fund	7,300.00	7,300.00	7,299.30	7,300.00
4155	Chikanga building Fund	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00
4180	Parsonage Fund	10,500.00	10,600.00	10,583.30	10,500.00
	SUB-TOTAL	88,800.00	89,800.00	82,629.30	89,700.00
UNRESTRICTED GIFTS/DONATIONS					
4215	Miscellaneous Gifts	2,500.00	1,000.00	1,541.36	1,000.00
4225	Parish Hall & Church Usage	3,500.00	4,000.00	2,880.00	1,000.00
4230	Member Support	60,000.00	65,000.00	73,244.53	70,000.00
4235	Non-Member Support	4,000.00	5,800.00	4,570.00	3,000.00
4240	Plate	9,000.00	8,000.00	17,856.94	12,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	79,000.00	83,800.00	100,092.83	87,000.00
WEDDINGS					
4255	Wedding income-church	800.00	800.00	570.00	800.00
4257	Wedding income-Custodian	325.00	325.00	195.00	325.00
4260	Wedding income-Pastor	1,750.00	1,750.00	700.00	1,750.00
4265	Wedding Income-Music	1,125.00	1,125.00	200.00	1,125.00
	SUB-TOTAL	4,000.00	4,000.00	1,665.00	4,000.00
FUNDRAISERS					
4285	Other Fundraisers	100.00	100.00	165.00	100.00
4290	Mission - Special Offerings	1,500.00	1,500.00	4,563.00	1,500.00
	SUB-TOTAL	1,600.00	1,600.00	4,728.00	1,600.00
	TOTAL INCOME	195,450.00	182,050.00	198,821.89	185,150.00

2024 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2022	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	2024 Proposed Budget Request
CHURCH WIDE MISSIONS					
COMMUNITY OUTREACH					
6005	Outreach Projects	1,000.00	1,000.00	820.45	1,000.00
6010	Outdoor Ministry	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
6020	Pastor's discretionary	1,000.00	1000.00	1,000.00	1000.00
6025	(spending) Pastor's discretionary contribution			8,956.76	
	SUB-TOTAL	2,500.00	2,500.00	10,777.21	2,500.00
MISSION GROUP					
6055	Mission outreach	7,300.00	7,300.00	7,300.00	7,300.00
6060	Mission UCC	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
6065	Zimbabwe Building fund	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00
6070	Mission designated offering	1,500.00	1,500.00	4,563.00	1,500.00
	SUB-TOTAL	13,600.00	13,600.00	16,663.00	13,600.00
DEACONS					
6105	Deacons Fund	500.00	400.00	328.40	400.00
6110	Deacon's & Worship Supplies	400.00	400.00	369.22	400.00
6115	Conference fees and travel	200.00	200.00	125.00	200.00
6120	Visiting minister	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	2,100.00	2,000.00	1,822.62	2,000.00
MEMBERSHIP & CHURCH LIFE					
6155	M&CL supplies	400.00	400.00	294.73	400.00
	SUB-TOTAL	400.00	400.00	294.73	400.00
PASTOR					
6205	Salary	49,350.00	51,864.00	51,864.00	54,001.00
6207	Christian Education Work	1,200.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
6210	Housing Allowance	15,165.00	15,559.00	15,197.83	16,200.00
6215	Annuity/pension	9,200.00	9,439.00	9,438.39	9,828.00
6218	Prepaid Sabbatical	1,000.00	1,000.00	1000.00	0.00
6220	SS/medicare offset	5,027.00	5,158.00	5,158.00	5,370.00
6225	Life insurance / disability	986.00	1,011.00	0.00	1,053.00
6235	professional allowance	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
6240	continuing education	600.00	600.00	399.00	600.00
6245	mileage/travel expenses	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,002.00	3,000.00
6250	pastor comp weddings	1,750.00	1,750.00	700.00	1,750.00
	SUB-TOTAL	87,778.00	89,881.00	87,359.22	92,302.00

2024 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2022	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	2024 Proposed Budget Request
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION					
CE Coordinator					
Educational Materials/Activities					
6355	Bible Study	250.00	250.00	112.06	250.00
6360	Curriculum	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
6370	Sunday School Supplies	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
6375	Youth Ministry	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00
6385	Playground Upkeep	200.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
	SUB-TOTAL	1,200.00	1,200.00	112.06	1,200.00
MUSIC					
6405	Choir Director/Soloist	4,178.00	2,000.00	300.00	2,000.00
6410	Music Production	600.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
6414	IT Specialist	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,174.56	3,096.00
6415	IT specialist SS & Med		222.00	218.00	236.84
6422	Organist/accompianist salary	4,686.00	5,200.00	5,350.00	5,366.40
6423	Organist/accompianist SS & Med	358.48	284.00	409.28	410.53
6424	Organist IT Supplement	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6425	Guest instrumental/Soloist	400.00	400.00	300.00	400.00
6430	Organ/Accompianist Substitutes	400.00	400.00	0.00	400.00
6435	Organist/Accompiaist Weddings	1,125.00	1,125.00	200.00	1,125.00
6440	Music supplies	250.00	150.00	0.00	100.00
6445	Piano Tuning/organ repair	500.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
	SUB-TOTAL	15,747.48	13,481.00	9,951.84	13,834.77
	SUB-TOTAL TOTAL CHURCH WIDE MISSION	123,325.48	123,062.00	125,980.68	125,836.77

2024 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2022	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	2024 Proposed Budget Request
ADMINISTRATION					
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT					
6510	Salary	17,337.11	18,030.59	18,030.60	18,607.57
6515	SS & Medicare	1,326.29	1,334.26	1,379.41	1,423.48
6520	Car allowance	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
	SUB-TOTAL	<u>18,963.40</u>	<u>19,664.85</u>	<u>19,710.01</u>	<u>20,331.05</u>
PERSONNEL					
6535	Payroll services	950.00	1,470.00	899.09	1,800.00
6540	Workers comp insurance	1,048.00	1,085.00	1,030.00	1,025.00
	SUB-TOTAL	<u>1,998.00</u>	<u>2,555.00</u>	<u>1,929.09</u>	<u>2,825.00</u>
COMMUNICATIONS/ SPECIAL PROJECTS					
6551	On line communication	1,500.00	1,000.00	785.59	1,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	<u>1,500.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>785.59</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
CONFERENCE DUES					
6565	UCC Dues (per member dues to conference)	1,150.00	1,207.50	1,616.00	1,680.00
	SUB-TOTAL	<u>1,150.00</u>	<u>1,207.50</u>	<u>1,616.00</u>	<u>1,680.00</u>
OFFICE					
6605	Church supplies	700.00	700.00	242.64	700.00
6610	Equipment & Repair	500.00	500.00	281.07	500.00
6615	Office Supplies	800.00	800.00	380.76	800.00
6620	Postage	600.00	600.00	468.00	600.00
6625	Publicity	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,188.24	1,500.00
6630	Phone - Internet	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,031.60	3,000.00
	SUB-TOTAL	<u>7,400.00</u>	<u>7,400.00</u>	<u>5,592.31</u>	<u>7,100.00</u>
	SUB-TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	<u>31,011.40</u>	<u>31,827.35</u>	<u>29,633.00</u>	<u>32,936.05</u>

2024 Proposed Budget

Current number	Description	Budget for 2022	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	2024 Proposed Budget Request
FACILITIES					
BUILDING					
6705	Insurance	4,720.00	4,891.00	5,022.00	4,871.00
6710	Wentworth playground/parking lease	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
6715	Building Security	1,280.00	1,200.00	1,024.13	800.00
6720	Repairs/Maintenance Supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,789.54	2,000.00
6725	Church Improvements	500.00	2,000.00	750.00	2,000.00
6730	Sprinkler Maint.	2,000.00	7,500.00	5,550.80	5,000.00
6735	Snow plow & landscape	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,675.00	4,000.00
6740	To Capital Reserve	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
6745	Capital Expense	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUB-TOTAL	36,500.00	23,591.00	17,811.47	20,671.00
CUSTODIAL SERVICES					
6805	Salary	5,507.85	5,728.16	5,728.20	5,911.46
6810	SS & Medicare	421.35	423.88	438.24	452.23
6815	Wedding Clean-up	325.00	325.00	195.00	325.00
	SUB-TOTAL	6,254.20	6,477.04	6,361.44	6,688.69
UTILITIES					
6905	Electric	2,400.00	4,000.00	2,299.34	3,500.00
6910	Oil & Propane	3,500.00	4,000.00	3,186.37	3,500.00
6915	Water	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
	SUB-TOTAL	5,910.00	8,010.00	5,495.71	7,010.00
	SUB-TOTAL FACILITIES	48,664.20	38,078.04	29,668.62	34,369.69
	TOTAL EXPENSES	203,001.08	192,967.39	186,282.30	193,142.51
		-7,551.08	-10,917.39	12,539.59	-7,992.51



Trustees of Trust Funds

Trustees of Trust Funds 2023

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 2023; in May to award scholarships and in September to review the investments with Rob Breed of F. L. Putnam, the organization's financial advisor. One step taken this year to protect the integrity of the Trust Fund was to review the Investment Policy Statement ("IPS"). During 2023, no changes were made. The current guidelines are: 1) Fixed Income to be 20% to 50% of the portfolio, 2) Equities (50 – 70%), 3) Alternatives (0 – 10%), and 4) Cash (0 - 10%).

The table below shows the amounts in each fund and the transactions therein for the last few years. In addition to the amounts listed below, there is \$753 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 \$28,000 to 17 students during 2023 for the 2023 - 2024 school year to the following Jackson residents: Amanda Anzaldi, Jocelyn Anzaldi, Braedon Bailey, Camden Bailey, Bradely Cole, Bradley Finn, Amy Grace Burton, Benjamin Dougherty, Jocelyn Henry, Marissa Henry, Madelyn Marcotte, Meghan Marcotte, Rosalie Sherlock, Erin Stokes, Danielle Watson, Maeve Weeder, and Caleb White.

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 2023, 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. Any disbursements from the fund are expended primarily on capital updates relating directly to the historic structure, parsonage, meeting room and church offices.

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.



Trustees of Trust Funds

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.

Finally, Bob Griffin and Jim Hastings would like to thank Roy Lundquist for the many years of service as Trustee. Roy's efforts and insight was very helpful and much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hastings, Secretary/Treasurer, Bob Griffin, Linda Gray, Trustees

Trustees of Trust Funds

TRUSTEES of the JACKSON COMMUNITY CHURCH
FOR THE YEAR TO DATE JANUARY 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

FUND	Beginning	Income	Contributions	Withdrawals	Transfers	Ending
Jackson Church Investment	\$ 790,917	\$ 107,902		\$ (40,430)		\$ 858,388
Godfrey Scholarship	571,508	79,252		(26,000)		624,760
Mission	153,456	20,973		(7,299)		167,129
Chadbourne	563,780	78,462		(21,500)		620,742
Norton/Pond	48,116	6,754		-		54,871
Capital Reserve	44,495	6,246		-		50,741
Parsonage	221,733	30,300		(10,600)		241,433
Chikanga Partnership Trust	58,559	7,929		(2,800)		63,688
	\$ 2,452,564	\$ 337,818	\$ -	\$ (108,629)	\$ -	\$ 2,681,752
		Fees equal \$	15,364	Return for the year to date = 2.0		13.16%
		Income includes dividends, interest, change in market value less fees.				

Historical Report of Balances December 31,

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Jackson Church Investment	\$ 790,917	\$ 986,257	\$ 866,152	\$ 797,998	\$ 695,051	\$ 761,529
Godfrey Scholarship	571,508	713,236	628,676	579,469	503,615	551,088
Mission	153,456	191,355	168,129	154,975	134,992	147,913
Chadbourne	563,780	695,695	606,179	553,818	467,825	499,654
Norton/Pond	48,116	59,903	50,713	44,763	37,325	39,140
Capital Reserve	44,495	55,205	47,482	31,932	25,778	27,245
Parsonage	221,733	276,447	242,819	223,747	194,860	213,474
Chikanga partnership Trust	58,559	73,002	64,067	58,984	51,293	56,093
	\$ 2,452,564	\$ 3,051,101	\$ 2,674,217	\$ 2,445,686	\$ 2,110,739	\$ 2,296,136

Allocation

Description	%
Equities	65%
Fixed Income	21%
Alternatives	6%
Cash	8%

100%	

JCC Restricted Funds

The savings account balance as of 12-31-2023 was \$24,618.84 and restricted as follows:

Education Fund	\$ 1,268.15	Flower Fund	\$ 230.75
Building Reserve (LCHP)	\$ 3,675.00	Interest & Misc	\$ 71.46
Memorial Fund	\$ 4,467.70	Men's Group	\$ 196.00
Missions	\$ 358.59	Music	\$ 1,590.00
Pastors Discretionary	\$ 4,154.23	Pastors Disc. Heat Fund	\$ 4,006.96
Pastors Salary Escrow	\$ 3,000.00	Prepaid weddings	\$ 1,600.00

All the funds in the savings account are restricted and are not included in budget projections, these funds are held for specific purposes. Over the past couple of years there have been many generous donors contributing to the Pastors Discretionary fund in order for Rev. Gail to help those in need around the Mount Washington Valley. These funds are kept separately in the savings account until the pastor requests funds to be confidentially distributed. In 2023 the Minister's Restricted account accessed \$ 4,963.72 in funds to help those in need and \$3,993.04 to help those with heating assistance.

Memorial Fund

Memorials are gifts given in memory of friends or family. Most gifts are given in the form of money. Some people want more than a tribute of flowers and a stone in a cemetery to remind them and others of friends or family. The choice of the memorial is often influenced by the interests and commitments of the person in whose memory the gift is given. If there is no choice the gifts are placed in the general memorial fund for items that the church needs or desires. All gifts are recorded in the Memorial Fund book, with acknowledgement to the donor.

Past purchases from the Memorial Fund have been the four Deacons chairs, wax saver for the wedding candle, new hymnals, new Bibles and Baptismal font.

Balance as of December 31, 2022	\$4,467.70
Donations received in 2023:	-0-
Disbursements in 2023:	-0-
Balance as of December 31, 2023	\$4,467.70

Funds in the Memorial Fund are incorporated in the Church's savings account.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Turner



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 : March 31, 2023

Book Value: \$ 156,696.58

Market Value: \$ 200,125.63

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

We were able to help several children with summer camp experiences - fourteen (14) camperships were awarded: Seven (7) to Christian Camps (Category 1), and seven (7) to Scout, Tin Mt. or Y Camps (Category 3).

2022 Income and Expenses

Income	Expenses	2023 Starting Balance: \$ 3,231.13
Withdrawals \$ 6000.00	Camperships \$6,255.00	Income: +6,000.00
	Bank Fees \$ 100.00	Expenses: - 6,355.00
		2023 Ending Balance \$ 2,876.13

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Miller, Treasurer
Ellen Hayes, Secretary



Building & Maintenance

Building & Campus Overview

Many improvements occurred for the historic sanctuary and the entire building in 2023. As many folks know from personal experience, tradespeople are extraordinarily busy in the North Country, and clients wait several weeks or months for the completion of projects. We're glad to have finished several such projects over 2023!

Most noticeable is the newly-completed sign at the front of the church. This free-standing sign replaces an older one that was attached to the building. The sign was designed by architect Chris Doktor to echo the historic structure's existing Greek Revival features. The sign was built by Ben Simpson of Tamarack Construction; it features a wooden frame with classic details and copper cap. We extend deep appreciation to the Weeders of Tamarack Construction for the care with this project. Its placement and appearance were approved by the Protestant Chapel Association (PCA). As owners and stewards of the original 1847 structure, the PCA must review and consent to any significant transformations to the historic sanctuary building. Along with the church's investment in the project, we received a grant that provided matching funds from NH's LCHIP/Land & Community Heritage Investment Program. Completing and installing the sign was the final step in a larger exterior improvement initiative which began in 2022 and included exterior painting, repair of wood trim, painting and installation of shutters, repairs to the belfry and steeple, plus the new sign. Significant time and materials were donated by friends and members to conclude this project.

Our fire suppression system was taken offline, until we installed a new compressor and completed repairs to air leaks in the pipes. For several months, the church operated without a working sprinkler system, while we waited for the new compressor. Throughout this time, we followed safety protocols provided by the Jackson Fire Department. Sprinkler Systems of Maine maintains our system; they completed both fixes to the system. The new compressor was installed with the help of electrician Tim DiPietro, and the repair to the pipes was completed with the assistance of Bruce Campbell. We will schedule a leak inspection in 2024 to further evaluate the status of the entire fire suppression system.

Meanwhile, the Nest thermostat for the furnace that warms the sanctuary was hard-wired to a power supply, so that it connects to the furnace at all times and maintains a comfortable level of heat in the sanctuary. This project was coordinated by Stephen Weeder and completed by electrician Tim DiPietro.

Val Willman continues to provide weekly cleaning and care for the interior of the building. She declutters, provides visual order, waters plants, and tries to keep JCC organized, although Rev Gail manages to introduce mess and chaos with every new event, project, and season! Friends and members using the church's facilities, especially the kitchen, are kindly asked to clean up all dishes, pots and pans, food items, etc. they may have used, so that Val can focus on deeper cleaning rather than washing dishes.



Building & Maintenance

Volunteers help with the decoration and appearance of the building throughout the year. A whole team coordinates fresh plants and flowers for the pulpit and sanctuary, this includes Gloria Hutchings, Laurie McAleer, Alice Pepper and others. Wendy McVey and Joyce Allan provide fresh flowers inside and also maintain the window boxes and wreaths for the doors year-round. Additionally, Wendy McVey coordinates the Christmas trees for the front

exterior of the church, which are then put into place and lit by a team of volunteers (this year the Men's Breakfast crew helped).

On the second floor, Joanne Turner's administrative office has been relocated to a larger room with a window and independent heating system. For almost two decades, she worked in a small interior space without a window or its own heating unit! We hope this workspace will be a healthy and cheerful alternative to the office she formerly occupied. Thanks to the Men's Breakfast volunteers for moving her desk, and to Val for brightening up her space with live plants and many organizing tips and tricks.

The church weathered many challenges, including the December 2023 flood that set record heights in Jackson. While the crawl space below part of the sanctuary flooded, the waters receded again. The flooding did not seem to affect the church's structural integrity, and did not rise to a level that would impact the heating or electrical systems. The high ground immediately outside the building remained dry, although waters rose up over the banks of the Ellis river and covered the rear driveway, part of the playground area, and the parking lot.

Did you know that volunteers often remove the trash every week? Thanks to Joanne Turner, the Pizors, and other volunteers for this essential help!

Routine inspections of different systems are coordinated and scheduled with the support of Joanne Turner, the church's administrator. Often the church staff handles straightforward chores such as changing bulbs, checking batteries, etc. A small team of volunteers responds to reported issues.

Read other reports to learn more about the many activities that take place in the church, which is a valuable resource we share generously with the community. Some activities are church-related, such as worship, hospitality, and classes. Some are cultural events such as meals and concerts. Others include Laurie McAleer's weekly fitness classes open to the community, weekly AA meetings, grief groups, homework sessions for local students, use of the council room and Parish Hall by other groups needing project space and/or meeting space, and even overnight hosting of and use of the space by visiting youth groups!

Caring for the long-term integrity of the building by conducting regular visual assessments of its overall condition, and helping to plan future improvements of the interior and exterior, is a volunteer opportunity for those interested in the wellbeing of the church and its campus! We welcome your help; please contact the church office if you'd like to offer time in this area of stewardship for our resources.

Meanwhile, enjoy your time inside and outside this beautiful landmark at the heart of Jackson's village.

Men's Group

After a couple years (post COVID) not sharing a meal, 2023 saw the rebirth of the monthly Men's Breakfast. In recent years (pre-COVID) they met at the Wentworth Hotel. During that time, it was told tale of a time when the men met in the church parlor and prepared breakfast themselves. To honor that tradition, the men have been gathering again at the Jackson Community Church Parish House once a month, with a breakfast prepared by Chris Doktor.

The men have been sharing breakfast, starting in April 2023, followed by May, June, and July. We took a break in August, and have met again in September, October, November, and December. Attendance started at 4 or 5 men and has grown to 8, 9, and even 14 in December! Each month, breakfast is built around a theme. Themes have included "Comfort Food", "Pancakes", "Green Eggs and Ham", and "Christmas Casserole" (replete with Santa and Grinch fruit kabobs). Although themes change each month, the one item every can always count on is bacon!

In December the men were given "projects" afterwards, which included moving Joanne's desk to her new office, and stringing the lights on the Christmas trees out in front of the church. Another tradition is to choose a local member of the community and write a note from the group, sent with well wishes and a group photo.

The men's breakfast will resume in January 2024. There is no "regular" schedule, except when the host will be in Jackson. Look for the next breakfast to be announced in the JCC newsletter, email and online. We look forward to welcoming all men in the valley to share food and fellowship.

Chris Doktor ("Gail's husband")





Membership and Church Life

The Jackson Community Church had a fantastic year of wonderful gatherings in 2023, creating lasting memories and strengthening the bonds of friendship!

January and February provided cold weather so Sunday Game Days became the perfect gathering in the Parish Hall for bonding and building connections. We had board games, card games, snacks and lots of fun!

In February, a delightful time was had by all at JCC's annual Mardi Gras celebration in the Parish Hall; we hosted over 100 folks! We enjoyed the performances of guitarist Wayne Peabody and the Tir Na Nog Musical Society. For this Mardi Gras celebration, Sue Carrigan re-interpreted Pancake Tuesday (the final day of the Mardi Gras season) with a twist: crepes! Her creation of a medley of crepes with either chicken or seafood as well as a fruit dessert filling added a delicious touch to the festivities. Chef Sue and The Tir Na Nog Society contributed to making this event memorable!

The JCC men had a regular gathering in the form of monthly Men's Breakfasts hosted by Chris Doktor in the JCC Parish Hall. These men's breakfasts provided a casual and relaxed setting for participants to connect, share experiences, and build friendships. The menus have become creative and seasonal, yet bacon is always a favorite part of the offerings! Thank you, Chris, for these delicious breakfasts and for creating the opportunity for mentorship, networking, and the exchange of ideas!

In April, JCC and friends had the wonderful opportunity to go on a field trip to the Russian Orthodox Church in Berlin, NH for a lecture on Orthodox art, iconography and architecture. John Heropoulos, MDIV, taught us about the significance of icons and the church layout. Icons play a crucial role in Orthodox Christianity, serving as visual representations of saints, biblical events, and theological concepts. We look forward to visiting more historic churches in 2024. Thank you, John!

In May, as the Missions report will reflect, volunteers supported the Missions' Plant Sale. People came to help before, during, and after the sale. They also contributed plants and shopped for plants during the sale. This event has become a harbinger of warmer weather and renewed life, and is a welcome tradition which makes an impact both through the good energy it builds in the community as well as the donations it generates for local and international causes chosen by the Missions team.

Midsummer, the church hosted a farewell luncheon for Joan & Paul Palubniak and Sam & Birdy Ellsmore. These families, as well as Roy Lundquist, moved to new homes outside New Hampshire. It was a bittersweet gathering, as we recognized people who have been deeply committed members of our faith community, offered blessings, and said good-bye.

In August, JCC members attended the annual Jackson Bridge Dance. Socializing, great food, great music and dancing on/in the iconic Jackson Bridge #51 made for a special memory!

C3 "Cocktails and Christian Conversation" continued every Friday night at 5pm via Zoom. Rev Gail led the lively discussions and shared the best images (icons and art).

In September, many friends and members of the JCC community attended the Mid-Week 1 spiritual and recreational retreat on Star Island off the coast of NH. This is another annual tradition which has welcomed new attendees as well as faithful long-time participants. The week is chaplained by Rev. Mary Edes, a local UU pastor who creates a choral experience and a reflective worship experience throughout the week. People took walks, rowed boats, kayaked, attended lectures, swam, explored, read books, created art, played bingo, played and learned together, and gathered daily for lantern-lit worship each evening. Notably, Linda Hastings helped to coordinate aspects of this retreat and has been instrumental in welcoming JCC to get involved. We encourage people to learn more about this wonderful opportunity and join us³⁰ next autumn.



The JCC Ladies had their fall kick-off potluck at Ginger Perkins' home; it was especially heartwarming and filled with joy! The emphasis on sharing family stories about their favorite recipes and wearing ethnic attire, as well as the creation of a diverse church cookbook, reflect a beautiful celebration of cultural diversity and the importance of community. Later in the season, the Ladies' Christmas cookie exchange at Wendy McVey's home added a festive touch to the holiday season! The idea of a diverse assortment of cookies, capturing memories with photos, and compiling a cookie recipe booklet was a thoughtful way to preserve the spirit of the occasion. The inclusion of timeless favorites and holiday-inspired treats added to the joy and warmth of the gathering. Thank you to the hostesses who opened their homes and welcomed friends, neighbors, and church members to gather in such beautiful environments.

It's clear that these events have not only celebrated culinary diversity but also provided a space for the JCC ladies to share and appreciate each other's traditions. The sentiment of gratitude for the opportunities to create lasting memories with friends who have become like family is a beautiful reflection of the true spirit of community and togetherness. Wishing the JCC ladies continued joy, friendship, and memorable gatherings in the years to come!

Throughout the year, Laurie McAleer offers free exercise classes in the Parish Hall every Tuesday and Friday mornings to JCC and the community. She promotes physical well-being, encourages a healthy lifestyle and a supportive environment for participants. The inclusive invitation for all to participate is particularly commendable! Laurie's contribution to the community through these free exercise classes makes a positive impact on the well-being of those who attend.

JCC participated in a zoom-based prayer vigil in October also coordinated by the Clergy of the Eastern Slope with the input of liaisons from the Mt. Washington Valley Chavurrah. The event provided virtual space for the community to gather in silence and contemplation during these challenging times of global concern and tragedy. It helped foster a sense of unity and resilience as we focused on events in Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, as well as other global locations where military conflict has occurred.

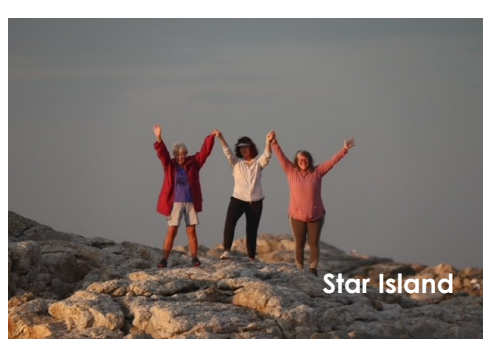
JCC had an active involvement in a wide range of community programs and events. Attending programs offered by local libraries, engaging with organizations like the Whitney Community Center, the Historical Society, Tin Mountain Conservation Center. Supporting initiatives such as those addressing domestic violence, Alzheimer's, and cancer demonstrates a strong commitment to community service. JCC participated in fundraisers like Boots 'n Bling, walks to end Alzheimer's, climbing Mt. Cranmore for Jen's Friends, bike rides to combat cancer, and ringing the bell during the 9/11 Walk in Jackson. JCC's presence reflects a dedication to supporting important causes and making a positive impact on the community. These efforts contribute to the well-being and support of local families facing various challenges. Additionally, JCC participated in the community "Trick or Treat" and community Easter "Egg Hunt."

In November, JCC hosted the Harvest Potluck Brunch in the Parish Hall. We continued the tradition of worshipping at a common table, turning in annual pledges, and this year participated in an 'appreciative inquiry'. The 'appreciative inquiry' led by Janet Wilkinson allowed parishioners to engage in discussions about the church's growth and potential changes.

We ended the year with a wonderful array of holiday activities ranging from crafting felt ornaments, caroling to the community, preparing seasonal care packages for the community with the Whitney Community Center, to enjoying cookies with Santa (fundraiser for the Way Station). Rev Gail invited families with youth and children to participate in lighting the Advent candles, the readings, as well as the live nativity scene for Christmas Eve. JCC in partnership with the Clergy of the Eastern Slope hosted a holiday concert with the Dellavalla Bluegrass Trio who brought a lively energy to the Chanukkah celebration. We enjoyed the traditional Chanukkah festivities such as lighting the candles, eating latkes with applesauce, blessings and playing dreidels. These festive events created lasting memories and strengthened the sense of community during the holiday season!

Sharon Novak, our JCC music director, started up the church choir for Christmas which is adding a beautiful and uplifting dimension to the holiday celebrations. Her passion for music and desire to contribute to the community's worship is so meaningful for everyone; thank you, Sharon! If you're interested in helping build relationships, connecting to the community in fun and friendly ways, and enjoying the company of friends and neighbors, feel free to let the church office know you'd like to get involved. Send an email stating that you'd like to learn more about our Church Life team: jchurch@jacksconcommunitychurch.org.

Prepared by Ginger Perkins on behalf of the Church Life Team





Flower Team

The Flower Committee is responsible for the flowers that adorn the alter area every Sunday. The dedicated members of this committee are; Wendy McVey, Joyce Allan, Irene Sullivan, Laurie McAleer, Gloria Hutchings, and we welcome our newest member, Lisa White. We would love to give a huge Thank You to Alice Pepper who was an integral part of this group for many years!

A special Thank You also goes out to Wendy and Joyce who are also responsible for regularly beautifying the outside area of the church, with seasonal wreaths and lovely window boxes!

Every Easter season we ask the congregation if they would like to purchase an Easter Lily in honor, or memory of, a loved one. It is quite beautiful to behold and the plants can be taken home at the end of the season. Look for more info on that as it draws closer.

Each committee member currently provides weekly floral arrangements for two months of the year. As with anything else, the more hands, the lighter the workload. If you have any interest in assisting us as a member of the committee, or just to recognize a special date or time frame, please do get in touch with us. You can contact the church office and they will put you in touch with the appropriate month's member. We would greatly welcome and appreciate it.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Gloria Hutchings

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 April of 2023 our arrangement with The Christ Episcopal Church of North Conway allowing them to use the Trapp Room came to an end and they were able to move into their own space in North Conway. In Fellowship Hall various groups such as the AA Step Group, Garden Club, DAR, exercise classes ect were able to utilize the space more frequently. The ongoing agreement with the Jackson Grammar School to be their emergency shelter in case of an emergency continued in 2023.

There were 2 weddings held at the Jackson Community Church in 2023, there is two weddings scheduled for 2024. Overnight youth groups are resumed for 2023 with Ipswich UCC Youth Group and Boy Scouts from Groton, MA each spending organized weekends at the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Turner, Administrative Assistant