



The Outreach

December 2009 Milford, NH

Welcome Leslie Coates, new Ministry Director



Leslie Alan Coates

Leslie received a Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) in Musical Theatre from San Diego State and a BFA in Theatre from Emporia State University in his home state of Kansas. He was the founding artistic director of the Gamaliel Theatre Company, and currently brings small-cast and solo theatrical presentations to churches. For the past five years he has been a full time painting contractor while operating various ministries both for his home church in Durham, NH and as a free lance performer and consultant. Leslie is also a part-time student at Andover Newton Theological School. He currently resides in Newmarket, NH with his wife Trisha and young daughter, Magnolia.

Blue Christmas Service, Monday December 21st

For many of us, Christmas is a bittersweet time of year. It is a time for remembering both persons and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but that are now changed or gone. This is the time of year with the longest nights, so around this time we offer a quiet, meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Join us on Monday December 21st at 7:00 pm, for a time of special music, scripture, stories, silent reflection, healing and prayer. Please come.

Join us for Christmas Eve Services

The first two services will feature music and candles. Communion will be served at the late service.

- 5:00 Family Service
 - 7:00 Traditional Service
 - 11:00 Carols, Communion and Candles
-

Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

A colleague recently recommended to me a program called "Advent Conspiracy" that a number of churches are participating in this Advent season. For a number of reasons, we at MUMC will not be participating in any formal way in this program, at least not this December. Even so, there are some concepts upon which this program is based that we might want to consider as we once again face the onslaught of the Christmas machine.

From the Advent Conspiracy web site, "The story of Christ's birth is a story of promise, hope, and a revolutionary love. So, what happened? What was once a time to celebrate the birth of a savior has somehow turned into a season of stress, traffic jams, and shopping lists. And when it's all over, many of us are left with presents to return, looming debt that will take months to pay off, and this empty feeling of missed purpose. Is this what we really want out of Christmas?"

I suspect that the answer for many of us is, "No." The Advent Conspiracy folks suggest four strategies for getting more of what many of us long for this Christmas season. They are:

Worship Fully: We tend to forget that Christmas is, first and foremost, a time of awe and wonder as we contemplate again the powerful message of God's invasion of planet earth in the form of the Christ Child

Spend Less: The average American family spends about \$800 a year on Christmas gifts. We're not talking about cutting out gift-giving altogether, but scaling back—maybe one less gift to each member of our immediate family.

Give More: As the Advent Conspiracy web site says, Christmas "should be a time to love our friends and family in the most memorable ways possible." The concept is to replace some of the material gifts to our family and friends with the gifts of our time—going sledding, making cookies, having a family Christmas carol sing.

Love All: Having scaled back, take some or all of the money we would have spent and give it to organizations that feed the hungry and encourage development. Our family has developed a tradition where one of the gifts we exchange is a group donation to the Heifer Project. Find a way to spread the love that came down at Christmas far and wide.

I invite you to join the Advent Conspiracy this year!

Grace and peace,



Pastor Tom

See you in church!

Worship Opportunities

By Elaine Driscoll

Advent Theme: "It was not a silent night!"

Help to decorate our Christmas Tree:

In keeping with the Advent theme, we are planning to decorate our Christmas Tree with musical instrument ornaments. For those who would like to donate an ornament, please bring it to the church computer room the week following the Fair, or give to Elaine Driscoll or Roberta Langis, or other members of the Worship Committee.

Beautify our sanctuary this Christmas with the purchase of a Poinsettia.

Please order by December 13th. The cost is \$12.00; checks should be payable to MUMC, list "Poinsettia" on the memo.

To honor or remember a loved one, please complete the following:

In honor
of _____

Given
by _____

In memory
of _____

Given
by _____

Please pick up your plants after the Christmas Eve Services.

Our new Acolyte Coordinator for the second service is Moxie Robie.

Communion Steward is still needed for the Contemporary Service.

This commitment is for the first Sunday in each month and an opportunity to serve your church in a special way. The duties are to provide a bread loaf, bread cubes and assist in filling the communion cups.

Please see Elaine Driscoll for more information or call 673-4270.

Chancel Choir Notes

By Sally Landis

Remember how wonderful last year's Christmas Concert was? You don't? Oh, now I remember--we had to cancel it due to forces beyond our control. Well, we are going to encore "Music of the Angels, Shepherds and Wise Men" on Sunday December 20th at 7 pm. We again will be presenting music by the MUMC Band, the Children's Choir, the Bell choirs, the Praise Band and the Chancel Choir with a special performance by the Sacred Dancers. It promises to be an exciting and inspiring evening of Christmas music. Please plan to attend and bring with you friends, neighbors and relatives as it's always great to have a packed sanctuary at this special time of year. Hopefully, those "forces beyond our control" will not strike again and we will have the opportunity to share this special music with all of you.



Holidays Can Be Painful

The joy of the upcoming holidays can turn into a time of painful loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. Help is available. Stephen Ministers are trained and ready to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, for you and with you, and support you through the holidays and as long as your need persists.

If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about MUMC's Stephen Ministry by talking with one of the Stephen Leaders:

Michele Bossie (Referral Coordinator)
672-4556
Rita Lines 673-0398
Pastor Tom Getchell-Lacey 673-2669
Ben Lambert 672-1425

Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!

Hospital Visitation Changes

Due to federal regulations, the church has no way of finding out who is in the hospital. If you or a family member are in the hospital or if you know of a member or friend of our church that has been hospitalized, please call the church office at 673-2669. Please don't assume we know that someone is in hospital. We would rather get ten calls about the same person than to get none at all.

Our Sympathies

Sympathies go to the families and friends of Michelle Boehm, Gail Westergren and Georgie Simoneau who all passed away during the month of November. Gail and Georgie were long time, faithful members of our congregation and will be greatly missed.

Note of Appreciation

To all who provided the wonderful reception after the funeral of our loving daughter, wife and mother, a very grateful thanks.

Charles Kaufold,
Rick Westergren and family

Milford Area Seniors

The Senior Activity Center meets at MUMC every Tuesday, 10 am—2 pm. The seniors enjoy speakers on all kinds of topics, games, craft projects, music, health screenings, and of course, Bingo. They would love to have you join the group, volunteer, or plan an activity. This group is open to everyone 55 and older, from anywhere in this region. Invite a friend or neighbor. And don't forget to bring a bag lunch. If you would like more information, please see Claire Place, or Susan Drew.

Opportunities to Serve Master Plan

The Board of Trustees is looking for volunteers to help develop a Master Plan for the church and its properties. If you have the experience or interest in this project, please contact Steve Rafter (673-4516, sbrou812@aol.com).

Snow Shovellers Needed

The Board of Trustees is looking for anyone who would like to shovel the walkways this winter. The church pays by the hour. Please be advised that only those over 18 may use the church snow blower, although a high school student can shovel the walkways if they wish. Please contact Steve Rafter (673-4516, sbrou812@aol.com) if you want to be added to the list of shovellers that are called on a storm-by-storm basis.



Shaw's Community Rewards

MUMC has been accepted into the Shaw's Community Rewards program. When you shop at Shaw's or Star Market, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with a registered Shaw's reward card, MUMC will receive 1% of purchases.

In order to log in your receipts, go to shaws.com/communityrewards. You will need a Shaw's Rewards Card, and our ID# 49001021439.

All of these funds have been earmarked for our mission teams. Please see Carol in the office if you have any questions or need help with logging in.



Consigning for Good

Consigning for Good, is now open at 172 South Street, Milford (in the old Expressions Gallery building). If you have items you wish to get rid of, from just a few to an entire house full, this shop will gladly sell them. You will get a donation letter so that you can write the items off your taxes, and 50% of the selling price will be given to the charity of your choice, namely us! We have 4 MUMC ministries that you are able to donate to:

1. The General Fund
2. Mission Teams
3. Afternoon Off
4. Wanakee Scholarship Fund

For instance, if you have a piece of furniture that you no longer need, you just have to contact the shop, tell them you'd like to donate to the MUMC General Fund (or one of the other 3 ministries) and all the work is done for you. The shop is open every day 11 am—7 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Joan Dargie, www.consigningforgood.com.

Outreach-Near and Far

Youth Group Halloween Party Hay Ride



Katrina Mission Trip October 2009



Back row: 1 to r: Dave Stackpole, Steve Rafter, Wayne Morrison, Richard Garland and Chris Burke
Third row: 1 to r: Doris Houston, Lisa Payne, Nancy Morrison, Callie McMahon, Pat Rafter and Cathy Spriggs
Second row: Sylvia Crosbourne, Lonnie Stapanon, Christie Kivlehan and Lise Nordbotten
Front row: 1 to r: Rita Lines and Ruth Johnston

Thank you!! --- God's Provision --- Philippians 4:19

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

On Youth Sunday before church I was told by a carpenter that he did not want to replace my storm door on the weekend of October 31st. After hearing the youth tell of their mission trip experiences, I spoke to Steve Kimner after the service about the possibility of them helping me out. Since I had planned vacation time to be home to have it done that weekend I asked him if it was possible for the 31st and he said yes.

Steve and Nathan joined me in going to Home Depot to get the door and supplies Saturday morning. I was expecting to have only 6 months to pay back my new charge with no interest and was told I could have one year and when we cashed out was given a \$20.00 discount on top. The door I had originally picked out was not in stock so I had to pick another which turned out to be less expensive. To meet Home Depot's requirements for the charge I needed to buy at least \$ 300.00 worth of supplies. So as it turned out I was able to replace two bathroom faucets with all new piping as well.

The three youth with Steve's guidance did replace my door and I supplied a pizza lunch which they enjoyed. This was a great blessing for me and I am very grateful for their help. My brother-in-law was visiting from NY and he was able to do the plumbing work along with some other odd jobs while my sister and I were able to do yard clean up. So God provided for me a wonderful working vacation with many things accomplished. And it all started because of the carpenter turning me down and my asking for help. God turned around a disappointment into a wonderful blessing and that is why I am sharing this with you all. I pray this story will encourage others to trust God even when things look like they will not work out. Our God is a good and awesome God and he does provide for our needs.

Thank you again for your support youth group!! -- Gloria Nelson

Look on the bulletin board outside of the church office in the near future to see photos from this day of blessing.

From the Finance Committee

By Bill Jaquith

During October our contributions to both the General and Mortgage funds continued to run below what is required. As the economy has contracted, we have had members of the congregation that are understandably unable to meet pledge commitments. At our present level we will run between \$25,000 and \$35,000 short of our 2009 General Fund budget. Because of this, we are behind on our mission share payments having paid only 5 months instead of 10 by the end of October. If collections improve to normal levels in November and December we will try to catch up.

MUMC ended October with a positive cash balance and the discretionary fund is still at acceptable levels. We were repaid \$2000 by the builder, Cogun, for repairs to the Heating-A/C system. The mortgage payments have been made all year but we have had to dip into our reserves to do this.

Under the leadership of Brad Reed and Andy Baver we have a capital campaign in progress

drawing on the experience of Generis our consultant. Generis' fees are paid out of the mortgage fund. We pray that the members of the church will respond to this campaign even in these tough economic times. It really is necessary.

The Finance Committee will be presenting a 2010 budget for the church which will be only 1.5% over the 2009's budget. This is only possible by not giving increases to our fine staff. We regret this action but hope all will understand why this is necessary.

We are also working with the Trustees to develop a long range plan for repairs to both the parsonage and the Church itself. This is a challenging time financially for MUMC. In the last few years we have not had to concentrate as much on expenditure levels as we have during 2009 and probably into 2010. We appreciate the efforts of all who have helped MUMC during this difficult time.

Stephen Ministry

Continued from November

Last month we published three reasons to consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

1. You will learn to turn danger into opportunity.
2. Stephen Ministers are skilled caregivers.
3. Stephen Ministers experience the joy of fellowship with one another.

Here are three more:

4. Stephen Ministers learn to listen

Most people think of listening as a simple, natural, and passive activity, but it is actually a powerful care-giving tool. Using Jesus as our model, Stephen Ministers learn the skill of active listening, which involves commitment, patience, and attention to body language.
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Afternoon Off

By Carol Brooks

On Saturday afternoon, October 17th the volunteers of the Afternoon Off and Stephen Ministry Programs hosted a luncheon to celebrate Bob and Pat Levesque's many contributions to these wonderful programs during the past few years. Pat has been a Stephen Ministry Leader and her role was the referral coordinator.

Afternoon Off resulted from the Stephen Ministry Program and the needs that were seen by the caregivers in Milford and our surrounding communities. Caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia 24 days/7 days a week is an exhausting responsibility and one that is often invisible to the general public. The need for free respite care did not go unnoticed by Bob and Pat. Together they researched, planned, met with families in need and trained volunteers for the current program that has now been hosted here at MUMC for more than three years. The program provides three hours of much needed and appreciated respite on Friday afternoons for the families while their loved ones are entertained, fed and cared for by our trained volunteers.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, Bob and Pat were presented with a beautiful tray as a token of thanks for their many hours of service and devotion. The tray was made by David Robinson and inscribed by Everett Gale, "To Bob and Pat for their patience, love and devotion to the Afternoon Off and Stephen Ministry Programs".

Now that Bob and Pat and their companion Millie have decided to travel extensively in warmer regions for the winter months, they have passed the Afternoon Off Program officially to the church. Carol Brooks is now coordinating the program. Volunteers are trained in a three hour session, then observe for two afternoons before being assigned to a specific guest. Our next training will be on a Saturday in late January or early February. If you would like further information on this fun and rewarding way to serve, please contact Carol Brooks at the church office (673-2669) or at home (673-6927).



Bob and Pat Levesque admiring their gift.

Youth Group News

Our December fundraiser is the Cold Stone Creamery Christmas Pie Fundraiser. Who doesn't love these yummy ice cream pies? We've included an order form here for your convenience! Just fill it out and bring it to church with you, or mail it to the church office. If you're dieting, but you'd still like to participate, you can order a pie to be donated to SHARE.

So, if you are in middle school or high school, come visit us on a Sunday afternoon (4:30 for middle school and 6:00 for high school) and get to know some new people and take a break from mom and dad! See you soon!

Middle School Youth Schedule:

December 6th Movie Night
December 12th Gift Wrapping at SHARE
December 13th Salvation Army Bell Ringing
December 19th Christmas Party

Sr. High Youth Schedule:

December 6th Movie Night
December 12th Gift Wrapping at SHARE
December 13th Salvation Army Bell Ringing
December 19th Christmas Party

Winter Storm Policy

The winter storm policy is that we do everything humanly possible to have Sunday worship every Sunday. Rarely, though, it might be better to cancel services. In the event of bad weather, Pastor Tom will make the decision by 7:00 am at the latest if we need to cancel so that we can alert WMUR to be included in their list of cancellations. You can watch the list of closing at the bottom of the screen on WMUR (channel 8 for most area residents) or go to WMUR.com.

On Sundays when there is snow on the ground and worship is on, please use your discretion as to whether you should be out and about.

Rising Above: A Joyful Journey Capital Campaign

By Brad Reed

This fall MUMC has conducted a capital campaign targeted to reduce our debt so that we can once again move forward with our building and our programs.

Dates to remember:

December 6th First Fruits
Sunday

Please see any team member for details and if there are any further questions:

Minister	Pastor Tom
Executive Director	Brad Reed
Campaign Manager	Andy Baver
Admin Director	Susan Drew
Communication Directors	Vivian and Bill Balam
Major Event Directors	Barb Reed and Pat Rafter
Spiritual Director	Carol Rowlette
Prayer Coordinator	Jim Lawler
Stewardship Education Coordinators	Diane and Bill Jaquith
Community Distribution Coordinator	Christian O'Shaughnessy
Student/Child Directors	Shelly and Jim Frost
Electronic Media Coordinator	

1. Select Pies and Quantity \$15.00 Per Cold Stone Ice Cream Pie

_____ Pumpkin
(Pumpkin Ice Cream in a Graham Cracker Pie Crust with Cinnamon Frosting)

_____ Caramel Apple Pie
(Sweet Cream Ice Cream with Apple Pie Filling, Cinnamon and Caramel in a Graham Cracker Pie Crust with Cinnamon Frosting)

_____ Cookies & Cream
(Sweet Cream Ice Cream & Oreos in Graham Cracker Pie Crust)

_____ Caramel Turtle Treat
(Sweet Cream with Pecans, Caramel and Fudge in Graham Cracker Pie Crust)

2. Circle Pick Up Location: Manchester Nashua

3. Circle Pick – Up Date: 12/19 12/20 12/21 12/22 12/23 12/24 (Open 'til 5:00pm)

4. Name _____ Phone _____

Payment : Check made out to **MUMC Youth In Mission** Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Cash \$ _____ Credit Card at time of pick-up (MC/VISA/AMEX/DISC)

Please donate my order to **SHARE** (no Credit Card orders on SHARE donations)

GROUP: PLEASE RETURN THIS ORDER TO COLD STONE CREAMERY

_____ Cut or tear here _____

Customer: Keep This For Your Records & Pick-Up @ Cold Stone Creamery

1. Select Pies and Quantity \$15.00 Per Cold Stone Ice Cream Pie

_____ Pumpkin
(Pumpkin Ice Cream in a Graham Cracker Pie Crust with Cinnamon Frosting)

_____ Caramel Apple Pie
(Sweet Cream Ice Cream with Apple Pie Filling, Cinnamon and Caramel in a Graham Cracker Pie Crust with Cinnamon Frosting)

_____ Cookies & Cream
(Sweet Cream Ice Cream & Oreos in Graham Cracker Pie Crust)

_____ Caramel Turtle Treat
(Sweet Cream with Pecans, Caramel and Fudge in Graham Cracker Pie Crust)

2. Circle Pick -up Location: Manchester Nashua

3. Circle Pick – Up Date: 12/19 12/20 12/21 12/22 12/23 12/24 (Open 'til 5:00pm)

Check if credit card payment due at time of pick-up

*Thank you for supporting
MUMC Youth In Mission
and the Cold Stone
Creamery Christmas Pie
Fundraiser*



Manchester: 102 March Ave. Phone: 627-2411
T.J. Maxx Plaza @ South Willow St.

Nashua: 2 Cellu Dr #111 Phone: 882-0550
Next to the Target Plaza on Amherst St (101A)

Both Locations Open 'til 9pm (5pm 11/25) for Pie Pick-up

For more information on fundraising for your group, please call 603-880-3472.

Sunday School News

By Shelly Frost

There will be no Sunday School class held on December 27th, but will resume on January 3rd. Teacher spots are still available for this year's rotation & for Jr. church, if you have time available please contact Kim Pfeil at kimpfeil@yahoo.com or Education Team members for details on open spots. If you are currently scheduled to teach during the up-coming year, please touch base with anyone from the Ed Team, so we may up-date our e-mail/phone list in case of changes during the current program.

We will begin a canned food drive as a continued mission project in the effort to support Share during the Holiday season. The Sunday school children are asked to bring in canned foods and we'll build a Christmas tree, the more they bring in the larger the tree will grow and the more people we can help feed. Please encourage this effort and help us help Share. The offerings raised by the Sunday School children were recently given to the Share program. Congratulations for raising \$560.00, we are very proud. Confirmation classes have started up for the new year, please keep all of our young candidates & mentors in your prayers as they embark in this very important journey to becoming members of MUMC. Any questions regarding confirmation please contact Kara Ammon or Pastor Tom.



Wanakee

The Wanakee Boosters announce the performance schedule for their upcoming 2010 Concert Series:

- January 24 The Eclectic Classical
Woodwind Quintet
- February 28 PB&J Jazz Ensemble
- March 28 Temple Dance Band
- April 25 The Two Jims Guitar Duo
- May 23 Bells and Brass Concert
featuring MUMC's own Handbell
Choir

(Concerts are held on the 4th Sunday of each month at 2pm.)

All concerts are FREE although donations to our scholarship fund are gratefully accepted. The entire family is welcome to attend. Free refreshments will be served after the concert. Come join us for a fun afternoon.

The Wanakee Boosters exist to promote and provide information about the joys of attending summer camp at Wanakee United Methodist Center along the shore of Lake Pemigewasset, in Meredith, New Hampshire. The Wanakee Boosters raise money throughout the year to provide scholarships for those who want to attend summer camp.

Contact Mary Tyler-Wall at 603-878-0664 or marytw2009@gmail.com for more information.

Seasoned Generation

By Roberta Randlett

Our Masquerade party, once again, was a big success. We had excellent costumes and took a vote on who won. The Chinese lady, Kaleen Fortunato was the winner. She did look great for sure. The other winner was, believe it or not, her husband Jim Fortunato who was quite the swashbuckling pirate. The weather was not too bad but, when everyone left is when the sky let loose with a lot of rain.

Now we move to the December activity which will be December 13th at 4 p.m. It will be at the home of Dottie and Paul Dishong in Amherst. Directions will be available for anyone who wants them. This is also our Yankee Swap, always good for a lot of laughs. Think about a gift to bring that is no more than \$10.00. All we hope for is that the weather cooperates, but December is always a tricky month. However, we've had wonderful luck over the years so we just keep on hoping. There will be more information on this in the Sunday bulletin starting next week.

In January we will be having our annual planning meeting and we ask for as many members to come to this meeting as can make it. It's the 4th Saturday in January and we want some new ideas, new people and, of course, there will be coffee and goodies to share. We're giving everyone a heads up to start thinking about some new and fun ideas for us to plan out the 2010 season!!

Lamplighter's Women's Bible Study

By Kathy Bradfield

The Lamplighter's Bible Study is exploring Psalms and Proverbs as a study this year with insightful discussion evolving from this study. We are having a pot-luck/ Christmas luncheon on Dec. 9th at 12:30 p.m. A yankee-swap will take place with a gift of \$10.00 or less. This will be our last and only meeting in December. Our Bible Study will resume at the church on January 6th at 1p.m. Please phone Kathy Bradfield at 487-5574 or Vivian Balam at 673-0105 with any questions.

Share Items for December

Canned fruits and fruit juice, cake mix and icing

You will notice that many of the items are things that will be put in the Christmas food baskets. That will be happening Dec. 14th and 16th so it would be helpful to receive your donations before then. Obviously, anything we receive after that will go on the pantry shelves and will be appreciated there too.

Safety Precautions for the H1N1 Virus

Human cases of an influenza A (H1N1) virus infection that has a swine component have been identified in the United States. Human cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection also have been identified internationally. An investigation and response effort surrounding the outbreak of swine flu is ongoing on the national level and here in New Hampshire. The symptoms of swine flu in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu in humans and may include:

- Fever (greater than 100°F)
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Stuffy nose
- Chills
- Headache and body aches
- Fatigue

Some of the people who have become ill with swine flu reported diarrhea and vomiting also. Severe illness (pneumonia and respiratory failure) and deaths have been reported as well.

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is working very closely with all our State partners as well as with health officials in at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and officials in other states to monitor and respond to this outbreak of illness. The DHHS Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) is performing active surveillance for any potential cases. DHHS will keep the public updated with information as it becomes available because this is a constantly changing situation.

This illness is spread from person to person and there is no risk of contracting this flu virus by eating pork. There are, however, some basic precautions that everyone should be taking to prevent becoming ill or spreading illnesses, not just swine flu are:

- Stay home from work or school if you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneezes with your sleeve

Wash your hands frequently.

New Church Office Hours

Monday's 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Tuesday's and Wednesday's 10:30 am-5 pm

Thursday's from 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Most days there is someone in the office before and/or after these hours, but it would be best to call ahead to check if you need to get into the building.

*Please note that there are no office staff hours on Friday's.

New Church Email addresses

Pastor Tom	pastor@milfordumc.org	
Marian Kopp, Office Support:	office@milfordumc.org	please submit bulletin info
Carol Brooks, Office Manager:	carol@milfordumc.org	please submit newsletter info
Leslie Coates, Ministry Director:	leslie@milfordumc.org	

MUMC Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 5, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

We need your help! Pull out your recipes because we need bakers and candy/fudge makers. We also need cooks, servers, dishwashers, sales persons, greeters. We could use your help for several hours or all day if you would like. It is sure to get you in the Christmas spirit as we all work together. Sign up sheets to help the day of the fair are in the lobby.

(Please drop off your donations on Friday 12/4 – the church will be open into the early evening)

Baked Goods – any type of breads, pies, bars, squares, whatever baked good you would like to whip up.

Candy/Fudge – every year we sell out of fudge - vanilla, chocolate, peanut butter, penuche. It can be a simple fudge or candy recipe. Even microwave fudge will work!

Cookie Run – we need a variety of home-made cookies for this table. So make your favorite cookie - no larger than 2" in diameter so they fit into a coffee can.

Country Cupboard – jams, jellies, relishes -- they make wonderful gifts.

Christmas Decorations/Ornaments

Christmas Wreaths/Centerpieces

Gift Tins – need snack mixes, caramel corn, popcorn, chocolate covered pretzels, nuts (talk with Priscilla Abdinoor at 673-0488 as these items will be needed earlier in the week)

Jewelry

Knit Items

Breakfast scones and lunch will be served.

Any questions, please contact us:

Pat Rafter at ICU2PER@aol.com 673-4516

Barb Reed at NORTHWDS28@aol.com 673-6950

Please also consider:

- Tuesday Dec 1 at church 2-5
- Wednesday Dec 2 at church 10-2
- Thursday Dec 3 at church 10-2
- Set up tables in Narthex Thursday Dec 3 7 pm
- Fair set all day Friday Dec 4 starting at 8 am
- Fair day 9-1, clean up 1-2.

Upcoming Events for Share

Benefit Candle Sale (candles donated by Alene Candles)

When: Friday, 12/4/09 9:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturday, 12/5/09 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: From the Milford Oval, take Elm Street and go approx. one mile to Riverway East Rd. (located on your right behind Milford House of Pizza). Riverway East Rd. is directly across the street from 222 Elm Street Plaza. Watch for the signs!

Bring non-perishable food items for SHARE & receive a free candle from a special collection.

All proceeds benefit SHARE and the Boys and Girls Club of Souhegan Valley.

Visa, Master Card, checks, and cash accepted.

Live Free or Die Laughing Comedy Show

When: Friday, December 18 at 8:00 pm

Where: VFW Harley Sanford Post in Milford, NH (1 Perkins Street)

Sponsored by: Saint-Gobain Crystals, VFW Harley Sanford #4368 and *Live Free or Die Laughing*

Tickets are \$10 at the door For more details on the group performing, please go to <http://livefreeordielLaughing.com/>

100% of the proceeds go to the SHARE Outreach Food Pantry

Anniversaries and Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Irma Robinson	Dec 8
Richard Randlett	Dec 8
Steve Rafter	Dec 24
Carol Rowlette	Dec 25
Kathy Bradfield	Dec 28
Elaine Driscoll	Dec 30

Happy Anniversary to:

Ron & Irma Robinson	Dec 1
Mike & Debbie Logue	Dec 28
Paul & Diana Berkebile	Dec 30

If you would like to be included in the birthdays and anniversary list, please contact the church office.

Financially Speaking

As of October 2009

Income toward Budget accounts	\$20,935.80
Expense-budget accounts	\$18,218.23
Balance in General Fund	\$ 5,737.24
Mortgage Fund Income	\$ 4,170.00
Outreach and Mission giving	
Mission Shares	0.00
Discretionary Fund	\$ 664.00
Mission and Outreach Fund	\$ 167.00
Youth Mission	\$ 0.00
Katrina Mission	\$4,775.00
Special Offering Fund	\$ 0.00
Wanakee Camperships	\$ 0.00
Total	\$5,606.00

Stephen Ministry continued from page 8

Stephen Ministers learn to listen for more than just words. They seek true understanding and empathy.

5. Stephen Ministers are assertive caregivers.

Stephen Ministers are trained to "speak the truth in love." Christian assertiveness is a positive and constructive way of relating that respects others and ourselves. Stephen Ministers learn to recognize and avoid aggressive behaviors such as belittling and manipulation, and to avoid passive behaviors such as withdrawing and relinquishing rights. By learning to behave assertively, Stephen Ministers become more aware of God's will for their lives and more aware of the needs of others.

6. Stephen Ministers are caregivers, not curegivers.

Stephen Ministers are not therapists or problem solvers; they are caregivers. Only God can bring about healing, forgiveness, and hope. Stephen Ministers are trained to listen and pray, to be reliable and non-judgmental, and to help care receivers express their feelings. Focusing on caring and not on curing means Stephen Ministers never pressure a care receiver to "get better." Stephen Ministers are there for as long as the process takes, and trust that God works in His own time to provide wholeness.

To find out more about what this ministry has to offer, contact your Stephen Leaders.

Michele Bossie 672-4556

Rita Lines – 673-0398

Pastor Tom Getchell-Lacey - 673-2669

Ben Lambert – 672-1425

December 2009 Calendar

29	30	1 10-2 Milford Area Seniors Activity Center 2-5 Craft Workshop 7 Trustees	2 9:30 White Tops 10-2 Craft Workshop	3 10-2 Craft Workshop 5:15 Kids bells 6 Adult bells 6:15 Children's Choir 6:40 Youth Choir 7 Fair Set-up 7:30 Chancel choir	4 8 all day Fair Set Up 7 Women's Bible study 7 Praise Team	5 9-1 Christmas Fair 1-2 Fair Clean-Up
6 First Fruits 8:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday school 10:45 Traditional Worship 12:15 Youth Choir 12:15 Band Rehearsal 3 Sacred Dance 4:30 Jr Hi Youth 6 Sr High Youth	7 7 Cell group 7 Finance	8 10-2 Milford Area Seniors Activity Center 7 Worship 7 SPR	9 9:30 White Tops 10-2 Craft wkshp at the Rafters 1 Bible study Potluck 7 Master Planning 7 Stephen Supervision	10 5:15 Kids bells 6 Adult bells 6:15 Children's Choir 6:40 Youth Choir 7 Cell group 7:30 Chancel choir	11 12- 3 Afternoon Off 7 Praise Team	12
13 8:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday school 10:45 Traditional Worship 12:15 Youth Choir 12:15 Band Rehearsal 3 Sacred Dance 4:30 Jr Hi Youth 6 Sr High Youth	14 7 Cell Group	15 10-2 Milford Area Seniors Activity Center	16 9:30 White Tops 1 Bible study 7 Church Council with nominations	17 5:15 Kids bells 6 Adult bells 6:15 Children's Choir 6:40 Youth Choir 7 Cell group 7:30 Chancel choir	18 12- 3 Afternoon Off 6:30 Craft wkshp at the Rafters 7 Women's Bible study 7 Praise Team	19 9-noon Rehearsal for Concert 4-9 Youth Group Christmas Party
20 8:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday school 10:45 Traditional Worship 12:15 Youth Choir 12:15 Band Rehearsal 3 Sacred Dance 6 Set-up Concert 7 Concert	21 7 Blue Christmas Service	22 10-2 Milford Area Seniors Activity Center 7 Quilting	23 9:30 White Tops 1 Bible study 7 Stephen Supervision	24 5 Family Service 7 Traditional Service 11 Communion Service	25	26
27 8:30 Contemporary Worship 9:30 Sunday school 10:45 Traditional Worship 12:15 Youth Choir 3 Sacred Dance 4:30 Jr Hi Youth 6 Sr High Youth	28 7 Cell group	29 10-2 Milford Area Seniors Activity Center 2-5 Craft wkshp at MUMC	30 9:30 White Tops 10-2 Craft wkshp at MUMC 1 Bible study	31	Jan 1	2



Milford United Methodist Church
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www.milfordumc.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Milford, NH 03055
Permit No. 17

December 2009

Worship times

8:30 Contemporary Worship

9:30 Sunday School

10:45 Traditional Worship

Free childcare

Change Service Requested

Milford United Methodist Church

Discover the Joy!

Our Mission: The Milford United Methodist Church exists to help people discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ.

Our Vision: We will help people discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ by:

- Providing joyful and meaningful worship experiences.
- Establishing and encouraging small groups for study, support, prayer, fellowship and service.
- Empowering people to discover, develop, and deploy their gifts for ministry.
- Reaching out beyond our congregation in Christian love and service.

Our Values: We commit ourselves to:

- Know scripture and live it.
- Act with integrity.
- Be faithful to Jesus Christ, our families, and our church family.
- Strive for excellence in all we do for the Lord.
- Celebrate the ministry of all Christians, lay and ordained.
- Treat all people with respect and sensitivity.
- Encourage people to grow in Christ.
- Care for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of all people.