

The Outreach

The newsletter of the Milford United Methodist Church
February 2014—Milford, NH



Milford United Methodist Church Supports SHARE Capital Campaign

The Milford United Methodist Church has extended their support of SHARE Outreach of Milford to include the SHARE Capital Campaign. On Friday, January 17th, the church presented SHARE with a check for \$3,000 dollars for their current capital campaign. Pastor Wes said, "Our church has been a longtime supporter of SHARE's work through financial gifts and ongoing food donations and we are very excited to be a part of this effort to expand their resources and building to provide so many needed services to the Souhegan Valley."

MUMC raised the funds through our Christmas Fair and other collections. The funds raised in SHARE's Capital Campaign will be used to renovate and expand their existing food pantry in order to provide better access, more storage and refrigeration capacity and more efficient handling and distribution of food and supplies. SHARE will also construct a 2,000 square foot addition for a new reception area, offices for their Executive Director, Program Manager and Client Counselor, and appropriate space to meet and counsel clients in a safe and private environment.

You can learn more about SHARE by visiting them on the web at www.sharenh.org.



From left to right- Paul Spiess, Treasurer, SHARE Board of Directors, Cynthia Dokmo, Chair, SHARE Board of Directors, Christine Janson, Executive Director of SHARE, Paul Berkebile, Co-Chair of our Outreach Committee, and Pastor Wes.

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A Message From Pastor Wes

Dear friends,

It doesn't seem possible, but I have been your pastor for more than half a year. The time has passed extremely fast, and at points I still feel like I have just begun. At other times, I am amazed at how many folks I have gotten to know better throughout the church community. I will continue to share my story with you through conversation, preaching, teaching and many other venues.

One aspect of ministry that I like to remind people of is that as a United Methodist pastor, I am appointed not just to a church, but to a community. Here in Milford, I see that community as the entire Souhegan Valley. I am really seeking to get to know that overall community in as many ways as I can. I began that journey by being a part of CAST which stands for Community Action for Safe Teens. This group welcomes leaders from all the communities in the region to work on issues of drug and alcohol abuse among our youth. Our church recently hosted a half-day retreat for CAST.

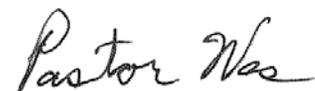
Another way that I have engaged the greater community in the past is to serve as a Board member of various non-profits in my parish area. From the time I first arrived in Milford, I began to hear about the work of the Souhegan Valley Boys and Girls Club. Many of the members of MUMC remember the days when they held worship at the Club

between the old church and the new church. I began to hear from children and adults just what a difference the Boys and Girls Club was making in their lives and in the greater community. The first time I entered the Club was to hear a presentation from Chris Herren about his own recovery from drug addiction. It was that night that I told Susan Taylor the Club's director that I would be willing to serve on the Board of the Boys and Girls Club.

At the Club's Board meeting in November, I was elected to the Board of the Boys and Girls Club. I have already been put to work as a member of the Finance Committee and the Resource Development Committee. I look forward to sharing in the ongoing success of the Club and all of the connections it will allow me to make throughout the Souhegan Valley. If you have any questions about the Club, please feel free to ask me.

I also want to share another invitation to share your story with me. It is probably best to do that by calling and making an appointment. We can meet in the office or if you would prefer, I can come to your home. I love to hear people's stories so that I can understand the varied people that make up the community of MUMC. Please feel free to invite me into your story.

See you in Church,



Christian Aftercare Ministry

From Margie Frank

A note from CAM director, Paul Roussel: *Former prisoners, as they re-enter society, have many crucial needs. MUMC is a great contributor toward meeting these needs. Thank you MUMC so much, we deeply appreciate every donation. The needs do not lessen, but increase. Please think of these needs as you sort out any items this new year. If you're ready to discard some item in your home, it would most likely be useful for former offenders who are trying to establish their home. Thank you for continuing with us in this labor of love for our Lord Jesus.*

-Paul

It's mid-winter so the needs for ex-offenders remain constant: gently used coats, gloves, hats, warm trousers, transportation, small appliances, dishes, table knives, forks and spoons, cooking pots and pans, utensils, towels, linens, blankets, gift cards etc. Please place your donation in the CAM box in the church foyer to the right as you enter. For more information please call Margie (465-7752) or Rev. Morgan (672-1286)



Music Notes

From Sally Landis, Choir Director

The Chancel Choir will be performing a cantata on Palm Sunday evening (April 13) at 7 p.m. entitled "Upon This Rock". It is the Easter story as told through the eyes of Peter and is a very beautiful and moving work which will showcase the choir and various soloists.

If you would like to join us in the singing of this cantata, we will begin rehearsals on January 30th at 7 p.m. We will rehearse from 7-8 p.m. each Thursday and review on Sundays from 10-10:15 am. If this newsletter has come out after January 30th, please join us anyway on Feb 6.

If you've wanted to "try" choir but haven't yet, this would be a wonderful opportunity to see what we are about without having to make a long term commitment. Speak with me if you are interested, or just show up for rehearsal. I'm looking forward to seeing you!



**SHARE
Collection**

**For the month of February
MUMC is collecting
canned meats, canned pasta,
dinner sides, coffee & tea.**

Ed Team News

From Shelly Frost

The Ed Team will be launching a "Give Me 5" program, during our opening time prior to the start of classes. ALL are welcome to join in our Sunday School opening. Give Me 5 will give members the opportunity to speak 5 minutes to the children about a specific topic or answer a simple question, to help them understand more about the Methodist faith & the church. We are very excited to start this new program and hope that the congregation will support our efforts in teaching the children.

We will continue our Mission project to help David's House. David's House is located on the campus of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) in Lebanon, NH. David's House offers a comfortable home-away-from-home for families of children receiving care at CHaD. David's House also offers services for families who need a break during the day to wash clothes, have a snack, or relax. Please see the brown paper bags with the list of items that are needed to support this wonderful home, which has helped members of our own congregation. We will be collecting items through February.

Don't forget about Adult Sunday School also held between services, and Youth Group for students from 6th grade-12th grade, held at MUMC from 5 p.m.-6:30 p.m. each Sunday evening (unless otherwise specified by the leaders).

Lamplighter's News

From Carol Rowlette

"I am the Lord your God,
the one who brought you out
of Egypt. Do not worship
any god except me."

Exodus 20: 2,3



We have completed our journey through Genesis and are now traveling into the Exodus. The Lord set his people free from slavery and brought them out of Egypt.

The Lord prepared Moses to the task of leading the Israelites and the challenges he went through to secure their freedom.

Come and join us. We meet every Wednesday from 1:00 to 3:00 starting with coffee and refreshments, followed with prayer concerns and bible study. We have been blessed with many answered prayers and thank God for his blessings.

For more information please contact:

Elaine Driscoll
673-4270 or
geldris@Comcast.net

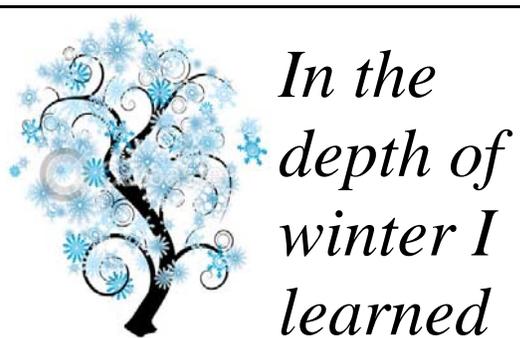
Carol Rowlette
673-5403 or
carolleero@aol.com

Quilting Ministry Request

From Rita Lines

As many of you know the Quilting Ministry has started a tradition of presenting the graduating seniors with a quilt. At the moment it looks like we will need to make 8 quilts this year. If you would like to help us honor the active youth from our church, consider making a donation. The average cost of the quilts is about \$150. This involves the material and machine quilting. You can help by making a donation of \$10.00 (the cost of a yard of fabric).

Thank you for helping the Quilting Ministry continue this tradition. If you have any questions, contact Marley Gale (672-9441) or Rita Lines (673-0398).



*In the
depth of
winter I
learned
that within me lay
an invincible
summer.*

-Albert Camus

NEVER-ENDING GIFT

Seven days a week, remind someone special about God's love, the gift that truly keeps on giving.



What you need:

- Large plastic pill box with a compartment for each day
- Construction paper
- Craft glue
- Black permanent marker
- Heart stickers
- Scissors
- Bible
- Pencil
- 7 small treats (fish-shaped crackers, small candies, trail mix, etc.)

What you do:

1. Glue paper onto the container. Write "God's Love" in permanent marker. Decorate with heart stickers.
2. Cut seven slips of paper. On each slip, write out one Bible verse about God's love. (Examples include Psalm 63:3; Psalm 100:5; John 3:16; John 15:12; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:9.)
3. Fill each compartment with a different treat. Then place a folded slip atop each treat.
4. Give away the present. Tell the recipient to open the correct day for a week — and then refill the treats and verses and "regift" God's love to someone else.

MUMC's Lenten Devotional Returns

From John Millhouse

The Worship Committee is again putting together a devotional modeled after the Upper Room for Lent. The meditations for each day will be written by people just like you, people who are listening to God and trying to live by what they hear. We want to encourage Christians in their personal life of prayer and discipleship. We seek to build on what unites us as believers and to link MUMC together in prayer.

Have God's care and presence become real for you in your interaction with others? Has the Bible given you guidance and helped you see God at work? Has the meaning of scripture become personal for you as you reflected on it? Then you have something to share in a meditation.

Where do I begin?

You begin in your own relationship with God. Christians believe God speaks to us and guides us as we study the Bible and pray. Good meditations are closely tied to scripture and show how it has shed light on a specific situation. Good meditations make the message of the Bible come alive.

Good devotional writing is first of all authentic. It connects real events of daily life with the ongoing activity of God. It comes across as the direct, honest statement of personal faith in Christ and how that faith grows. It is one believer sharing with another an insight or struggle about what it means

to live faithfully.

Secondly, good devotional writing uses sensory details -- what color it was, how high it bounced, what it smelled like. The more sensory details the writing includes, the better. Though the events of daily life may seem mundane, actually they provide the richest store of sensory details. And when we connect God's activity to common things, each encounter with them can serve as a reminder of God's work.

Finally, good devotional writing is exploratory. It searches and considers and asks questions. It examines the faith without knowing in advance what all the answers will be. It is open to God's continuing self-revelation through scripture, people, and events. Good writing chronicles growth and change, seeing God behind both.

How do I get started writing a meditation?

When you find yourself in the middle of some situation thinking, "Why -- that's how God is, too!" or, "That's like that story in the Bible . . ." that can become a meditation. Excellent ideas come from reading and meditating on scripture, looking for connections between it and daily life. When you see such a helpful connection, here's a simple formula for getting it on paper:

- Retell the Bible teaching or summarize the passage briefly.

- Describe the situation that you link to the Bible passage, using a specific incident. Write down as many details of the real-life situation as you can. For example, if you write about an incident when people were talking, write down what each person said.
- Tell how you can apply this spiritual truth in days to come.

After a few days, look carefully at what you have written. Decide which details best convey your message, and delete the others. Ask yourself whether this insight will be helpful to believers in other situations.

Tips to keep in mind

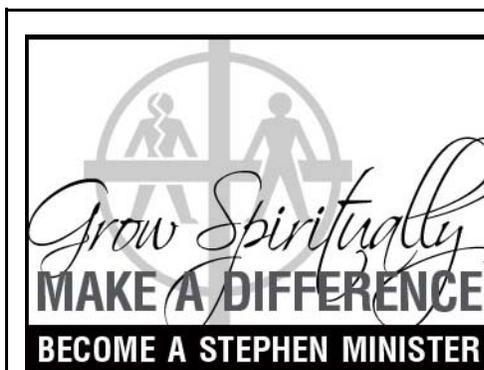
- Begin with studying and meditating on the Bible so its power supports your words.
- Connect scripture with your own life. Your experience is unique.
- Each day's meditation includes a title, suggested Bible reading, quoted scripture verse, personal witness or reflection on scripture, prayer, a "thought for the day" (a pithy, summarizing statement), and a "prayer focus" (suggested subject

for further prayer).

- Meditations should be about 250 words long.
- Avoid preaching ("you should ...," "you need to ...," "we must ...," etc.)
- Use language and examples that appeal to the five senses. Tell what you heard, saw, touched, smelled, tasted. When appropriate, use dialogue to tell your story.
- Make only one point. Think snapshot, not movie.
- Focus on how you can deepen the Christian commitment of readers and nurture their spiritual growth.
- Indicate the version of the Bible quoted in the text, and give references for any scripture passages mentioned.
- Seek always to encourage readers to deeper engagement with the Bible.
- Always give the original source of any materials you quote.

When is the deadline?

Start sending your meditations to the Church office today. We need 45 meditations. please try to get them in to the office by **February 24, 2014**.



Are you being called?

Sometimes love comes knocking at the door;
 Not to judge, but to just be there through the thin times;
 Not to heal, but to allow God to heal;
 Not to be the answer, but to be a conduit;
 Not to have the words, when God fills the silent room;
 Sometimes love comes through and from a Stephen Minister.

Are you being called?

Bits & Pieces...

Donate Bread Loaves on Communion Sunday, February 2.

Please remember to bring a loaf of bread (plain or wheat, no specialty breads) to be placed in the basket at the altar. The bread loaves will be delivered to SHARE, the local food pantry, on Monday morning.



Do You Have a Name Badge?

Name badges can be printed up anytime by either signing up on the clipboard at the information booth in the foyer, or by e-mailing Diane at djaquith2@gmail.com with your request. Please write out exactly how you would like your name printed and whether you prefer a pin rather than "clip on". When the badge is ready, it will be added to one of the "clotheslines" located by the windows in the foyer.

Help Our Youth Mission Team

Clean out those old CDs, DVDs, video games - including Wii, Nintendo, Xbox, etc and help the Youth Mission Trip! This does not include VCR tapes. And you need to have the original box that your old CD, DVD, or game came in. Then bring it to the church and put it in the bin under the coat rack. Liane Wright will take care of the rest. Those old dust collectors can bring a lot of money for our Youth Mission Trip. Thanks!

Church Mice

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Bits & Pieces...

Donation of Altar Flowers



Would you like to honor or remember a special person in your life or celebrate a special occasion? Please consider signing up to purchase altar flowers. The flower chart is posted on the wall across from the church office. Contact and payment instructions are on the flower chart. Standard arrangements are \$35. Thanks for helping to beautify the altar and sanctuary for Sunday worship.

Have you visited a Home Group?

Our Home Groups are a wonderful way to get to know people in our church, share our faith and build connections. You are welcome to join us anytime!

Tuesday's at 7 p.m. @ The Lawler's home, call 673-7513

Thursday's at 7 p.m. @ The Rafter's home, call 673-4516

Friday's at 6 p.m. @ The Hopkins home, call 673-3257

A Noise Offering

Following each service on the second Sunday of the month we will have a "Noise Offering." This donation of your spare change will benefit the Wanakee Scholarship Fund that helps youth to participate in our United Methodist summer camp located in Meredith, NH.

If you prefer to write a check, please make it payable to MUMC with the note "Wanakee Scholarships" in the memo space.



Moxie's Soup!

Moxie will be selling her amazing soups after church to raise money for Wanakee Camperships. Look for her (and you won't have to make dinner!) on February 9 & 23, March 16 & 30 and April 27.



Anniversaries and Birthdays

Birthdays:

Suzanne Randlett	Feb. 6
Krystal Schmidt	Feb. 7
George Driscoll	Feb. 8
Katrina Caldwell	Feb. 8
Steve kimner	Feb. 9
Zachary Landis	Feb. 11
Angelia Goff	Feb. 12
Roberta Randlett	Feb. 16
Sean Murphy	Feb. 17
Julie Landis Baker	Feb. 21
Cameron Randlett	Feb. 22
Bernice McGinnis	Feb. 24
Nate Kimner	Feb. 27
Jaiden Schmidt	Feb. 28
Peggy Jenkins	Feb. 28
Deanna Berkebile	Feb. 29

If you would like to be included in the birthday and anniversary list, please contact the church office at 673-2669 or leave a note for Wendy on her desk on Sunday.



Church E-mail Addresses:

Pastor Wesley Palmer:
pastor@milfordumc.org

Wendy Ayotte, Office Manager:
office@milfordumc.org

For Information about our Committees & Groups

If you are interested in becoming involved with, or learning more about, a committee or group on the calendar, here's who to talk to.

Bell Choir: Mary Tyler-Wall

Chancel Choir: Sally Landis

Church Council: Callie McMahon

Home Groups: Pastor Wes

Lamplighters: Elaine Driscoll and
Carol Rowlette

Outreach: Pat Rafter

Praise Band: Michele Bossie

Sacred Dance: Rebecca Hart

Staff Parish Relations: Lisa Payne

Stephen Ministry: Callie McMahon

Sunday School: Shelly Frost

Trustees: Jerry Theriault

White Tops: Everett Gale

Worship: John Millhouse

Youth Group: Tom Knapp, Kerri-Lynn
Kimner

Any questions? Please call our office during office hours, listed below.

Office Hours

Monday through Friday

9 a.m.—1 p.m.

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri

2 p.m.-6 p.m.

At times, our hours may vary slightly. If you need to be sure someone is here, please call ahead.

february 2014

Sunday Services:
8:30-Spirit Celebration
10:45-Traditional Worship

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1 3-5—Super Bowl Pizza Pick-up
2 Sermon: "The Light of Day" Eccles 11:7-8 Genesis 1:1-5 5—Youth Group 7—Caring Vets	3	4	5 8—White Tops 1—Lamplighters 6:30—Quilting Ministry 7—Worship Committee	6 6—Bell Choir rehearsal 7—Concert Rehearsal 8—Chancel Choir	7 7—Youth Group Lock-In drop off 7:30—Praise Band	8 8—YG Pick-up
9 Sermon: "The Light of Change" Acts 26:12-20 Matthew 18:1-4 5—Youth Group	10 7—Outreach Committee 7—Trustee's Committee	11	12 8—White Tops 1—Lamplighters 7—Stephen Ministry Supervision	13 6—Bell Choir rehearsal 7—Concert Rehearsal 8—Chancel Choir	14  7:30—Praise Band	15 10-1—Craft Fair Workshop
16 Sermon: "The Light of Forgiveness" I John 2:4-11 Colossians 1:9-14 5—Youth Group 7—Caring Vets	17 7—Finance Committee	18	19 8—White Tops 1—Lamplighters 6:30—Quilting Ministry 7—Ad Council	20 6—Bell Choir rehearsal 7—Concert Rehearsal 8—Chancel Choir	21 7:30—Praise Band	22
23 Sermon: "Let Your Light Shine" Matthew 5:13-16 Luke 11:33-36 5—Youth Group	24	25	26 8—White Tops 1—Lamplighters 7—Stephen Ministry Supervision	27 7—Concert Rehearsal 8—Chancel Choir	28 7:30—Praise Band	



Milford United Methodist Church
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www.milfordumc.org

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

February, 2014

Sunday Worship Times:
8:30 Contemporary Worship
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.

