



# The Outreach

The newsletter of the Milford United Methodist Church  
July, 2024, Milford, NH, Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

## Pastor's Corner

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Co-travelers in Christ,

This month Pastor John is on the Mission Trip and I wanted to offer him a break from column writing and he agreed. Instead, here are some great pictures of what's happening in Dinwiddie Virginia with Pastor John and the youth, Tom Knapp and all the adults helping out. We are so Proud !



The full team ready to go!



Working, resting, praying, playing, finished tasks! Christ's hands and feet!

Blessings,  
*Pastor John*

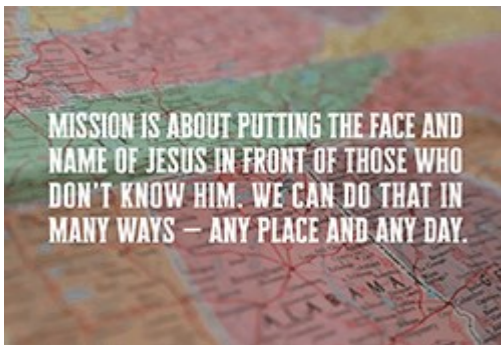
## Mission Team Update From Pat Rafter

Thank you all for the overwhelming response to the Mother's/ Father's Day collections for Bed Nets for Malaria. The team initially set a goal for 10 bed nets and the crowd creation surpassed that many times over. \$1142 was collected and 55 nets were purchased from World Vision. Simply amazing!

Steve Rafter reported a great turn out for the Habitat work day on June 15. Many jobs were completed and it is hoped the recipient will be in her home by September. Volunteers were Andrea and Andy Baver, Pastor John, Jim Kostuk, Stephanie Mossey, Kris Jensen, Eric Jensen, Gavin Lawton, Morgan Keaton and Steve Rafter.

Early August we will begin collecting back to school supplies for SHARE. Please keep an eye out for info in the next edition of this newsletter.

We welcome any new ideas and members to this team. We meet the 4th Tuesday of each month excluding July. We are a happy bunch looking to reach out into the community where there is need.



What helps you sort out what you're feeling, or experience an emotion more deeply? What allows you to let loose and cry, or fully celebrate when you're joyful? Nature helps some of us get in touch with our feelings, perhaps because it removes us from screens and other distractions.

But when getting out isn't possible — no mountain lake is nearby, or the weather isn't tranquil — consider the gift of music. Often instrumental or vocal music helps us access the depths of our soul like nothing else can. God may even speak to us through music — whether in song lyrics, our own inner thoughts or wordless stirrings of the heart.

Albert Schweitzer, a pastor, musicologist, physician and more, said, "Joy, sorrow, tears, lamentation, laughter — to all these music gives voice, but in such a way that we are transported from the world of unrest to a world of peace, and see reality in a new way, as if we were sitting by a mountain lake and contemplating hills and woods and clouds in the tranquil and fathomless water."



Make some playlists for various emotions: joy, grief, anxiety, hope. Then imagine yourself relaxing in nature, and experience God's love.

### MEN'S MINISTRY HOSTS Men's Breakfast

Third Saturday of the Month Each Quarter  
8:30-10:30 a.m.

2024 Breakfast Schedule

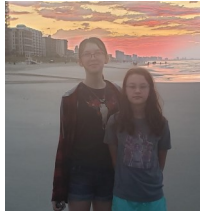
August 17th

November 16th

**Please RSVP** a week before each breakfast so we have a headcount for the meal. Sign up sheets will be posted or contact Jim Lawler at [bigdady522000@gmail.com](mailto:bigdady522000@gmail.com)

# Our MUMC Family Out in the World

MUMC



Emma & Haylee Lambert at Myrtle Beach

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

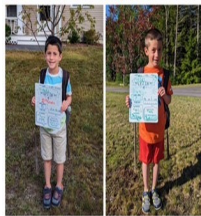


Lincoln St, Jean

folks are still



Grace St, Jean Graduated



L. Jonah Farnsworth 1st & last day.  
R. Cora, Emmy, & Avery



L. Maeve & Nora Farley Baptism R Habitat Mission work. Go team!



L. Steve Takacs leading the Temple Band R. Where are the Harvey-Olson's?



L. Dot Disjohn with Paul on her 92 B'day R. Jacob Erdody!



I'd love to show you and your family finding or spreading Joy... Won't you share? Facebook friend me or email to the office. office@milfordumc.org

## A declaration of interdependence

"Dependence does not destroy human personality," writes Donald F. Baillie. Instead, people are "never so fully and so truly personal as when [they are] living in complete dependence upon God." Jesus modeled this type of living by depending completely on his heavenly Father.

In that light, let it be declared and hereby celebrated ...

- That all people everywhere depend on one another.
  - That everyone needs everyone else for freedom, life, love and happiness.
  - That all things in the natural order depend on everything else.
  - That the Earth and all planets and stars are mutually dependent.
  - That this universally shared dependence comes from God and is of God.
- And that each individual part of this relationship has its own role in fulfilling God's plan.

## Share Supper July 15, 2024

Look for signup sheets in the Narthex



## In July SHARE Is Collecting

Canned Fruit, Flour, Sugar, Coffee & Tea, Juice, Instant Rice, Cold Cereal, Instant Oatmeal Packets, Individually Wrapped Snacks



## VOICE

**From Callie McMahon**

In June, Bishop Peggy Johnson published an article intitled "Let's do something on immigration". In that article she sited some scripture verses and asked what those verses meant for us as Christians. Here are the verses.

*When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God." — Leviticus 19:33-34*

*"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." — Matthew 25:35*

*"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." — Hebrews 13:2*

She said," I can think of few things more challenging than the immigration crisis in the United States today. It is no surprise that our lawmakers are unable to pass laws that will improve this situation. We're stuck! It is complicated, politically divisive, with overtones of racism, xenophobia, greed, nationalism, and fear."

She is so right. Just bringing my thoughts to this newsletter is done cautiously as I know there are so many opinions, but regardless of your opinion, we can all agree that something needs to be done. Bishop Peggy talked about seeing the situation firsthand when she travelled to Browns-

ville Texas. She talks of "seeing families in cages with children wrapped in mylar blankets, sullen and thin". Our own United Methodist organizations, United Methodist Women in Faith and the Immigration Law and Justice Network issued a statement opposing the action President Biden took in early June, putting a hold on the number of immigrants coming into our borders (limit 2500 between all entry points).

They said, "we believe our country has a moral responsibility to ensure a fair process for asylum seekers and the humane treatment of migrants. As people of faith and as people of moral conscience, we demand better."

I agree, we can do better, I will list the ideas Bishop Peggy recommends at the end of this article, but I want to add a few thoughts to move us to action.

Can we think of a situation that would spur us to move our families out of our hometown? What would it have to look like to move your family, can we even imagine something that would send us off on a long, dangerous trip to the unknown? I do not believe that we, like a vast majority of Americans who live in relative peace and safety can imagine it. I think, because we can't, we might use an inability to empathize as a free pass that brings us to the conclusion that, "they're just taking advantage of us", or they want a free ride, or any other words you might say that clearly show our inability to put ourselves in such a mindset; to walk a mile in their shoes. I have no intention of trying to change your beliefs, but I would

Cont'd pg. 8



If you see any of these folks around town, be sure to wish them a happy day!

**Birthdays**

- July 2:** Sue Story
- July 6:** Lindsay Lambert
- July 12:** Emeline Tyler-Wall
- July 13:** Paula Muller
- July 15:** Kirk Randlett
- July 17:** Rick Masters
- July 18:** Shannon Gutterson
- July 21:** Arthur Harkness
- July 22:** Kris Harrington
- July 23:** Ellen Mercer
- July 23:** Rebecca Hart
- July 24:** Neva Harvey-Olson
- July 25:** Josh Rafter
- July 26:** Holleigh Tlapa
- July 31:** Aspen Tlapa

**Anniversaries**

- July 26:** Alexis Eaton & Tom Knapp
- July 27:** Elizabet & John Whitley
- July 31:** Tim & Jaclyn Herlihy

We would love to include you on the birthday and anniversary list. Won't you share your special dates at [office@milfordumc.org](mailto:office@milfordumc.org)



**This Month's Lectionary**

**July 7:** 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10' Psalm 48. 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13

**July 14:** 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19, Psalm 24 Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:14-29

**July 21:** 2 Samuel 7:1-14a, Psalm 89:20-37, Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**July 28:** 2 Samuel 11:1-15, Psalm 14, Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21



**Driving Ministry**

If you are in need of a ride and have no place to turn, call the office and we will notify the driving ministry to help you out. This program is primarily directed to our handicapped and seniors, but anybody who needs a ride and can't find one is eligible. There is no charge for this service. Office 603-673-2669 Steve Takacs 603-672-5118

[office@milfordumc.org](mailto:office@milfordumc.org)  
[trumpetchoo@msn.com](mailto:trumpetchoo@msn.com)



## Family Life

LeeAnne Steenhoek Director Youth and Family Ministry, MUMC

Friends,

We eagerly anticipate MASSIVE FUN AND HUZZAH'S including much REVELRY this Vacation Bible School VBS season. We've assembled a great team of musicians, crafters, scientists, worship leaders and snack specialists to partner with kids to join in the merriment of Camp Firelight July 12, 6-8PM and July 13, 9-3. We will sing VBS Songs for worship Sunday July 14.

Our key Bible verse for Camp Firelight is from Psalm 56:3: ***Whenever I am afraid, I put my trust in you!***

This camp is for families. If you'd like to stay and participate with your child-fun! If you'd like to drop off your Kindergarten-6th grade child, see Jess Farnsworth or LeeAnne.

Please reach out to Jess or LeeAnne if you feel prompted to be a part of our experience. (603)864-9005 text or call LeeAnne or [youthfamilyministrydirector@umc.org](mailto:youthfamilyministrydirector@umc.org).

VBS is the culmination of our program year. Children's Church will begin again August 25. The Family Worship Room will remain open.

Reflection:

Firelight brings us to communal spaces of cooking, warmth and song. I learned this with the Girl Scouts at Camp Yankee Trails, CT:

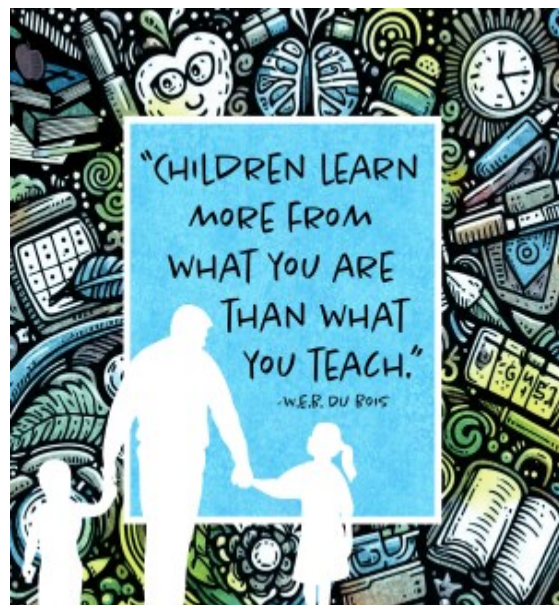
The flicker of the campfire,  
The wind in the pines:  
The stars in the heavens,  
A moon that shines,  
A place for all to gather,

Make friends of all kinds,  
A place where all our troubles  
Are left behind  
So give me the light of the campfire  
warm and bright,  
Give me some friends to sing with,  
I'll be here all night,  
Love is for those who find it,  
I found mine right here.  
Just you and me and the campfire,  
And the songs we love to hear.  
Da-da-da-da-da-da-dee-da-da-da...

There's nothing quite like sleeping out under the stars in a sleeping bag or baking an apple in campfire coals waiting for all the sweet juicy yumminess to ooze onto your tongue-and often down your chin. Some of us really love S'More Church as well as s'mores at church. These communal spaces are entry points for friendships to form and faith to grow.

Peace and All Good,

LeeAnne



# Milford United Methodist Church

327 NORTH RIVER ROAD  
MILFORD, NH

invites you to a weekend of Vacation Bible School.



Friday, July 12th 6-8 PM  
& Saturday, July 13th 9 AM-3PM

“Littles” (preschool age) must be accompanied by an adult. K to 6th graders may be dropped off.

Music, stories, crafts, science, games, and snacks!

Questions? Call or text:  
(603) 864-9005

**Think before you spritz or spray. Someone will thank you.!**

Scents can make some people sick.

## Noise Offering for Wanakee

July 14, 2024

This collection will happen the 2nd Sunday of the month. Quiet Money is always welcome too!



## Can we help?

Do you need extra help to hear the service or to read the bulletins or hymnal? Call the office and let us know how we can help you. 603-673-2669. Leave a message with your phone number.



See page 9 of this edition for new help with hearing.



Next Crafting Workshop  
September  
TBD  
12:30-3 p.m.

## Coordinator Needed

From Pat Rafter

We are still looking for one or two more volunteers for Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Won't you consider taking a weekend or two? The work is not terribly time consuming and you will have great instructions.

Please see Pat Rafter, Diane Miller or Sue Kostuk if interested.



From pg.4

urge you to remember there are real, live, flesh and blood, children of God who suffer enough to take such drastic and for us, uncomprehensible action.

Bishop Peggy adds; "I just want to say one thing: **do something.**"

Here are some ideas: pray, give money to immigration support groups, volunteer to help with the immigrant people in your community, contact your lawmakers. You can choose but do something. Doing nothing makes us complicit with the status quo.

Bishop Peggy has been reading [Everyday Ubuntu: Living Better Together the African Way](#) by Mungi Ngomane, and says she loves this quote: "Apathy and isolation have sometimes led us to think our contribution to causes we believe in has no value. However, we all have a voice. And its loudest when it's expressed alongside the voices of others. There is always strength in numbers."

We may not be able to fix this huge problem but we can make a difference. It will give life and hope to people who are living under great oppression. It is far better to do something to help than to complain.

How you can do something

### Places where you can give:

New England Justice for Our Neighbors –

<https://newenglandjfon.org/>

Immigration Law & Justice Network –

<https://iljnetwork.org/>

UMCORR – [Global Migration and Refugees](http://umcmmission.org) (umcmmission.org)

### Find out how to speak to your lawmakers:

[General Board of Church & Society on immigration](#)

[Find your lawmakers' names/contact info](#)

**Prayer** – Available anytime, anywhere; the Lord is always listening.



Next Crafting  
Workshop

September 4,

&

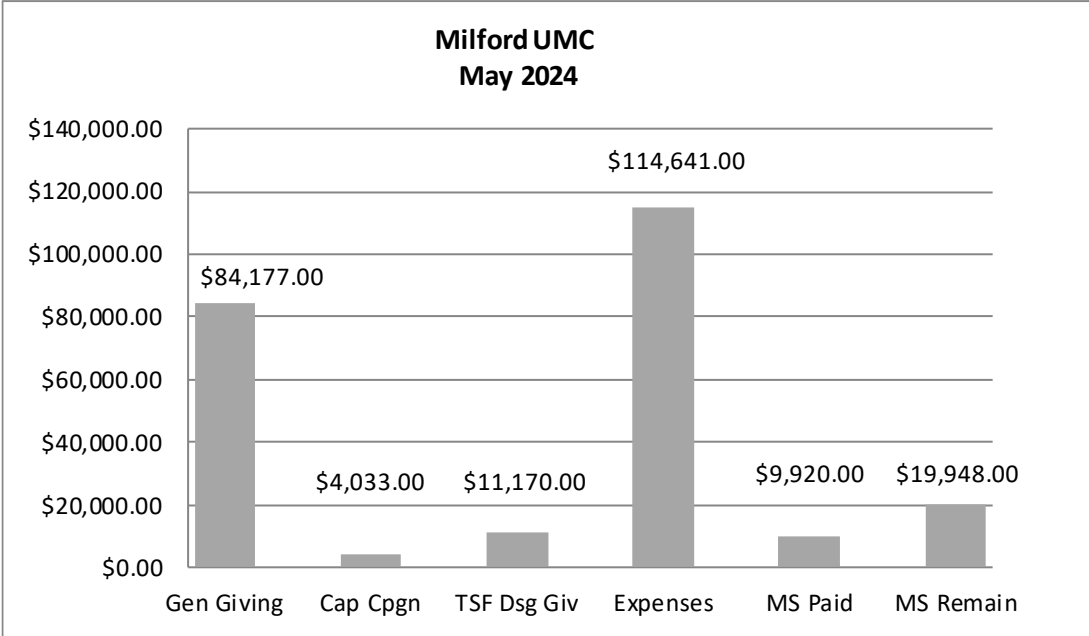
September 28, 2024

12:30-3 p.m.



# Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



YTD Financials	
General Giving	\$84,177.00
Cap Campaign	\$4,033.00
TSF Dsg Giv *	\$11,170.00
Expenses	\$114,641.00
Mission Shares Paid	\$ 9,920.00
Mission Shares	\$19,948.00

\*Dsg = Designated giving accounts that are being used to fund items that show up in the Expense category. The two areas this month were Other Designated funds not budgeted (that is where the Mission Share designated money goes) and the Future Fund (that is where we have designated funds set aside to fund the Youth and Ministry Director position if we are unable to do it from general giving).



The miracle of giving is that giving makes miracles.  
—Bishop Robert E. Goodrich

MUMC giving QR Code

# Committees, Groups and Ministries

If you are interested in becoming involved with, or learning more about, a committee or group on the

**Administrative (Ad) Council: Janet Hromjak**  
*Reviews monthly committee meetings, discusses pending issues and votes on church-wide decisions.*

**Adult Mission Trip Steve & Pat Rafter**

**Bell Choir: Heidi Rocha**  
*For adults and older kids interested in hand bell ringing.*

**Christian Aftercare Ministry: Callie McMahon**  
*Serving primarily men leaving prison, helping them settle in new homes and productive, positive lives.*

**Chancel Choir: Jennifer Erdody**  
*Open to adults and teens interested in singing in the Chancel Choir at the second service.*

**Community Supper: Kerri-Lynn Kimner**  
*A supper we host at SHARE in Milford every 6-8 weeks. Volunteer to help bake or prep ahead of time, or to work at the supper itself. **Restart Coming Soon***

**Driving Ministry– Steve Takacs**  
*Provides transportation for those in need of help. Call the church office for contact information.*

**Finance: Andy Bayer**  
*Oversees church financial commitments*

**Home Groups: Steve Rafter (Thursday) or Callie McMahon (Friday) **hold due to covid****  
*Expands spiritual experience in a social context, meeting at a host's homes.*

**Lamplighters: Carol Rowlette & Elaine Driscoll**  
*A Bible-study group for women.*

**Nominations: Pastor John.** *Matches people with the committees they might be interested in serving on.*

**Outreach: Is now Mission/Outreach Diane Miller**

**Sue Kostuk** *Focuses on ways our church can reach out to the local, regional and international community.*

**Children & Family :** LeeAnne Steenhoek

Focuses on involving Children and Families in church events and spiritual growth.. Family Worship room available during service

**Children's Church:** LeeAnne Steenhoek  
10:40 Sunday morning year round.

**Praise Band: Steve Rafter, Lisa Payne, Rudy Rumohr**  
*Contemporary Christian music that plays at the first service on Sunday.*

**Staff Parish Relations (SPR): Sue Rudolf**  
*This committee acts as liaison between our staff and the congregation.*

**MUMC Care Team:** Callie McMahon  
*Provides confidential one-on-one Christian care with trained lay ministers.*

**Trustees: Steve Rafter**  
*Oversees and facilitates the care and keeping of the church building and parsonage.*

**White Tops: Everett Gale**  
*A social group for retired men of all denominations.*

**Worship Committee: Carol Rowlette**  
*Plans and facilitates Sunday service needs and organizes special Sundays*

**Worship Design: Steve Rafter**  
*Plans music and worship for the contemporary Sunday service.*

**Vacation Bible School: LeeAnne Steenhoek, Karin Harvey Olson**

*Usually happens in July. A time for the kids to be immersed in learning about Jesus.*

**VOICE** *Giving voice to the marginalized in our community. Janet Hromjak, Claire Holston, Callie McMahon. Esther Thayer, Kerri-Lynn Kimner, Kathy Wood, Annika Weis*

**Men's Group: Jim Lawler**  
*For men interested in fellowship and service. Meet Sunday Evenings*

**Youth Mission Trip Tom Knapp**



2024

For Virtual Services starting at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, join Us On-Line from our Facebook page Milford United Methodist Church, A Reconciling Congregation or YouTube milfordumc or from the Website milfordumc.org

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<b>1</b> 6 SPRC Virtual 7 Trustees	<b>2</b> 7 p Praise Band	<b>3</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplight- ers	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30 Spirit Cele- bration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sun- day School 10:30 Traditional Service 6 p Men's Group	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7 p Praise Band	<b>10</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplight- ers	<b>11</b> 12 Hybrid Study 5:45 Bells 7:- Chancel Choir 1	<b>12</b> 6-8 pm VBS Camp Firelight	<b>13</b> VBS 9a-3p
<b>14</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebra- tion 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sun- day School 10:30 Traditional Service 6 p Men's Group	<b>15</b> 5:45- VOICE	<b>16</b> 5p Mission 6p Finance  7 p Praise Band	<b>17</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplight- ers 6 Potluck 6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom	<b>18</b> 12 Hybrid Study 5:45 Bells 7:- Chancel Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8:30 Spirit Cel- ebration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sun- day School 10:30 Traditional Service 6 p Men's Group	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7 p Praise Band	<b>24</b> 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamplight- ers 6 Potluck 6:30 Prayer /	<b>25</b> 12 Hybrid Study 5:45 Bells 7:- Chancel Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 Spirit Cele- bration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sun- day School 10:30 Traditional Service 6 p Men's Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			



## Milford United Methodist Church

327 No. River Rd  
PO Box 476  
Milford, NH 03055  
(603) 673-2669  
www.milfordumc.org

July 2024

### Sunday Worship Times:

8:30a. Spirit Celebration, 10:30a. Traditional Service, 9:40a Adult Sunday School & Children's church. Watch Us Online Facebook & YouTube @10:30 Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

# Milford United Methodist Church

*A Reconciling Church*

*Discover the Joy!*

Rev. Dr. John Whitley, Pastor

### *Our Mission:*

The Milford United Methodist Church exists to help **all** people discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ.

### *Our Vision:*

We will help all 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.

### *Welcoming & Inclusion Statement:*

Milford United Methodist Church is a welcoming and inclusive church which celebrates that all persons are created in God's image and are of sacred worth. We welcome and serve persons without regard to age, race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, family configuration, religious background, economic status, or developmental and physical abilities. Milford United Methodist Church recognizes the diversity of the Body of Christ and gives thanks to God for this divine gift. We invite ALL to discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ.