

The Outreach

The newsletter of the Milford United Methodist Church
March 2012—Milford, NH



Adult Mission Trip 2012

From Pat Rafter



Plans are underway for our Adult Mission Trip for 2012. We will be going back to Down East Maine Missions in



September. The exact date is still yet to be determined, but it looks like it will be either Sept 16-22 or Sept 7-12. We found our time last fall in Maine to be very rewarding.



A group of seven or eight people has already formed and fundraising efforts have started. Costs for this trip will be approx \$300 per person. At least \$75 needs to be covered by each attendee (this pays for fees charged by the facility for housing).



If needed, assistance is available for the remaining amount through participation in adult and youth mission team fundraising efforts.



Mission trips like this involve all members of the

(Continued on page 5)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor Tom's Message 2

Thursday Night Home Group 3

Grow Your Own Food 4

White Tops News 5

Adult & Youth Mission Team Fundraisers 6

Creative Ways You Can Help MUMC 8

March Calendar 13

*Sam Boissonnault proves that one person can make a difference, selling hot cocoa by the road to raise money for cancer research, in honor of his grandpa and a friend at church. **Good job, Sam!***



Photo submitted by Carol Brooks.

A Message from the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

I'm at it again. Some of you will remember that last January my wife and I embarked upon an intensive health and fitness program that began with a week-long "cleanse" that involved eating only fruits, vegetables, nuts, and a small bit of lean meat. Foodwise, from there, the program called for slowly reintroducing dairy, wheat, and slightly larger portions of meat or fish, but *not* reintroducing processed foods, sugar, red meat, caffeine, or at least drastically limiting our intake of any of those types of food. Regular exercise was also called for. A year later, Wendy and I are both slimmer and healthier. But not surprisingly, there has been a bit of slippage along the way—bad habits began to creep back in. And so, this New Year's, we both resolved to get back on track, starting with another week-long cleanse. For a variety of reasons, we were not able to embark on our cleanse for several weeks after New Year's. But finally, starting during the third week of February, we started our cleanse. As I write, I am in the middle of this week, and so far, so good.

The strange thing is that it never really occurred to me that we were starting our cleanse just as Lent was beginning. But here it is, the first week of Lent, and we are right in the middle of this very Lenten activity of self-denial, and fasting from many of our favorite foods.

And as the weeks of Lent roll on, we will be continuing in this same sort of mode, albeit less vigorously, as we seek to reset our eating habits on a healthier course. And just as it was last year, it has been a spiritual journey as much as a physical one.

Now, that is our journey. And your journey will be different. But in a sense, isn't that what Lent is all about—to intentionally engage in a cleansing of the soul, resetting our spiritual diet so that we are making better, more intentional choices, and to deny ourselves some of our favorite things so that we can focus our energies on better things? Perhaps that is why so many of us do give up certain foods for Lent—we somehow sense that there is a link between physical food and spiritual food. After all, God chose to make us both a body and a spirit, and to inextricably link those two aspects of our being together.

Whether or not you give up certain types of food during Lent, what are you doing or what will you do this Lenten season that will provide for some cleansing of your soul, and the renewing of health in your spirit? My prayers are for us all that we will truly experience the cleansing power of God's grace throughout this holy season.

Still discovering the joy,



Rafter's Thursday Night Home Group Update

From Pat Rafter

Thanks to all who have donated books for the Rafter's Home Group Book Collection. By the time you are reading this, we will have collected nearly \$1500 for SHARE through our book collection in the last 11 months, thanks to the hard work of our member Liane Wright. We are going to be continuing this effort and will be extending our collection to DVD's (not VHS) and books on CD (not cassette). The only stipulation is, all books, DVD's and CD's, be in good condition. The age of these items does not matter! So if you have friends, neighbors, family or coworkers that are readers and are looking for a place for their old books to go, we are the answer. Please drop them off at the church in the box under the coat rack. If you need us to come pick them up please call Liane Wright (672-6851) or Pat Rafter (673-4516) to arrange a time for pick up.

We have also adopted the library room at the church. Did you know we had a library? Well we do, and there have been many who have worked to organize the books over the decades at MUMC. Since moving to our new building, the library was overtaken by the computer lab and recently has become the dumping grounds for technical equipment. With permission of the trustees, the computers that are not working have been removed and will be sent to the e-recycling collection in May. We have gone through many of the old books and removed books with

a copyright date before 1990. Those books will be available through April 1, for the congregation to take home (not to return!). After April 1 the left-over books will be put in the Yard Sale. Our plans are to make this a quiet room that you can go to, to look for something to take home to read or sit and enjoy a book in a quiet comfortable place. There will also be two computers available for your use if needed. We also hope to have some DVD's, VHS, and some books on CD. If you have NEW inspirational material appropriate for our church library, please let someone from our home group know and we will add it to the library shelves.

Lastly, if you have interest in checking out our home group, please give Steve Rafter a call or shoot him an e-mail (582-1352 or SBRou812@aol.com) we meet every Thursday night @ 7 p.m. We are a fun loving group with an eye towards outreach to needy persons in our community and also the recognition of local police, ambulance, fire fighters and care givers.

Blessings to all,

Steve and Pat Rafter

Betty and Mike Herlihy

Bill Jacobs and Dee Locsin Jacobs

Liane Wright

Michele and Jon Bossie

Shelly Frost

Seasoned Generation

From Dick & Roberta Randlett

February 18th was our Movie Night and we had 26 in attendance. The movie was *Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont*, a comedy/drama, and it was excellent. The movie was viewed in the Sanctuary and following the movie we had delicious treats that each brought to share. We had coffee and everyone definitely enjoyed the full table of goodies.

There was also a great deal of discussion about the movie as everyone noticed immediately that one of the leads in the movie was or could have been our own Les. There was much discussion regarding this strong resemblance to Les both in looks and in mannerism that was truly astounding. Sunday morning Les was bombarded by those who viewed the film telling him what fine acting he did in this movie. Les, you need to see this film!!

Our next meeting is a St. Patrick's Day party to be held at Roberta and Richard Randlett's home in Brookline. Directions, if needed, will be available. The dress for the evening will be something green or orange and once again you are asked to bring a treat to share, perhaps green or orange. We will provide punch (perhaps green or orange). Have you noticed there is a theme here??? There will be some unique games to play and so come and enjoy a good ole St Patrick's Day (evening) celebration. The evening begins at 7 p.m. An RSVP is

(Continued on page 5)

Grow Your Own Food

From Marcy Stanton

If you are an aspiring gardener and would like some help getting started with growing vegetables in your back yard or on the deck, this series of three workshops can help you. All ages and abilities are welcome to attend any or all days.

Session 1 – March 18, 5:00-7:30 p.m. “Planning your garden, soil testing, and starting seeds.” Learn what makes a good gardening space whether you are using containers and raised beds or creating larger beds in your yard. We will talk about seed selection and organic gardening options and provide instructions on how to test your soil. You will be able to dig in as we do a hands-on session for starting seeds. We will finish by discussing germination and care of seedlings.

Session 2 – April 22, 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. “Creating the garden and early planting.” Visit us to learn about composting, soil preparation, mulching, direct seeding, transplanting how-to and scheduling, a demonstration on making raised bed with wood frame and a lasagna garden, critter control and irrigation.

Session 3— End of May, date TBD, “Planting and maintenance.” We will cover planting, including inter-planting and successional, watering, weeding, feeding, insect and disease prevention and do some hands-on planting. Volunteers can set up watering and maintenance schedules.

Adult Mission Trip, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

congregation the 'pray-ers', the players and the payers! If you are not able to attend but would like to make a donation to the adult mission team, please place a check in the collection plate with a notation in the memo that it is for the adult mission trip.

Funds for the purchase of a used enclosed utility trailer are budgeted as part of our fundraising needs. This trailer will allow us to better equip our emergency response team, our adult mission teams, and assist members of the community. If you have one for sale or know of someone with such a trailer please speak with Steve Rafter (673-1352). If you would like more information about our trip, please speak with Steve Rafter, Pat Rafter or Lisa Payne.

Seasoned Gen., cont.

(Continued from page 4)

always helpful so please call 672-4997 and we hope to see many of you here.

The next event will be held April 21st at the church with a pot luck dinner at 6 p.m. followed by another exciting Scavenger Hunt. Bring a digital camera as you will need it for the hunt. More information on this event later. We will have a listing of our events posted soon.

White Tops News

From Everett Gale

How would you like to spend a few hours with the MUMC White Tops (ages 55 to 100) Men's Group? We meet every Wednesday morning from 8 to 10:30 a.m. We enjoy a cup of coffee and fresh donuts, discuss a multitude of topics (sometimes several at once), have a "show and tell" from time to time and work on a few church projects. We even go out to breakfast when our funds will support it.

To date we have donated \$485 to the church discretionary fund, purchased a wall mounted first aid kit and refurbished six tables.

White Tops is an opportunity to meet new friends, enjoy a cup of java and get out of the house. Everyone is welcome. Questions, call Everett Gale at 672-9441.



Plans are in progress for a celebration and gift in honor of, and in appreciation for, Marian Kopp's many years of service to MUMC. Letters or notes of appreciation or fond memories and monetary contributions may be given to any member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee: Lisa Payne, Marilynn Edmonson, Jason St. Jean, Sharon Putney, Keith Ladeau, Christian O'Shaughnessy, Kerry Chamberlin, Linda Lambert or Bill Wrocklage. **Thank you!**

Origins of the Bible Workshop

Saturday, March 31st

9:30-11:30 am

Have you ever wondered how the Bible as we know it was formed? How did the books of the Bible get picked to be in the Bible, and why? Why were other writings like the Gospel of Thomas not included? Join Pastor Tom as he shares some of the fascinating history of the book we now know as the Bible came to be.

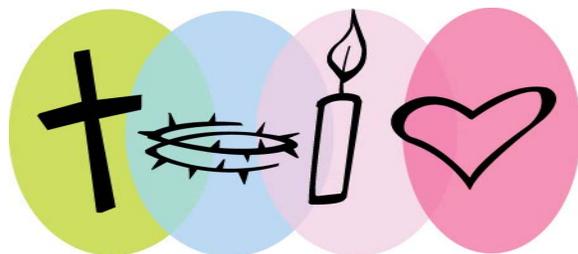
Adult and Youth Mission Team Fundraisers

From Pat Rafter

MUMC's Adult and Youth Mission Teams band together for fundraising efforts in 2012. We had our first fundraising event in February with our Super Bowl Pizza sale. Thanks to all that supported our efforts.... 82 pizzas sold!

Here are our other joint fundraising efforts planned for early 2012:

- March 24: The **Spaghetti Supper** will be from 5-6:30 p.m. Tickets will go on sale early March. More information to follow.
- **Silent Talent Auction** begins April 15 through April 29. Tables will be set up in the narthex for items and services that you can bid on for 3 weeks. Winners will be contacted after service on April 29.
- **Wicked Awesome YAAArd Sale**, Used Clothing Sale and Electronic Recycling will be held on May 19. Drop-offs for yard sale items and clothing will be on April 21, 28 and May 5. We are encouraging e-recycling items to be dropped off on May 19 only, due to lack of storage space. More information to follow in April Newsletter.



Wanakee Concert



Starring
The
KIDS OF
MUMC!



When: Saturday, March 17 at 7 p.m.

What: To benefit the Wanakee Campership Fund

Where: Milford United Methodist Church



What does it mean to
be human?

What is our capacity for
inhumanity... or compassion?

Join us during Lent to
consider these questions in
many ways, including a staged
reading of...

The Elephant Man

A play by Bernard Pomerance

Saturday, March 31 at 7 p.m.

Lamplighter's News

From Carol Rowlette

The Lamplighter's Women's Bible Study meets every Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. at the church. From 1-1:30 we have a snack, coffee or tea, and socialize. At 1:30 we have a devotion and share our joys and concerns, then move on to our study.

During the month of February we studied the book of Acts and had many interesting conversations regarding our thoughts and understandings of scripture. We read the lessons for the day in class, therefore no preparation was needed. We have many different versions of scripture which adds to our discussions. Come and join us, we will be happy to see you.

Thank you to everyone who baked for the Valentine's Sweet Sale and thank you to everyone who purchased the wonderful wide variety of sweets available. The sale was a super success. Thank you for your support of the Lamplighters.

"God planned for us to do good things and to live as He always wanted us to live. That is why he sent Christ to make us what we are."

- Ephesians 2:10

News from SHARE

From Carolyn Momenee and Kathi Beane



**For the month of March MUMC is collecting:
Cleaning products,
toilet paper, and
sandwich bread**

The Food Pantry was extremely busy in January. There were 176 standard household appointments, providing food for 584 individuals. There were 15 new households. There were also 58 emergency food appointments, providing food for 173 individuals. That is a record high number of emergency appointments.

Needless to say, your donations are very important and very needed. Thank you for your continuous support of the Pantry.

For more information about the Lamplighter's



Kathy Bradfield
Kjbradfield@comcast.net
487-5574

Elaine Driscoll
Geldris@comcast.net
673-4270

Carol Rowlette
Carolleero@aol.com
673-5403

Creative Ways to Give to Your Church

From Pat Rafter

Lisa Payne, Liane Wright and Pat Rafter will be collecting donations of old and/or broken gold and silver jewelry. We can also take sterling silver table settings, trays, tea pots, etc. If you have any questions about these items please speak with one of these women. These donations will be given to a friend of Alexis Eaton who will melt it down and will pay us for the gold and silver. This money will go towards United Methodist Missions Shares, and the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Collections will begin on March 1 and continue for 6 months. At that time a decision will be made as to how to further proceed. Please consider this alternate way of giving to help support the missions of MUMC.



During January's Broken Bread Café Les Coates and Chris Horne lead worship with music and poetry while Lily, Dan and Max Ayotte, Wendy Getchell-Lacey and Wally Ammon look on.

Christmas Fair Workshops

From Pat Rafter

Please think about attending a craft workshop over the next few months. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to come and check out what we are putting together for the next fair. If you will be growing a garden this summer, please keep us in mind when you have surplus veggies, like cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, onions, strawberries and other berries. If you like to can, we could use some donations for our Country Cupboard. Presently we only have a few people that donate canned jams, jellies, relishes, pickles and salsas. At the fair these items always sell out!

We are also looking for someone to help with organizing the café or to take over the Country Cupboard so that Pat Rafter can focus on one or the other. If you have interest in either of these areas, please speak with Pat Rafter (673-4516) a.s.a.p.

We have lots of projects planned for the next several months and just need the hands to help put them together. It's always a pleasant experience! There is a box under the coat rack for donations of canning jars (screw top style), material (Christmas colors), ribbon, craft paint, small coffee cans, polyfill and other crafting supplies.

**Our 2012 workshop dates are:
Mar 10, April 7, May 12 & June 9**

Bits & Pieces...



Spaghetti Supper!

Don't cry!

We'll do all the work!

Saturday, March 24, 5-6:30

Tickets are \$8 per person, age 5-10 are \$5, under 5 free, look for more information in the weekly bulletins and posted in the narthex.

All proceeds to benefit the Adult & Youth Mission Teams and their work.

From the Finance Committee

The weekly offering envelopes for 2012 are now available. If you are currently using the weekly envelopes and do not wish to continue in the new year (maybe because you will be contributing through online banking), please let Natalie Parker, 654-9493, or the church office know your wishes. Likewise, if you would like to begin using envelopes, please let Natalie know. We are grateful and thank you for your contributions to carry out the mission of the church, however you choose to present them.

Adult Sunday School

Meeting Sunday mornings between services. All are welcome. Join us weekly (or drop in when you can) for thoughtful discussions of the Sunday's scripture based on the Lectionary. (The Lectionary is a list of selected scripture readings set out ahead of time that take us through the whole calendar year.)

Donate Bread Loaves on Communion Sunday, March 4.

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

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.

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, make it payable to Milford United Methodist Church with the memo "Wanakee Scholarships."



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!

Monday's at 7 p.m. @ The Balam's home, call 673-0105

Tuesday's at 7 p.m. @ The Reed's home, call 673-6950

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

Friday's at 6 p.m. @ The McMahon's home, call 673-5239

Do You Have a Name Badge?

Name badges can be printed up anytime (in batches of 8 per page) 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.



Anniversaries and Birthdays

Birthdays:

Greg Cyr	March 5
Keith Taylor	March 6
Sabrina Logue	March 13
Pat Rafter	March 14
Tom Getchell-Lacey	March 14
Bronwyn Tyler-Wall	March 14
Nicole Masters	March 15
Kevin Cyr	March 17
Rick Westergren	March 26
Robyn Metcalf	March 28
Charlie Kaufold	March 30

Anniversaries:

Robert & Dorothy Ledger	March 5
Kevin & Susan Drew	March 26

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



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.

Afternoon Off: Dee Locsin
 Bell Choirs: Mary Tyler Wall
 Chancel Choir: Sally Landis
 Church Council: Callie McMahan
 Home Groups: Les Coates
 Lamplighters: Kathy Bradfield, Elaine Driscoll, Carol Rowlette
 Men's Breakfast: Jon Bossie
 Outreach: Wendy Getchell-Lacey
 Praise Band: Michele Bossie
 Sacred Dance: Rebecca Hart
 Seasoned Generation: Dick & Roberta Randlett
 Staff Parish Relations: Lisa Payne
 Stephen Ministry: Callie McMahan
 Sunday School: Shannon Gutterson
 Trustees: Jim Frost
 White Tops: Everett Gale
 Worship: Vivian Balam
 Youth Group: Becky Ladeau, Tom Knapp and Steve Kimner

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

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
 Tuesday: hours vary, please call ahead

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

Church E-mail Addresses:

Pastor Tom Getchell-Lacey	pastor@milfordumc.org
Leslie Coates, Ministry Director:	leslie@milfordumc.org
Wendy Ayotte, Office Manager:	office@milfordumc.org



March 2012

Sunday Worship Services:

8:30—Spirit Celebration

9:40—Sunday School

10:45—Traditional Worship

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	Don't forget to check out our Home Groups! Details, pg. 11			1 5:15: Kids Bell Choir 6: Adult Bell Choir 7:30: Chancel Choir	2 12-3: Afternoon Off 7:30: Praise Band	3 8: Men's Breakfast
4 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 5-6:30: Youth Group	5 7: Outreach Committee	6 6:30: Quilting Ministry @ the Gale's	7 9: White Tops 1-3: Lamplighters 7: Worship Committee	8 5:15: Kids Bell Choir 6: Adult Bell Choir 7:30: Chancel Choir	9 12-3: Afternoon Off 6:15: Worship Design 7:30: Praise Band	10 9: Christmas Fair Crafting 5: Broken Bread Cafe
11 5-6:30: Youth Group	12 7: Trustee's Committee	13	14 9: White Tops 1-3: Lamplighters 7: Stephen Ministry supervision	15 5:15: Kids Bell Choir 6: Adult Bell Choir 7:30: Chancel Choir	16 12-3: Afternoon Off 7:30: Praise Band 7: Youth Group Lock-In	17 8: Youth pick up 6: Wanakee Benefit Concert
18 12-2: Confirmation Class 5: Gardening Workshop <i>No Youth Group</i>	19 7: Finance Committee	20 6:30: Quilting Ministry @ the Gale's	21 9: White Tops 1-3: Lamplighters 7: Ad Council	22 5:15: Kids Bell Choir 6: Adult Bell Choir 7:30: Chancel Choir	23 12-3: Afternoon Off 7:30: Praise Band	24 5-6:30: Mission Teams Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser
25 5-6:30: Youth Group	26	27	28 9: White Tops 1-3: Lamplighters 7: Stephen Ministry supervision	29 5:15: Kids Bell Choir 6: Adult Bell Choir 7:30: Chancel Choir	30 12-3: Afternoon Off 7:30: Praise Band	31 9-12: Origins of the Bible 7: The Elephant Man



Milford United Methodist Church
327 No. River Rd
PO Box 476
Milford, NH 03055
603/673-2669
office@milfordumc.org
www.milfordumc.org

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

March 2012

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.

