



# The Outreach

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

## Pastor's Corner

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Beloved in Christ,

I've been giving a lot of thought lately to the words of a famous prayer that we've come to know as "The Serenity Prayer." Many who are familiar with this prayer tend to know just the first part of it, so I'm going to quote it here in full:

God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot change,  
the courage to change the things I can,  
and the wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time,  
enjoying one moment at a time.  
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace.

Taking, as he did, the sinful world as it is,  
not as I would have it.

Trusting that he will make all things right  
if I surrender to His will;  
that I may be reasonably happy in this life,  
and supremely happy with Him forever.

This prayer has accompanied many an anxious traveler through the rocky shoals of life since it was first written. It's been committed to memory in recovery groups of all sorts, used in counsellors offices, hung on walls in churches and homes where its words have ministered to aching hearts of all different kinds, and there's no telling how many millions of times it has been repeated in whispered prayers off in quiet, out-of-the way corners. Although the exact origins of the prayer aren't fully known, it is widely believed to have been written by the Protestant Theologian, Reinhold Niebuhr, who was one of the most notable voices of his time. Niebuhr lived his way through, prayed his way through, and thought his way through the Second World War and the early years of the Cold War and struggled a great deal with the tragedies and global threats the world was witnessing in those times and with what they seemed to say about the human condition and the worst of what we are capable of. In fact, some of that may well come through in this prayer ("Taking, as he did, the sinful world as it is, not as I would have it," etc.). In big ways and

## ***Pastor's Corner Continued***

in small ways, this profound prayer by the author of the great Christian classic, *The Nature and Destiny of Man*, steers us to seek out serenity, courage, and wisdom when our worlds (or even THE whole world) is conflict-ridden and torn. In this coming month with a hotly contested national election in view, with family gatherings around Thanksgiving tables on the horizon, and a fully holiday season soon to follow, I wonder if we shouldn't all be taking some time to consider this prayer together.

Several things have struck me about this prayer recently. First, that there could be such a thing as "serenity" in the presence of things that I cannot change. That seems like a tall order to me—not just acceptance or resignation, but serenity. Do you think God can make us happy at exactly those places where we encounter the end of our power? Or how about that line about the courage to change the things I can? Courage to move when it's within my ability to affect change; contentment and peace when it isn't; wisdom to know which is which? And what's all that about hardship being the path toward peace? Sounds a little like Jesus telling his disciples that if they want to follow him, they'll need to take up a cross of their own before they hit the road. And lastly, what about all the hope at the end? For happiness even, here and now and with him forever? How might we pray toward happiness with all of this lack of perfect control, all of the hardship he mentions, and the "sinful world"? Reinhold Niebuhr was notoriously negative about the human condition—in fact, he almost single handedly put an end to the optimism of so much early 20th century Christian utopianism—and yet, still, he's guided us in this prayer to a place where happiness can nevertheless be discovered, even amid the messes of a broken

and divided world. In this coming month, I'd like to ask you to ponder that with me, to pray this prayer with me, and to be in prayer for our country and our world even as we discern our vocation in the here and now to point forward toward joy before its final realization.

In Christ!

*Pastor John*

## ***Salvation Army Bell Ringing From Pat Rafter***

This year we will only be ringing on Saturdays and Christmas Eve but at both Shaw's and Market Basket. 1 hour slots beginning at 10am to 2pm unless we have an abundance of volunteers we can start earlier and go later.



The sign up board will be in the narthex after CROP walk is completed.

We have 4 coordinators that will each be in charge of a Saturday, so you will be getting reminders calls/texts from either Sue Kostuk, Diane Miller, Shannon Short or myself, depending on the day you sign up for.

Talk it up with friends, family and neighbors, it's always fun to have a ringing partner!

Please sign up as soon you can and save coordinators from making extra calls. Thanks for considering this mission and remember 25% of monies raised comes back to this area.

## Our MUMC Family Out in the World

Here is how some of our family spread the joy this month.



Josh & Jillian Rafter with their littles, including new born Nash. Theo & Eaton approve!



Recognize these members of Prenup?



Sarah & Quinten Biron on a scout hike!



Happy Birthday Steve Takacs



Ben, Jake, & Jenn Erdody in NYC to see 'Once Upon a Mattress'



Jonah Farnsworth will be making his own ballot so he & Tessa can vote.



Ryder Weis & cousins after a lantern pa-



Deb & Steve Santinelli as bat and vampire!



Our beautiful maples !

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

## Pie Sale Fundraiser

From Diane Miller & Callie McMahon

We are having a pie fundraiser to help pay off the mortgage on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. We will sell pies between services for \$20 / pie. First come, first served. Funds will go to the goal of retiring the mortgage by October 2026.

Pies will be sold ready to bake, except for any custard style pie. We will be happy to sell a fresh baked pie if you let the office know you'd like one.

If you want to help by baking, we are looking for any type of pie, fruit, nut or even meat pies. Bring it wrapped and labeled on the 24th by 9:30. There is room in the freezer or fridge if you bring earlier.

It's not too late to contribute a pie. Please, let the office know if you will.



## In November SHARE Is Collecting.

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



SHARE Collection

## Share Supper

November 19, 2024  
Look for signup sheets in the Narthex



## Lamplighters From Carol Rowlette

As it is written "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."

1 Corinthians 2:9

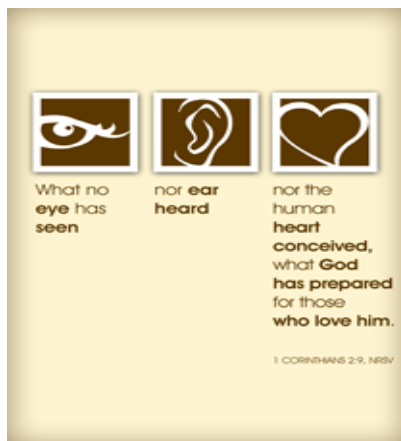


We have finished our study of Romans and now enter into Paul's teaching to the people of the city of Corinth. We read that Corinth was a thriving commercial city but was also famous for its paganism. Paul was able to establish a Christian church there and although the church was growing it had its problems.

This letter is sent to help answer questions the people of the church had raised.

As a bible study group we find ourselves very close as sisters in Christ. We are a social group, a support group sharing thoughts and feelings we are experiencing, and above all a warrior prayer group. Our prayers reach out to our God who hears and answers. God is good!

Happy Thanksgiving!



## 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.

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

Scents can make some people sick.

## Noise Offering for Wanakee

**November 15, 2024**

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



## Next Crafting Workshop

**All Saturdays  
until Nov. 30  
12:30-3 p.m.**



## *Share Christmas Adoption From Diane Miller*

What makes Halloween so scary? It's such a short jump from the pumpkin, to the turkey, to Santa!

After we finish filling boxes for OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD, we'll be putting out the tree with tags for items to purchase for our family from SHARE.

These items come from the families need or wish list and is given to us by SHARE.

Plan to return your gift by Sunday, December 8, however you can drop them off at the church no later than December 10. Gifts should be unwrapped and the tags taped to them.



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This year we will only be ringing on Saturdays and Christmas Eve but at both Shaw's and Market Basket. 1 hour slots beginning at 10am to 2pm unless we have an abundance of volunteers we can start earlier and go later.

The sign up board will be in the narthex after CROP walk is completed. We have 4 coordinators that will each be in charge of a Saturday, so you will be getting reminders calls/texts from either Sue Kostuk, Diane Miller, Shannon Short or myself, depending on the day you sign up for.

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Please sign up as soon as you can and save coordinators from making extra calls. Thanks for considering this mission and remember 25% of monies raised comes back to this area.

## **Join us for Christmas Choir 2024!**

**Milford United Methodist Church  
327 North River Rd., Milford**

Thursday, Nov. 7 6:00 to 7:00  
Thursday, Nov. 14 6:00 to 7:00  
Thursday, Nov. 21 6:00 to 7:00  
Thursday, Dec. 5 6:00 to 7:00  
Thursday, Dec. 12 6:00 to 7:00

Concert  
Sunday, December 15, 4:00



## Family Life

LeeAnne Steenhoek Director Youth and Family Ministry, MUMC

Do you have a Nativity? What's the place of your birth? Do you have a picture or figurines depicting Jesus's birth? Did you make it? Buy it? Or has it been passed down in your family for generations? What do Nativity Scenes from around the world say about birth, Jesus and the people remembering Christ's birthday? This Advent season let's be in a spirit of honoring Jesus's birth by sharing our Nativities with one another Sunday mornings. Bring pictures, sculptures, and figurines of Jesus birth. Bring a picture of you and your parents on the day when you were born, or an object representing the place that you were born. As we get closer to Christmas, we will have a candlelight Night of the Nativity where we will have the opportunity to share our family Nativity scenes with one another. Join us for this special event. All are welcome.

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Perhaps some of you are familiar with the story of the Velveteen Rabbit? Here's a quote to remind us that we grow and become a better version of ourselves throughout our entire lives or we become bitter. We become bitter or better through adversity and trials. Remember the joy too! Do you know who's with us through each and every moment? God. Jesus shows us the way to live and forgive. Grace comes before us and follows us. We are loved beyond measure-no matter what!

Here's that quote:

Real isn't how you are made," said the Skin Horse. "It's a thing that happens to

you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real." "Does it hurt?" asked the Rabbit. "Sometimes," said the Skin Horse, for he was always truthful. "When you are Real you don't mind being hurt." "Does it happen all at once, like being wound up," he asked, "or bit by bit?" "It doesn't happen all at once," said the Skin Horse. "You become. It takes a long time. That's why it doesn't happen often to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in the joints and very shabby. But these things don't matter at all, because once you are Real you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand."

Margery Williams - The Velveteen Rab-



### MEN'S MINISTRY HOSTS

#### Men's Breakfast

November 16, 2024

8:30-10:30 a.m.

November 16th **Please RSVP** a week before so we have a headcount for the meal.



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

**Birthdays:**

- November 12:** Barbara Gorham
- November 14:** Libby St. Jean
- November 16:** Graham Gordon
- November 20:** Will Whitley
- November 23:** Matt Tong
- November 25:** Cecil Rowlette
- November 25:** Donna Daley
- November 30:** Diane Franklin

**Anniversaries:**

- November 14:** Nicole and Rich Masters

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)



Look who's having a **Birthday!**



**This Month's Lectionary**

**November 3:** Ruth 1:1-18, Psalm 146, Hebrews 9:11-14, Mark 12:28-34

**November 10:** Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17, Psalm 127, Hebrews 9:24-28, Mark 12:38-44

**November 17:** 1 Samuel 1:4-20, 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18), 19-25, Mark 13:1-8

**November 24:** 2 Samuel 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-12



**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)



## Crop Walk For Hunger From Pat Rafter

Greater Nashua Crop Hunger Walk is Nov 3!

You still have time to sign up to walk or sponsor a walker and always keep the walk in your thoughts and prayers.

They are at least 20 walkers from our congregation registered to walk.

We are closing in on our goal to raise \$55,000. 25% of the donations will go to 4 local food pantries, Corpus Christi food pantry, Nashua Soup Kitchen, St James United Methodist of Merrimack food Pantry and SHARE food pantry.

There is such need both local and global. Thank you for doing your part.



From the DS cont'd from pg 11

November 5th free of meetings so I can pray all day and into the evening if needed. Our United Methodist Book of Worship offers the following prayer:

*"Almighty God, You rule all the peoples of the earth. Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and leadership in the nations of the world. Give to them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel all nations and peoples may work together. Give to the people of our country zeal for justice and strength of forbearance that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. Forgive us, our shortcomings as a nation, purify our hearts to see and love the truth. We pay all of these things through Jesus Christ. Amen."*

Thank you for being the voice of reason and compassion during this election cycle.  
Blessings,  
Jackie

## MUMC Cookbook

If you are interested in contributing a recipe to the MUMC cookbook, please send the recipe to :  
office@milforumc.org

The goal is to have the cookbook ready in time for the Christmas Fair, December 7.



## Youth Mission Group

The youth mission team will meet on Sunday, November 17th, at 7 pm.

We will be making an item for the Christmas Fair and talking about the Gift Card Fundraiser for our 2025 trip.

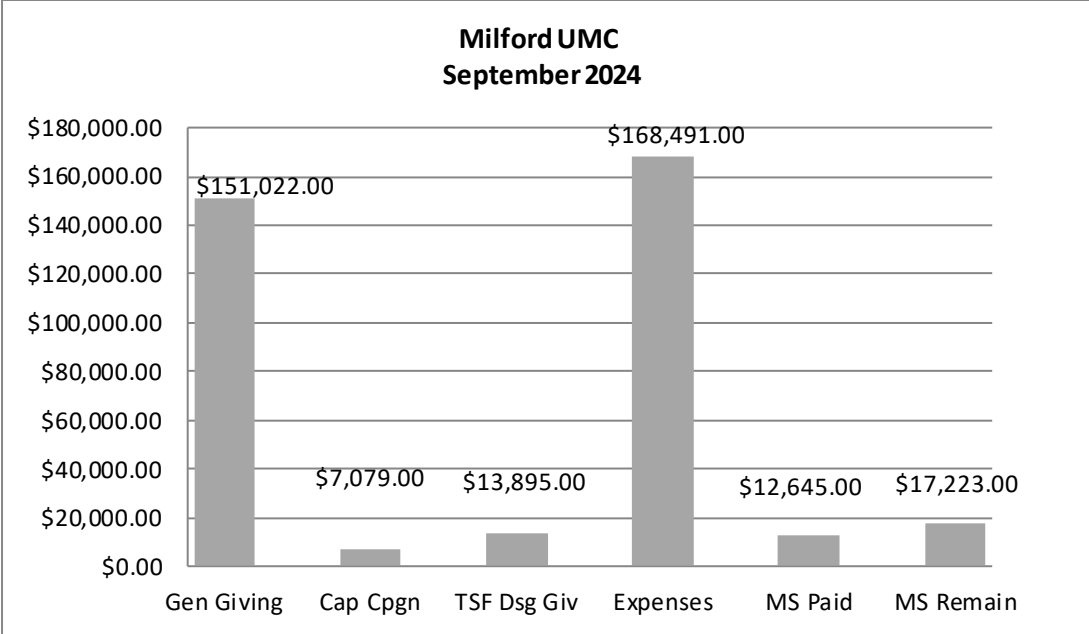


The Orders will be due back to the church by November 24th.



# Financial Reports

*From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee*



<b>YTD Financials</b>	
General Giving	\$ 151,022.00
Cap Campaign	\$7079.00
TSF Dsg Giv *	\$13,895.00
Expenses	\$168,491.00
Mission Shares Paid	\$ 12,645..00
Mission Shares Remain	\$17,223.00



\*Dsg = Designated giving accounts that are being used to fund items that show up in the Expense category.



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

MUMC giving QR Code

## Operation Christmas Child From Steve Takacs

I would like to talk about Operation Christmas Child, an outreach program MUMC re-started last year with great success. This program involves filling shoeboxes full of toys, linens, and any other small items that children in poor countries would like (no liquids, food, candy or military-related items). The filled shoeboxes are sent to Boone, NC, where an army of volunteers process each box and send them on their way. A receiving church in the distribution area distributes the boxes to the children, one by one, along with some printed material introducing them to Christ, and an invitation to each child to attend a class on what Jesus Christ is all about. For those children who "graduate" from this class, a bible, in their own language, is given to them. In other words, the shoebox isn't just some random gift given to make a child happy for the moment, it is, for many, an introduction to a life with Jesus.

I will be distributing shoeboxes, and receiving filled boxes, after each church service through November 17, which is the deadline to fill the boxes and return them to the church. Last year, we delivered 60 shoeboxes to the Nashua distribution center. Hopefully, with your help, we can deliver even more!



Steve with last year's donation of boxes!

## From the Pastor's Book Pile

Here are a couple of books that I've been reading (or listening to) lately. If the subject interests you, let's talk!

Henry Cloud and John Townsend, *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No to Take Control of Your Life*. Zondervan, 1992.

This is a book everyone should read. It's about boundaries—how to think about them, how to manage them, and how we need them to live healthy, thriving lives. Easier said than done, right? Written by two Christian pastoral counselors, this book is a good place to start if you think it may be time to revisit the necessary place of boundaries in your life and home.

Amanda Ripley, *High Conflict: Why We Get Trapped and How to Get Out*. Simon & Schuster.

Looking for some wisdom on how to navigate some of the tension and hard relationships so many of us are experiencing right now? This book offers useful tools, concepts, and practical advice for navigating and diffusing these kinds of systems. It's been recommended by the council of bishops in the past for churches experience high conflict dynamics.



## From Our DS Jackie Brannen

*Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive.*  
*Colossians 3:12-13.*

By this time next week, we will hopefully be finished with all the political campaigns and may even know who our next president will be. If you are like me, you have a strong opinion of who would make a better president. (Don't worry, I am not going to tell you my opinion!) I have often heard that politics should not be discussed in church, and I understand why.

Most of us do not like conflict and politics can bring out heated discussions and even worse, in our current political environment. And while I am not of the opinion that pastors should tell their congregations who to vote for, I do believe that Jesus was a political figure in his time and laid the groundwork to guide us in how we choose who we are voting for.

We all know what Jesus stood for; love, forgiveness, charity and kindness. As we go to the polls this week, I pray that we will all hold these principals in mind. But even more important than who we vote for, I believe is how we behave towards those who do not see politics the same way we do and how we will conduct ourselves regardless of which candidates win the elections.

There is about a 50/50 chance your candidate will win or lose, if polls are to be believed. It is another close election cycle and the political tension is rather

high at the moment. I am praying that we who call ourselves Methodist Christians can lead our communities in appropriate Christian behavior; win or lose. Please, please remember that ultimately, God is still with us no matter who wins the election and God has given us mandates about how to conduct ourselves regardless of the temptations that we face.

While we wait for the results, our most important tool is prayer. I hope you will join me in praying for the elections, the candidates, and unity and peace within our country. I have purposely left

Cont'd pg 8

## Choir News From Jenn Erdody

Chancel Choir has enjoyed providing an opportunity for singers and congregation alike to feel the spirit through music! Two of our favorite anthems during the month of October were "For the Autumn Sky", which is all about the beauty of the seasons the Lord has provided us, and "Amazing Grace", which complemented Pastor John's sermon and the scripture readings perfectly.

We are starting our Christmas Concert selections on November 7th at 6:00. All are welcome to join us! The concert will be on Sunday, December 15 at 4:00.

Regular choir rehearsals are 5:30 to 7:00 on Thursdays. Join us!

JOIN the   
**Christmas**  
Concert CHOIR

# 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 Baver**  
*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

# NOVEMBER

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

					1	2 12:30-3 p Crafting
3 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service 4p Chosen 5 p Men's Group	4 6 p SPRC	5  7 p Praise Band	6  8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamp-lighters	7 7:30 -7:30 Choir 7p Bells	8	9 12:30-3 p Crafting
10 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service 4p Chosen 5 p Men's Group	11  7p Trustees	12  7 p Praise Band	13 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamp-lighters	14  5:30 -7:30 Choir 7p Bells	15	16  Men's Breakfast 8:30a 12:30-3 p Crafting
17 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service 4p Chosen 5 p Men's Group	18  Voice 5:45p	19 Share Supper  7 p Praise Band	20 8:45 Coffee w/Pastor. Union Coffee 9 Whitetops 1 Lamp-lighters	21 5:30 -7:30 Choir 7p Bells	22	23 12:30-3 p Crafting
24 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School 10:30 Traditional Service 4 p Chosen 5p Men's Group	25	26 5p Mission  6 p Finance  7 p Praise Band	27	28 	29	30 12:30-3 p Crafting



## Milford United Methodist Church

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

*November 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.