

THE OUTREACH

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER
2007

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



Join Us for Christmas Eve Services

We will once again be offering three different Christmas Eve worship experiences. There will be candle lighting at the conclusion of each service.

The Chancel Choir would like to invite you to our annual Christmas Concert which will be held this year on Sunday December 23, at 7:00 pm. We will be presenting the Christmas musical, "Mary, Did You Know?" To quote the creators of the musical, David Guthrie and Bruce Greer, "Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene penned a song a few years ago that has captivated the imagination of people everywhere. It asks a surprising and intriguing question: "Mary...Did You Know?" What must it have been like to mother the Son of God? Could she imagine what lay ahead for Him? The musical takes us on a journey from Jesus' birth to His death and then His revelation as our Risen Savior.

In addition to the Chancel Choir, the musical will include guest musicians and MUMC's very own sacred dancers. We hope that you and your family and friends will make attending this musical evening a part of your celebration of Christmas this year.

5:00 Family Service—A child-friendly service that is geared towards families who want to be able to worship together and then be home in time for Christmas Eve night, this service will feature the MUMC Praise team along with a brief Christmas story or message from Pastor Tom.

7:00 Traditional Service of Candles and Carols—This service is perfect for those seeking a traditional Christmas Eve with all the trimmings—music from our Chancel Choir, a sermon from Pastor Tom, and plenty of Christmas carols.

11:00 Communion Service—Wind down from the hustle of Christmas preparations at this quiet, contemplative service that includes special music from some of our talented musicians, a communion meditation from Pastor Tom, and holy communion.

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Christmas Eve
SERVICES

Anniversaries and Birthdays

If you would like your birthday or anniversary printed in *“The Outreach,”* contact the secretary in the church office — 673-2669.



Happy Anniversary!

Ron & Irma Robinson	December 2
Mike & Debbie Logue	December 28
Paul & Deanna Berkebile	December 30

Happy Birthday!

Sue Boore	December 1
Irma Robinson	December 8
Richard Randlett	December 8
Philemene Ruonala	December 21
Steve Rafter	December 24
Carol Rowlette	December 25
Elaine Driscoll	December 30

***THE OUTREACH* Purpose**

The purpose of our monthly newsletter is to inform the people it touches of the church news, to inspire the people to a new awareness, and to interpret why the church is in ministry. *“THE OUTREACH”* appreciates input from all organizations, boards, officers, and members and friends of the Milford United Methodist Church. The staff reserves the right to edit, cut, (or if necessary) leave out articles according to available space, timeliness and priority.

THE OUTREACH is the monthly newsletter of the Milford United Methodist Church. Deadline for news items is the 15th of the month for the following month’s issue.

Financially Speaking . . .

October 31, 2007

Income toward budget accounts	\$18,049.62
Expense—budget accounts	16,007.58
Balance in General Fund	9,989.67
Oct. Building Fund Income	8,424.00

Office Hours:

9:00 am to 2:00 pm Monday and Friday.
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Tuesday thru Thursday
 Telephone: 603-673-2669
 Email: MUMC2@aol.com
 Website: www.milfordumc.org
 Editor: Marian Kopp

MUMC
Christmas Fair



Date:
Saturday, December 1
Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Place: 327 No. River Road, Milford

The Christmas Fair will feature a crafts and Christmas ornament sale; knit goods; the Country Cupboard with homemade jams, jellies and soups; baked goods, cookie run and candy table; and wreaths. Early morning shoppers will be happy to find our popular English Tea Room complete with scones and coffee or tea. There will also be a luncheon served.

CHRISTMAS FAIR REQUEST: Bakers, Fudge and Candy Makers Needed — Calling all bakers, fudge and candy makers – please pull out your recipes! We are in need of your help to fill the fair tables with treats. Listed below are ways you can participate.

Bake some cookies for the **Cookie Run**. Cookies need to be made no larger than 2 – 2 1/2” in diameter as they must fit into a coffee can. Please list the main ingredients on a paper or card and place with the cookies (this is for allergy purposes). We do not need the recipe. Sign up on the board in the lobby, email Elaine Driscoll at geldris@aol.com or call 673-4270.

Fudge is a great seller and we need a variety of flavors. Chocolate and vanilla are popular, but penuche and peanut butter flavors are also in demand. There are some easy recipes available – we are not asking for gourmet recipes! Also we are looking for some simple candies that can be an addition to the fudge table. Sign up on the board in the lobby, email Carol Stringer at Stringerc@juno.com or call 465-9358.

Lastly, we could use other **baked goods** – cakes, cupcakes, breads or your own specialty! These

items will be placed at the Baked Goods table. Marle Gale will be arranging this area. She can be contacted at emgale@comcast.net or 672-9441.

We appreciate any way you can help with the Christmas Fair. Sign up in the church foyer if you can help the day of the fair. It is exciting to be able to open our doors to the community!

The Christmas Fair Committee

Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

If you would like to donate a red poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, please place your order (\$10 per plant) in the offering plate or send to the church office (POBox 476, Milford, NH 03055) by Sunday, December 9, 2007. Make checks payable to Milford United Methodist Church with memo “Christmas flowers.”

No. of plants: _____

GIVEN

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Tel. No. _____



The Simple and Stress-free Christmas Pageant



...will be held on Sunday, December 16, 2007,
2:00 – 4:00 pm in

conjunction with the Sunday Afternoon of Music Christmas Concert. Donations collected to benefit the Wanakee Scholarship Fund. Parts for everyone: sheep, cows, donkeys, innkeeper, angels, stars, Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, wise men, narrators, others. Speaking and non-speaking parts. Memorization not required. One rehearsal prior to performance. Please email me if you are interested in participating – marytw1@verizonnet.

— Mary Tyler-Wall

LAMPLIGHTERS WEDNESDAY LADIES BIBLE STUDY

January 9 we begin a new study: "Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs. Even scripture's good girls had their flaws. We'll take a look at Sarah, Hagar, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel and Dinah. They were very human heroines and all were loved by a faithful and flawless God! Their stories will inspire us. Liz Curtis Higgs is a well-known Christian speaker and writer, admired for her honest testimonies and natural humor.

Starting January 9, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Coffee and social time, followed by prayer and bible study.



The Lamplighters are a group of women who meet once a week for Bible study, sharing and friendship. As Lamplighters we would like to share with you – once a month – a thought, a prayer, a pearl of wisdom or a chuckle, hoping this little spark will make your life a little brighter just as it did for us. Here is another Lamplighters' spark and a comforting thought in these uncertain times :

Being right half the time beats being half-right all the time.

.. Malcolm Forbes



From the Worship Committee:

Bread Loaves on Communion Sunday, December 2nd: Remember to bring a loaf of bread 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. Many times their freezer is empty and they are very thankful for our bread delivery! This is one small way we can help others in need.

Donation of Altar Flowers
Our cost for an altar arrangement from Woodman's Florist is \$25. If you want to request a special type/size of arrangement, the cost would vary accordingly. Talk to Roberta Langis, the Flower Coordinator, regarding special requests at bertlangis@aol.com or 673-4560.

Thank you for helping to beautify our altar and sanctuary for Sunday worship.



A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AN OPEN INVITATION

Some of you may remember my mother, Ceil Kranmas, who became a member of MUMC when she moved to Milford from Florida in 2003. She and I felt instantly loved and cared for by all of you here.

Due to her health decline, she now lives on the Alzheimer's unit at Greenbriar Terrace, where there are 49 residents lovingly cared for by family and an extremely compassionate staff.

I am planning a Christmas celebration for the residents on Saturday, December 22, from 2-4 PM. Santa, elves, carols, food, drink, and gifts to share with the residents is the agenda. I would like to invite all to come enjoy an opportunity to sing carols, share fellowship, food, and that sacred spirit of Christmas with them.

Each participant/family is asked to contribute a small serving of any soft finger food (no nuts please) Greenbriar will provide drinks. A gift of a toiletry item (baby wash, baby shampoo, baby powder, something gentle to skin) or a pair of non-skid slipper socks for Santa and the elves to pass out would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful celebration please RSVP by December 14 to:

PAT LADNER Home # 672-1878
Cell # 305-5981
E-mail pkladner@gmail.com

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH AND GOD BLESS EACH ONE OF YOU

MUMC LIVES THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Discover the Joy of Knowing and Serving Jesus Christ

Additions to Church Directory

If you change your address, telephone number and/or name, please notify the church office so the membership and mailing lists can be accurately maintained.

CHANGE:

Rudy Rumohr
3 Heathcliffe Way
Nashua, NH 03064



Bob and Lisa (Armstrong) Cerveny
180 North Hampton St., Apt J
East Hampton, MA 01027

OUR STAFF:

Pastor: Thomas M. Getchell-Lacey

Ministers:

Every member of the congregation

Organist and Choir Director: Sally Landis

Choir Accompanist: Nancy Tong

Spirit Celebration Music Dir: Chris Willard

Handbell and Youth Choirs Director:

Mary Tyler-Wall

Youth Choir Accompanist:

Kaleen Fortunato

Director of Program Ministries:

Susan Drew

Church Secretary: Marian Kopp

Assistant Church Secretary: Carol Brooks

Custodian: Jim Fortunato

Nursery: Kristina McEntee

Toddler: Nicola Crosbourn

Need to Reach the Pastor?

Pastor Tom is available for counseling or any other needs you might have by appointment. Please feel free to call the church office at 673-2669 to reach him or leave a message with one of the office staff or answering machine. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please do not hesitate to call the parsonage at 673-7861.

DISCOVER THE JOY

Mission Statement:

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

Vision Statement:

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

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

Values Statement:

We commit ourselves to:

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



Wise Men and Women Still Seek Him

Dear Friends,

One of the things that many people appreciate about the Christmas season is the fact that they get to see some of their favorite movies and television shows that are associated with the season. For a lot of us, it just wouldn't feel like Christmas if we didn't watch "It's a Wonderful Life," or "A Christmas Carol." For others, it might start feeling a lot like Christmas when we see some of those animated television specials for kids like "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" or "Frosty the Snowman." Watching some of these movies or shows has, for some of us, something of a Christmas tradition. And even if we don't particularly connect with any of these offerings, their ubiquity is such that we will no doubt see them over and over again.

We watch these entertainments because they are enjoyable, familiar, nostalgic, and wholesome, by and large. But as whether they actually help us connect in a deeper or more meaningful way to the Christmas story is sometimes not clear. For that reason, this Advent season I will be offering a series of sermons called "Advent Through the Lens of Hollywood." Each Sunday and on Christmas Eve, we will be looking at one of the many familiar Christmas movies and connecting that movie with some of the biblical themes of Advent and Christmas in a very specific way. In this way, I am hoping that every time you see one of these special Christmas program, you will be reminded of the biblical story that is at the very center of what Christmas is all about. I hope you will make every effort to join us each week and on Christmas Eve for what I hope will be a time of inspiring worship and preaching. And since Advent and Christmas are times where peoples hearts are just that much more open and receptive to God, it would also be a great time to invite some of your

unchurched friends to come to worship and, hopefully, discover the joy of knowing and serving Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Tom

Confirmation 2008 Has Begun

We are starting our confirmation process earlier than in past years so as to allow our confirmands and their mentors more time to journey through the confirmation process at a more leisurely pace. Confirmation Sunday is set for Pentecost, May 18, 2008. Assisting in this year's confirmation process are Kara Ammon and Becky Ladeau. Please be praying for the confirmands and their mentors. They are:

Confirmands

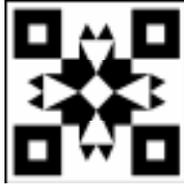
Duke Ammon
Tevin Aubry
Leslie Drew
Lindsay Gutterson
Aaron Ladeau
Cameron Randlett
Patience Roby

Mentors

Keith Ladeau
Tom Knapp
Lisa Svenson
Michele Bossie
Stew Ross
Bob Levesque
Kerri-Lynn Kimner

Welcome New Members

New Members will be received during both worship services on Sunday, December 16. If you are interested in uniting with the MUMC family or if you have questions about membership, Milford UMC, the United Methodist Church, or church membership, please feel free to speak with Pastor Tom.



The Quilting Ministry is changing its day from the 1st and 3rd Tuesday to the 2nd and 4th Monday. Our next meeting will be November 26th. There will be no meeting December 24th. The meetings will continue to be at The Robinson's, 3 Serene Circle, Milford. Anyone who quilts or wants to learn is welcome. Any questions call Carolan Robinson at 673-8833.



Life Skills Coaches

Every month I go to a meeting of the Greater Milford Outreach. This is a group of social service providers from this area who meet to network, hear what each group is doing and what their needs are. Many times we hear that there is a need for adults to have basic skills classes -- banking, parenting, money management, healthy food purchasing and preparation, etc. The Milford Welfare department has organized classes at the library for people but they are not well attended, not because the need is not there, but because people in need of these services can't make the times due to their work schedules and child-care needs. I think this would be a great service for members of our church to get involved with. If you are interested in helping to research or design such a program, or act as a mentor to a family in need, please give me a call – Susan Drew (672-4877).

Independent Life Skills Class Update

I'm very excited to be able to announce two accomplishments from our classes with youth. You may remember that at the beginning of the summer when the class was over for our kids who were court ordered to attend, the kids wanted to continue. They have continued meeting through the summer and are now beginning a program where they will be trained with an animal in order to take the animal into nursing homes for visits with elderly residents. This is amazing. Just think what a sense of accomplishment these kids will have.

Second, one of our kids and a mentor have started a car detailing business. For \$60, your car will be cleaned inside and out. Please call Joel Trafford, our adult mentor, at 673-0533 if you are interested in this service for your car.

There is also a Life Skills Class for kids ages 17 – 19. This class meets Tuesdays in the Library and is teaching kids how to get a job, an apartment, how to take care of their cars and why they should insure them, how to take care of themselves, etc. These classes will be done in early December, but a new class will begin in the spring. Thank you to MUMC members Alexis Eaton, Heather Leach, Jim Lawler and Pastor Tom who have come in to lead classes.

It is such a blessing to be able to report the good things that are happening in this program. Thank you for help!

Susan Drew (sndrew@mindspring.com)

Outreach/Missions Activities

Outreach/Missions – committee members: Bob Bowman, Bob Carey, Tami Davis-Betelak, Alexis Eaton, Bob Levesque, Bob Morgan, Pat Rafter, Theresa Sekanina, Marcy Stanton. Chairperson: Wendy Getchell-Lacey

Reaching out beyond our congregation in Christian love and service.

GNIHN -through the Greater Nashua Inter-faith Hospitality Network, we at MUMC continue to support families in transition at the Anne Marie House in Hudson. We welcome 6 new volunteers from MUMC: Louise & Bruce Curtis, Jacqui & Rob Cook, Gerrie Hopkins and Ruth Johnston. Thank you to all volunteers who faithfully serve Jesus Christ by being in service to the homeless families in our community.

Next hosting week: Dec. 16th - Dec. 23rd
Next training session: Wed., Dec. 5th - 6pm-9pm .. First Baptist Church of Nashua. Please contact Tami Davis-Betelak or Wendy Getchell-Lacey for more information

SALVATION ARMY / BELL RINGING - tis the season to be merry! With the season comes the opportunity to make a difference locally for those in need. Beginning after Thanksgiving and continuing through Christmas Eve we will be ringing bells outside of Milford grocery stores. We welcome, invite and encourage ALL to participate in what so many have found to be an inspiring way of doing God's work. Sign up sheets will be available in the narthex.

SHARE – For the month of December, we are collecting the following items for the SHARE food pantry: juices (canned, bottled and boxed), coffee, tea, hot chocolate, canned beets, large brown bags

The Outreach committee buys provisions each month to supplement these donations and occasionally makes a financial donation to help SHARE with its financial commitments.



Send a Christmas card... when you are making out your holiday card list, please consider including an American soldier recovering from their wounds at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. As we all know, being in the hospital is no fun and can be lonely. Let our service people know we are still thinking about them! Send your cards to: A Recovering American Soldier, c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Ave, NW, Washington DC 20307-5001

Church Family News . . .

Our Sympathy. . . . to Paul Aubin on the death of his wife Helen on October 28, 2007. Our prayers go also to his daughter, Michele and Jon Bossie, and their families.

Also, Our Sympathy to Keith Roberts, Sr. on the recent death of his son, Keith Jr., in Marlboro, MA.

Baptism — Elizabeth May VanWagner, daughter of Tyler and Mollie VanWagner was baptised on October 21. Elizabeth was born on May 11, 2007. Her godparent was Kristin VanWagner.

December 2007

The Outreach

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1 8am-1 pm Christmas Fair</i>
2 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 SunSchool 10:45 Worship 12 MUMC Band 4 Season Gen 5 Youth Group 6:15 Confirmatn	3 4:00 SonBeams 4:30 TrinityDove 7 Outreach 7 Ed Team 7 SPRelations	4 7-9:30 Stephen Training 7 Nominations 7:30 Trustees	5 9:30 WhiteTops 7:00 Church Council	6 10am-1pm Helping Hands at Granite Sq. 4 Youth Dance 5:15YouthBells 6 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	7 12-3 Afternoon Off 7-8 Praise Team	8
9 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 SunSchool 10:45 Worship 12 MUMC Band 5 Youth Group	10 4:00 SonBeams 4:30 TrinityDove 7 Quilting Min. at Robinson's	11 7 Worship comm 7-9:30 Stephen Training	12 9:30 WhiteTops 7 pm Stephen Supervision	13 10am-1pm Helping Hands at Granite Sq. 4 Youth Dance 5:15YouthBells 6 Bell Choir 7:00 Chancel Choir	14 12-3 Afternoon Off 7-8 Praise Team	15
16 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 SunSchool 10:45 Worship 2 Music Concert 5 Youth Group	17 4:00 SonBeams 4:30 TrinityDove 7:00 Finance	18 7-9:30 Stephen Training	19 9:30 WhiteTops	20 10am-1pm Helping Hands at Granite Sq. 4 Youth Dance 5:15 YouthBells 6 Bell Choir 7:00 ChanChoir	21 12-3 Afternoon Off 7-8 Praise Team	22 9-noon Cantata Rehearsal 4-10 Youth Group Caroling/ Party
23 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 SunSchool 10:45 Worship 7:00 Christmas Cantata No Youth Group	24 <i>Christmas Eve Services</i> 5:00 7:00 11:00	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> Church Office Closed	26 9:30 WhiteTops	27 10am-1pm Helping Hands at Granite Sq. No Bells	28 12-3 Afternoon Off 7-8 Praise Team	29
30 8:30 Spirit Celebration 9:30 SunSchool 10:45 Worship 12 MUMC Band No Youth Group	31 No Youth Choirs					

Milford United Methodist Church
327 No. River Road
PO BOX 476

Milford, NH 03055
(603) 673-2669


Discover the Joy