



# The Outreach

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

## Pastor's Corner

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Co-travelers in Christ,

If you ever drive past the parsonage you may have noticed a new mulch-covered island in the middle of our front yard. On one of those rare warm Saturday afternoons in March, Sybil and I decided to get out in the yard, get our hands dirty, and do some planting (and transplanting). One of the things I wanted most was white crocuses—white flowers that I could be reasonably sure would sprout for Easter. But these last few days of March had me wondering: will they make it? We had that unexpected snow storm that got me worrying if I planted them too early, and then all of that rain that might have frozen into ice on a few of the colder nights around the tender roots. Maybe I should have waited? Maybe I should have spent a little time talking with that gardener at the nursery? The lilies nearby are starting to spring from the ground and so are the irises and the beginnings of the bleeding heart, but right up until the last minute, I wasn't sure that those crocuses would make it. But then, on Wednesday of Holy Week, I saw that two of the four were about to send up their flowers, and then, the next day, a third. As I write this, it's beginning to look as though all of those second guesses and worries over weather and timing can be put to the side. It looks like we're going to have a flower garden sprouting on Easter despite the poor planning of this amateur gardener.

If you're like me, maybe you have a tendency to fool yourself into thinking from time to time that everything depends on you. If I don't do this right or that on time, none of those other things can ever come to be. If I don't execute, account for all of the variables correctly, see around corners, time things just right the world will fall apart and it will be my fault. And then you plant crocuses...and despite your poorest planning and best efforts to drown the bulbs, they spring to life beautifully anyway. Here, I think, is one of the most profound lessons of Easter. God's intentions that there will be life (and life abundantly!) are beyond our ability to spoil, accidentally mess up, ruin because of poor planning or because we're having a bad day (or a bad few years). The victory of life announced at Jesus' rising is beyond our ability to thwart despite our best efforts, despite the Sanhedrin's best efforts, despite Pilate's best efforts...and thank God for that! What a grace that something this important is beyond our ability to control! What a grace that something of such beauty doesn't depend on me! As you take notice this year of what is springing up from the ground all around you, I

## Pastor's Corner Cont'd

hope that thought, that prayer might dwell in your hearts and minds for a while and give you peace with the things that you're holding that you think are in your power (but aren't), and may Easter's reminder of God's intentions for life renew your spirit in the joy of being alive. And may it remind you as well that today is a blessed gift—not to control or worry about or seek with our own power to preserve as if we were its author—but to give thanks for and sing praise for. That is Easter's awakening.

In Christ! *Pastor John*

The joy that Jesus offers his disciples is his own joy, which flows from his intimate communion with the One who sent him. It is a joy that does not separate happy days from sad days, successful moments from moments of failure, experiences of honor from experiences of dishonor, passion from resurrection.

This joy is a divine gift that does not leave us during times of illness, poverty, oppression or persecution. It is present even when the world laughs or tortures, robs or maims, fights or kills. It is truly ecstatic, always moving us away from the house of fear into the house of love, and always proclaiming that death no longer has the final say, though its noise remains loud and its devastation visible. The joy of Jesus lifts up life to be celebrated.

—Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Lifesigns*



## Spring Yard Sale From Pat Rafter

With snow still on the ground and us bundled up in our homes....it is time to think ahead to our spring yard sale. We will begin with drop offs on April 27 and May 4, from 9-11. We will take your clean and working items off your hands! Yard sale is 5/18,

This year we will no longer take VHS tapes. No electronics, no exercise equipment, no magazines, no furniture, no musty or moldy books.

We will take stuffed animals only if they have their original tags and are clean, otherwise leave them home.

If our times do not work for you or you can't get your items to the church on your own, please contact Pat Rafter or Tom Knapp. We request you make these arrangements before 5/4.

We will be accepting gently used clothing also. Clothing can be dropped off in the first classroom after the choir room beginning 4/21 and on drop off dates.

Anyone wishing to help out with the drop off dates and yard sale day or final clean up are welcome.

Proceeds will go towards missions and the general fund.



**Mission / Outreach**  
**From Pat Rafter**

The Mission/Outreach Team is planning a wonderful project in honor of Mother's and Father's Days in 2024.

We will be collecting money to purchase bed nets to be sent to countries most hard hit from malaria. These nets are made of specially designed insecticidal fibers that keep kids safe.

Our goal is to raise at least \$210 to purchase bed nets for 10 families. The fundraising event will commence on May 12 (Mother's Day) and end on June 16 (Father's Day). Donations can be given to Diane Miller, Sue Kostuk, Pat Rafter or placed in the collection plate or mailed to the church office by June 19. Please clearly mark for Bed Nets.



**Spaghetti Dinner**  
**Fundraiser**

Saturday April 13, 2024  
5:30-6:30 PM  
Tickets go on sale 3/31, \$10 p/p



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

Third Saturday of the Month Each Quarter

8:30-10:30 a.m.

2024 Breakfast Schedule

February 17th

May 18th

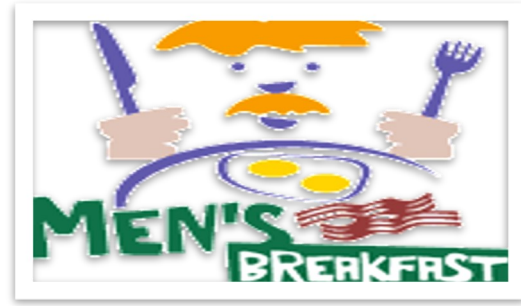
August 17th

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 [bigdaddy522000@gmail.com](mailto:bigdaddy522000@gmail.com)

Thank You!

Have a great day! 'For the same price, have a great life!'



**Noise Offering for**

**Wanakee**

**April 14**



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

## Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act *From Voice*

Throughout the United States, many religious workers, including some clergy in the New England Conference, and migrant children are having to live in limbo due to a visa backlog. This has and is creating great harm to the security of those subject to the backlog.

In a [Nov. 16, 2023, message to the Conference](#), Bishop Peggy Johnson urged United Methodists in New England to support for the *Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act*, which would exempt special immigrant juvenile status (SIJS youth) from EB-4 visa caps and release visas for religious workers supporting vital work in our community.

We encourage you **to write to your representatives** and ask them to support this much-needed legislation. Without measures to address this backlog, some of our own pastors may lose their path to citizenship and may even be forced to leave the United States.

Let's raise our voices and be heard on this vital issue of justice.

You can join the effort in support of religious workers and migrant children by writing your representatives asking them to vote for this legislation. You can write your own letter or use one of the templates linked below.

### Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act

Senate bill: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1885>  
House bill: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/4285>

**Letter templates (Word documents will**

download)

[Sample letter – church member](#)

[Sample letter – general](#)

[Additional signatures sheet](#)

[Find your members of Congress](#)

## Fleece Blankets *From Kerri-Lynn Kimner*

Every year, we honor our high school graduates by presenting them with a tied fleece blanket.

Blankets are made by members of the congregation and given as a reminder that their MUMC family is always there for them.

We are looking for donations of fleece for this endeavor. Fleece should be 2 yards long and donations can be placed in the bucket at the church.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kerri-Lynn Kimner. 603 345-7228.



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

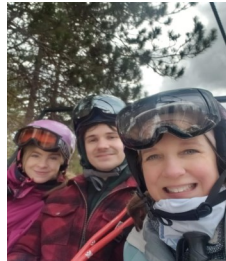
Scents can make some people sick.

## Our MUMC Family Out in the World

MUMC folks are still finding & spreading JOY!



Neva Harvey-Olson all costumed up for dance competition. She placed 4th!



Jenn Erdody, Jacob & Meghan in North Conway



Pat Rafter learning cookie decorating. Does this mean something new for our crafters?



Jonah & Tessa Drew? Farnsworth at onah's first pine-wood derby! Way to Go!



Remember our Sue Drew? She's writing kids books! A dream come true! Yahoo!

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

## When We All Pitch In



The 5 emergency buckets all ready for local relief when needed. Thank you church for your contributions!

### In April SHARE Is Collecting

Condiments, Cooking Sauces & Seasonings, Cooking Oil, Pasta Sauce, Tomato Sauce, Tomato Paste, Diced Tomatoes



### Share Supper April 16, 2024

Look for signup sheets in the Narthex





## Family Life

with LeeAnne Steenhoek

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Spring has sprung! April is poetry month and I'm sharing a delight by Pablo Neruda. I love washing babies. There's something precious about each finger, each toe and the crown of the head. I love washing feet and this foot-washing I shared with some of you during Riverwalk Spiritual practices during our Fall series. There's a vulnerability and trust and wholeness between those who wash and those who are washed. Jesus was a wisdom teacher and in John 13 calls us to wash each other's feet:

*After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"<sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. <sup>14</sup> So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. <sup>16</sup> Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers <sup>[d]</sup> greater than the one who sent them. <sup>17</sup> If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.*

### **TO WASH A CHILD**

by Pablo Neruda

Only the most ancient love on earth  
will wash and comb the statue of the  
children,  
straighten the feet and knees.  
The water rises, the soap slithers,  
and the pure body comes up to breathe  
the air of flowers and motherhood.  
Oh, the sharp watchfulness,  
the sweet deception,  
the lukewarm struggle!

Now the hair is a tangled  
pelt crisscrossed by charcoal,  
by sawdust and oil,  
soot, wiring, crabs,  
until love, in its patience,  
sets up buckets and sponges,  
combs and towels,  
and, out of scrubbing and combing, amber,  
primal scrupulousness, jasmines,  
has emerged the child, newer still,  
running from the mother's arms  
to clamber again on its cyclone,  
go looking for mud, oil, urine and ink,  
hurt itself, roll about on the stones.  
Thus, newly washed, the child springs into  
life,  
for later, it will have time for nothing more  
than keeping clean, but with the life lacking.

Consider washing a loved ones hands or feet. I like to make a mix of 2C Epsom salts, 1C baking soda and 10 drops of frankincense or lavender for a whole bath so adjust according to your basin. Use a cloth to gently clean and dry and talk about why Jesus calls us to do this. Did you know the pastor's stole is a symbol of servant leadership to remember Jesus command?

### **We have some fun activities coming your way!**

**How does your garden grow?** Come prepare the garden and plant with us **Thursday April 25<sup>th</sup>** during April Break at 11:00. Bring a picnic lunch and swing and slide with us. We will learn about God as creator and how he calls us to tend the earth and sow seeds of love into the ground and into human hearts.

**Children's Day is June 9<sup>th</sup>.** Our young disciples will help lead worship and share the Good News with the Congregation

**VBS Camp Firelight is July 12, 13&14.** Save the date and stay tuned for details. Look for Lumen "Lu" the Lightning Bug in Children's Church. During Vacation Bible

School, join first-time camp, Counselor Sam and Lumen, "Lu," the lightning bug puppet, for a summer adventure at *Camp Firelight*. Campers accompany Counselor Sam and Lu during each assembly session and learn to face their fears while trusting in God. Each day, Campers see Counselor Sam face new challenges, from as simple as leading Campers on a hike to as intimidating as meeting a new and wise nature expert. With the help of Lu, the Lightning Bug, and the Camp Counselor Guidebook, Counselor Sam and the Campers explore timeless Bible stories showing how Old and New Testament Campers trusted God, faced their fears, and went on to do great things in God's name.

As Campers experience the stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they learn ways to connect with and trust God. And best of all, they understand they can connect with God at VBS, church, home, and every area of their lives. This unique Vacation Bible School program from Cokesbury Kids VBS invites children on an exciting journey where they learn to trust God no matter what situation life brings, know God is always with them, and feel confident in sharing the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ.

Camp Callout (Theme Verse): **"Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you." (Psalm 56:3)**



### Introducing Lumen Lu Our Firefly

Save your old sneaker and stay tuned for more information regarding old sneakers in the April Outreach!



The VOICE team will be partnering with GotSneakers? To recycle and reuse your no longer needed sneakers.

Did you know? Most people throw away their used sneakers every 125-200 days without ever thinking about recycling. Since sneakers are manufactured with materials that are not biodegradable, they remain in landfills or are incinerated, which leads to toxic chemicals in our air and soil.

The process of making sneakers produces large amounts of CO2 which contributes to serious effects of climate change and global warming. Recycling and reusing sneakers keeps sneakers out of landfills, reduces the need for manufacturing new shoes and sneakers, and supports a growing circular economy. (gotsneakers? Web-site)

Sneakers can be dropped off with the yard sale drop offs. All sneakers that are not taken in the clothing sale, will be collected and sent to gotsneakers?. All proceeds will go toward funding any VOICE projects.

### 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 .

## **Coordinator Needed**

*From Pat Rafter*

As discussed in the Mission Outreach Committee on 2/27. The committee is now considering having 2 or 3 people coordinate for the 2024 bell ringing season. We will only ring on Saturdays for both Market Basket and Shaw's as Salvation Army requests we do not ring on Sundays.

The committee would really like persons of interest to come forward as soon as possible so we are sure to have coordinators ready and trained for November.

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



Next Crafting  
Workshop

April 27, 2024  
12:30-3 p.m.

## **Lamplighters**

*From Carol Rowlette*

Ephesians 1:9-11 God has now revealed to us his mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own good pleasure. And this is the plan: at the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ-everything in heaven and on earth. Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.

Paul writes to the Ephesians encouraging them to continually know the love of Christ which is now in them as believers. They have the Holy Spirit living in their hearts and the Word of God as their safety net.

We have studied 1st and 2nd Thessalonians, Philippians, and Ephesians. Paul writes with love and affection for the cities he has shared the Good News. He also reprimanded them when he hears some may be listening to false teachers.

Ephesians 6:10-11,18 a final word: be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

We meet every Wednesday 1-3 beginning with open discussion, joys and concerns, devotions and Bible study.





## Do you know ASL?

If you are fluent in American Sign Language and would like to interpret as a ministry at MUMC, either regularly or on an as needed basis, please contact anyone on the VOICE team (Claire Holston, Janet Hromjak, Callie McMahon, Kathy Wood, Esther Thayer, Annika Weis, Kerri-Lynn Kimner, or email the office.



## Choir News

**From Jenn Erdody**

Chancel Choir would like to invite you to sing with us! We rehearse at 7:00 on Thursdays and would love to have you join! You can speak to Jenn Erdody or any choir member if you have questions.

**Hope to see you there!**



**AudioFetch** is MUMC's new hearing assistive technology which broadcasts our services on a dedicated Wi-Fi network within the church. This new system allows you to personalize your volume settings and adjust listening levels to a comfortable setting during the service.

Prior to using the system, you will need to download and install the **AudioFetch** application on your Smartphone. Once installed, you will be able to connect your smartphone to a personal headset or to Bluetooth enabled hearing aids.

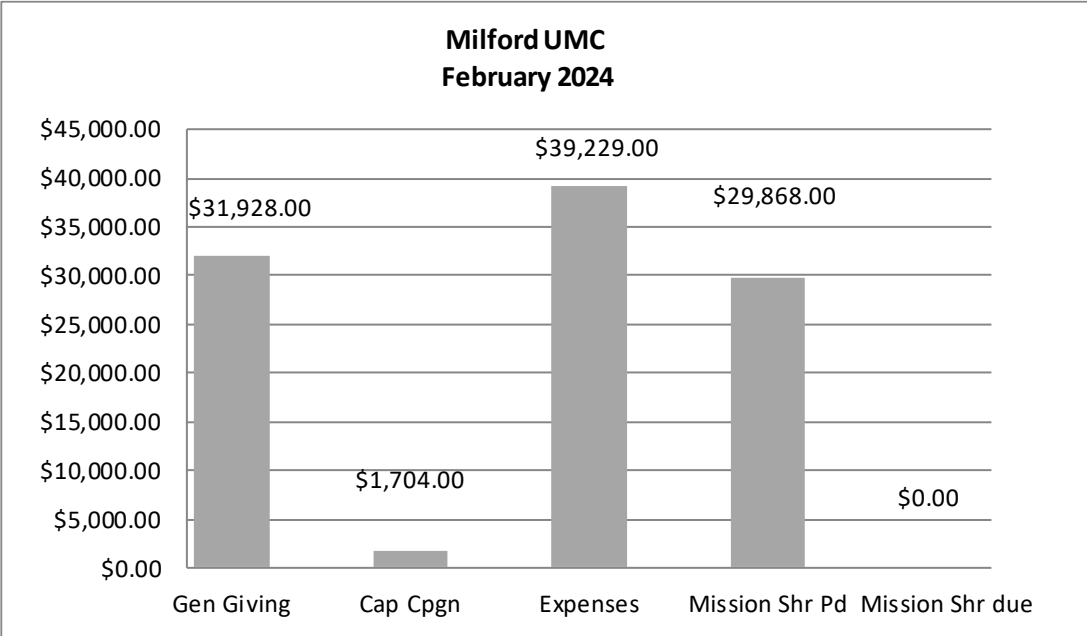
Instructions are available at the information table in the Narthex. Please direct all questions or requests for help to Janet Hromjak, Rudy Rumohr, or Lisa Payne.

If you are unable to take advantage of the **AudioFetch** option, we also have personal amplification devices available in the sound booth. These devices are simple to use and include headphones.



# Financial Reports

From Kirk Randlett, for the Finance Committee



| YTD Financials      |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| General Giving      | \$31,928.00 |
| Cap Campaign        | \$1,704.00  |
| Expenses            | \$39,229.00 |
| Mission Shares Paid | \$29,868.00 |
| Mission Shares Due  | \$0.00      |



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



MUMC giving QR Code

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

**Birthdays**

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>April 1</b>  | Alexis Eaton      |
| <b>April 3</b>  | Devin Holland     |
| <b>April 4</b>  | Marley Gale       |
| <b>April 5</b>  | Ruth Ann Paden    |
| <b>April 18</b> | Haylee Lambert    |
| <b>April 18</b> | Teresa Randlett   |
| <b>April 23</b> | Abby Tobbe        |
| <b>April 26</b> | Grace St. Jean    |
| <b>April 28</b> | Kerri-Lynn Kimner |
| <b>April 28</b> | Leila Whitley     |
| <b>April 30</b> | Lincoln St. Jean  |
| <b>April 30</b> | Natalie Lawton    |

**Anniversaries**

The office calendar shows no anniversaries this month. Hope we didn't miss yours.



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**

**April 7:** Psalm 133, Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31

**April 14:** Psalm 4, Acts 3:12-19, 1 John 3:1-7  
Luke 24:36b-48

**April 21:** Psalm 23, Acts 4:5-12, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

**April 28:** Psalm 22:25-31, Acts 8:26-40  
1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8



**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 handi-capped 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)



# 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**





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><br>7 Trustees                   | <b>2</b><br>7 p Praise Band                              | <b>3</b><br>8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee<br>9 Whitetops<br>1 Lamplighters<br>6 Potluck<br>6:30 Prayer /             | <b>4</b><br>12 Hybrid Study<br>5:45 Bells<br>7:- Chancel Choir  | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>   |
| <b>7</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebration<br>9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School<br>10:30 Traditional Service<br>5 p Shrove Feast<br>7 p Men's Group | <b>8</b><br>6 SPRC Virtual<br>7 Trustees | <b>9</b><br>07 p Praise Band                             | <b>10</b><br>8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee<br>9 Whitetops<br>1 Lamplighters<br>6 Potluck<br>6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom | <b>11</b><br>12 Hybrid Study<br>5:45 Bells<br>7:- Chancel Choir | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b><br>5-6:30 p Spaghetti Dinner                                   |
| <b>14</b> 8:30 Spirit Celebration<br>9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School<br>10:30 Traditional Service<br>7 p Men's Group                    | <b>15</b><br>5:45-VOICE                  | <b>16</b><br>7 p Praise Band                             | <b>17</b><br>8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee<br>9 Whitetops<br>1 Lamplighters<br>6 Potluck<br>6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom | <b>18</b><br>12 Hybrid Study<br>5:45 Bells<br>7:- Chancel Choir | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>21</b><br>8:30 Spirit Celebration<br>9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School<br>10:30 Traditional Service<br>7 p Men's Group                 | <b>22</b>                                | <b>23</b><br>5p Mission<br>6p Finance<br>7 p Praise Band | <b>24</b><br>8:45 Coffee w/ Pastor. Union Coffee<br>9 Whitetops<br>1 Lamplighters<br>6 Potluck<br>6:30 Prayer / Study Zoom | <b>25</b><br>12 Hybrid Study<br>5:45 Bells<br>7:- Chancel Choir | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b><br>9-11a Yard Sale Drop off<br>Crafting Workshop<br>12:30-3 pm |
| <b>28</b> :30 Spirit Celebration<br>9:40 Children's Church, Adult Sunday School<br>10:30 Traditional Service<br>7 p Men's Group                     | <b>29</b>                                | <b>30</b><br>7 p Praise Band                             |  |   |           |  |



## Milford United Methodist Church

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

*April 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.