The Winchester Weekly Window Week of February 16, 2025 Through February 23, 2025



The United Church of Winchester 99 Main Street Winchester, NH 03470 (603)239-4465 https://www.facebook.com/UnitedChurchofWinchester

THE CHURCH CALENDAR THIS WEEK: Sunday 02/16/25 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 10:00am - 11:00am Worship (S) (The Rev. Patrick McLoud) 11:00am - Fellowship Time (FH) Monday 02/17/25 7:00pm - 9:00pm AA Mtg (FH) Tuesday 02/18/25 5:00pm - 8:00pm Administrative Assistant IN Office 6:00pm - 7:30pm Kiwanis Mtg (FH) 8:00pm - 9:00pm 12 Step Group (FH) Wednesday 02/19/25 5:00pm - 8:00pm Administrative Assistant IN Office 6:00pm - 7:00pm St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry (FH) Thursday 02/20/25 5:00pm - 8:00pm Administrative Assistant IN Office Friday 02/21/25 6:00pm - 7:15pm Open Table (FH) Saturday 02/22/25 Sunday 02/23/25 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany 10:00am - 11:00am Worship (S) (????)

**Requests for Checks:** If you need our church treasurer to cut you a check, either to reimburse you for money you have fronted for a church project, or to pay a church vendor, you must now fill out a check request form. These are found in a marked envelope in the "Out" box on the door of the church office. A receipt or purchase order **must** be attached to the form. Return the completed form to the "In" box on the office door or give it directly to the church treasurer. This will help us to keep our accounting straight.

**Prayer Chain Reorganization:** In addition to our church's weekly prayer list, we have a prayer chain that can be activated for urgent situations or situations requiring absolute confidentiality. From time to time it has to be reorganized and updated to keep it running efficiently. If you would like to volunteer for the prayer chain **or** if you are a current member who would like to continue on the chain, please contact Mitty Johnson and include your preferred method of contact (phone, text, email, no calls during certain hours, etc.) The goal is to have the reorganization complete and the new list of contacts published in the Weekly Window. In the meantime, you may still request prayers through the chain as currently published.

## Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Family & friends of Patricia "Eileen" Burnor, Jennifer Wheeling and family, Theresa Hallett, Family & friends of Mary E. Johnson, Baby Charlotte, Nola Poole, Stacy Corliss, Ruth Anderson, Gaelle McLoud, Karla Bruno, Samantha, Larry VanCor, Donnie Prentice, Bob Conner, Aloe Ryder Collins, Jessica Shea, Laura, Paula Dewey's sister Patricia, Memory Matuvhunya, Sibusisiwe Gapara, the people of Zimbabwe and our partner church in Zimbabwe, those suffering from the ravages of war, those displaced by natural disasters.



02/08 - Pamela Bigelow LaPorte 02/08 - Roz Humes 02/18 - John Struthers-Howe 02/19 - Phil Samsel 02/21 - Lauren Reese 02/22 - Sara Johnson 02/25 - Paul Morehouse, Jr.



None for February

Winter Foods for the Give and Take Blessing Nook: As the weather cools in the evening, hungry people need heartier foods. Canned pastas, hearty soups, and baked beans or chili beans are needed. We have a steady need for canned meats and fish, peanut butter, cereal, and canned fruit. Please, **no** vegetables, plain beans, or rice. We have an abundance of these right now due to some generous donations. As always, thank you to all who donate in these lean times. It makes a real difference in the lives of our neighbors.

**Recycling:** Many folks seem to be unaware that our church does recycling. If you have # 1 or #2 plastic containers or metal food cans left over from a church activity, please rinse them out and deposit them in one of the beige boxes underneath the big dishwashing sinks. Paper or cardboard, such as your church bulletin, can be placed in the big box just inside the church door next to the food donation box. A blue recycling bin is coming soon to that location to make the paper recycling center more obvious. Thanks for "pitching in" to help our environment.

**Communion Sunday Help Needed:** Over the past several years, various lay people have taken turns preparing the Communion elements and assisting in serving Communion. Mitty Johnson has been volunteering to do this over the past several years and is ready to have someone else take a turn. She will be happy to continue to supply the grape juice each month, so the new volunteer will just have to buy the bread and cut it up, prepare the table, serve the elements, and wash the few Communion vessels afterwards. Please speak to Mitty if you can help out with this.

**Our Prayer Chain is ready to help.** If you or someone you know has need of urgent and/or confidential prayer, you can call anyone on the list below to activate our prayer chain. We will gladly pray for your concern for one week, and longer if you request it. For long-term situations or when you would like the whole church to pray, please contact the church office to have your concern put on the prayer list in the Weekly Window. You may use both the Prayer Chain and the church list if your situation needs prayer immediately and you would also like everyone to pray. Please feel free to contact any of the following and your concern will be passed through the chain:

Mitty Johnson Jackie Taylor Felicia Howard-Olmstead Sandy Williams Kevan Whippie Penny Vaine Mim Johnson Mary L. Johnson Nicole Eddy Rosalie Whittle Thelma Gomarlo Marion Baldvins Lauren Reese

**Do you or a loved one need prayer?** Our church members are always happy to pray for your needs. We have three ways to request prayer for your situation: **For urgent or confidential needs** you can call Mitty Johnson (new phone number 603-242-5597) or any member of our prayer chain.

To ask the whole church to pray and to lift up your concern during worship you can call or email the church office or Outreach Team leader Mitty Johnson. You may do this in addition to having your concern on the prayer chain, if you wish.

To be added to the church prayer list or to have someone phone you for private prayer you may fill out a form and leave it in the "Prayer Request" box to the right of the church entrance door.

We will pray for anyone so if your friend or neighbor expresses a concern to you, ask, "Would you like to have your concern on the church prayer list?" If someone is worried about confidentiality, they may use the prayer chain or be put on the church list with first name only.

**Communion Offerings:** One of the things that fell by the wayside during the Covid shutdown was our monthly Communion offering for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which helps people with temporary needs such as fuel oil. The Leadership Team would like to revive this monthly offering, but expand it to include other missions that serve local people or those farther afield. Under the name Monthly Mission, we will collect for the Discretionary Fund on Communion Sunday in odd-numbered months and another mission on Communion Sunday in even-numbered months. We will do this for several months on a trial basis, and would like to hear feedback from the congregation. All of the designated missions are ones that TUCW has supported in the past. The schedule is as follows:

- Jan: Discretionary Fund
- Feb: One Hundred Nights
- Mar: Discretionary Fund
- Apr: David's House
- May: Discretionary Fund
- June: Our Church's Wider Mission (UCC)
- July: Discretionary Fund
- Aug: Feeding Tiny Tummies
- Sept: Discretionary Fund
- Oct: Habitat for Humanity
- Nov: Discretionary Fund
- Dec: Church World Service Blankets

**Spring Tea is scheduled:** The Spring Tea fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 12 this year, so mark your calendar now. The Tea Team consists of Suzanne O'Donnell, Mim Johnson, Kathy Morehouse, Mitty Johnson, and Paula Dewey. While this is the organizing team, we need all hands on deck to make this the huge success that it was last year. If you can donate or solicit raffle items (please, no alcohol in accordance with church policy), bake, make sandwiches, wash dishes, set up, clean up, sell tickets, or help with publicity, please contact Suzanne O'Donnell (860-324-7286) or Mitty Johnson (774-230-2526). We'll be getting started in earnest at the beginning of February, so hop on board!

| WORSHIP SCHEDULE |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
|                  |                            |
| 02/16/25         | The Rev. Patrick McLoud    |
| 02/23/25         | ???????                    |
| 02/28/25         | Mitty Johnson (Open Table) |



New Hampshire Churches,

We hope that you will join us for The New Hampshire Conference UCC Prepared to Serve event on February 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 8 AM. This event is a wonderful opportunity to learn and participate in workshops led by people of the UCC community.

Enclosed in this envelope is a sample of our Prepared to Serve booklet. This booklet includes the schedule and description of the workshops provided. We are only sending one physical copy of this booklet to each church this year. If you or anyone from your church would like another physical copy, you can find it on the official UCC website at nhcucc.org. Once you are on the home page a large green banner will appear. Click on the button and you will be taken to our Prepared to Serve page. Click **"View Document"** to access the **"Printable Course Booklet"** and download the file from there. The online version of the booklet will be updated if any information changes so make sure to check the website for any changes or updates to the course schedule!

We are excited to include you in this year's Prepared to Serve event! If you have further questions, please reach out to The New Hampshire Conference using the contact information below!

Thank you, The New Hampshire Conference (603) 225-2345 NHCUCC@nhcucc.org