

THE GOOD News

MARCH 2021



Visit DublinChurch.org

All recent Dublin Community Church sermons, music, and fabulous Sunday school offerings for the children (ages 1-100+) can be found in text and voice at facebook.com/Dublin-Community-Church-47439349395. There you can find our live-stream link for the 10:30 Sunday Service and so much more.

You can also join Bible Study in a Zoom meeting. Check the calendar for dates and times.



The Indelible Difference a Year Can Make

It was during Lententide last year that we were asked to surrender our way of being church to protect one another from the coronavirus. In mid-March we gathered one last time in the sanctuary. We did not wear masks because we had no masks. We knew to keep our distance, though. I stood by the front door with my hands clasped across my chest as if I was hugging myself as one-by-one Friends left the sanctuary with no way to know if or when we would ever see one another again; I was really holding myself back and holding myself together on that solemn Sunday. Will there ever be another season of Lent that I do not reflect on the year of 2020, when we surrendered our togetherness to ensure our survival? I hope I will always remember.

So this month of March is now a marker for us as a church community, a season all its own, and how perfect it is that it coincides with Lent. Lent has two parallel themes: reflection and changing direction (also known as repentance). We receive ashes at the beginning of Lent to remind us that, as it says in Genesis 3:19, we come from the earth and to the earth we shall return... ashes to ashes and dust to dust, but our spirit is eternal, imperishable, everlasting.

This time of pandemic, like all things, will pass but we will not go back to how it was before. How could we? We will continue to create something suited for the seasons we find ourselves in and we will carry in our hearts and minds so many memories of what has been, what we surrendered, and what we gained. We carry within us, even now, a strength and flexibility of being that I can only call wisdom. Let's take a few moments to honor what we have been through in the past year and offer a prayer of gratitude that we are still here.



Each year the palm fronds from Palm Sunday are charred in a metal box and ground into ashes to mark the beginning of the season of Lent that extends this year through all of March.

— Traceymay

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace."

— Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

The Dublin Community Church: An Open & Affirming Church

"We, the people of the Dublin Community Church, gather together in love and tolerance to seek through prayer, worship, study, and fellowship to respond faithfully to God's Word, so that, edified and empowered by the spirit of a loving God, we will grow in faith in order to serve God and witness to our community through acts of love, compassion, and healing."

MESSAGE FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Rosamond Cady

Sunday evening, February 21, the Christian Ed Board, with huge help from Margot Close, and The Combined Church of Harrisville and Chesham (CCHC), assembled and delivered a tasty hot meal for approximately 45 of our friends at the Hundred Night's Shelter in Keene. We have been partnering in this effort with Harrisville since October of 2018, and it has been wonderful! The work load has been halved, and therefore guaranteed sustainable. But the friendships formed between the two churches are the best part!

We have been co-hosting four Sunday night meals annually; we alternate "main course" and "desserts/breads/etc." DCC had the main course this time: four big pans of American Chop Suey and one big mac n'

cheese as a vegetarian option. Margot Close always makes an enormous, wonderful green salad. Harrisville handled bread, butter, milk, juice, and dessert. Someone from their church made homemade bread!

The past four Shelter Meals have been drop-and-run situations. Upon arrival at the site, several people come out to bring the meal inside. The glorious part of doing these meals has always been setting up and serving our friends, talking with them, hearing their stories. Obviously, we can't do that during the pandemic. But as I was pulling stuff out of my car to hand over, I handed a warm pan of food to a young man and said, "Thank you." He took the pan and said, "Thank you? Are you kidding? Thank YOU!"
 Love, *Yummy*

MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES —

The 2021 Board of Trustees had its first Zoom meeting on 2/21 hosted by Phil Cayford. They have oddly become the norm. But they work! We welcomed Frank Rizzo as our newest member, with a cameo appearance of one of his and Julie's dogs! The current Board is made up of Brian Barden, Yummy Cady, Libby Haddock, Teresa Imhoff, Bob Meissner and Frank Rizzo, and Agent Phil Cayford and Treasurer Bruce Fox.

The Trustees are committed to addressing two of the concerns raised at Annual Meeting: our invested funds and painting the church. Two years ago, the Congregation voted to move our invested funds from Fidelity to the United Church Fund, inspired by its commitment to socially responsible investing; the process has had its challenges. The access to personnel and data has been difficult, at best. Because of the

clumsy start with UCF, the Trustees, with guidance from our Agent, Phil, chose to retain a portion of our invested funds with Fidelity. The Trustees are committed to protecting and growing our invested funds, and providing the Congregation with transparent reporting. Decisions on these concerns will be made available as we attempt to get more clarity from UCF.

Our beautiful old building always seems to need painting! It is that time... again! The Trustees have decided to start with the most obvious needs first. The steeple needs some repair and painting, the west side of the church also needs painting, as do the front columns. We already have someone coming in the Spring to repair and paint the columns; we will be getting estimates immediately for the steeple work and the west side, and will proceed from there. Stay tuned!

MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS — Beth Karlicek

Our church has some extraordinary people who never fail to step in when there is need, and lead not with fanfare but with humor and clarity. Tim Clark is one of those guys! He has chaired the Deacons for six years and brought kindness, understanding and lots of laughs to our little group. From the highest rooftops, we shout Thank You, Tim! Thanks to Jill Fleischman for her fine service as our fellow Deacon and scribe. We will miss you both. A warm welcome to Steffie Kyte and May Clark as they join our merry band.

Our human Deacons have faded into the background as our technology has provided the wheels for our Sunday service. Should Zoom be our newest Deacon? Traceymay has adroitly navigated our

gatherings from Facebook, to spectacular outdoor fall services, to our Sunday mornings at 10:30 when we are indeed together. Not only do we see and hear her live at the pulpit, we see each other — even if some are only a name and a black square. You're there!

Come join us and "be" together -- in church but from the comfort of your own home. Tom plays beautifully and sings your favorite hymns. We can voice our prayers of celebration and concern. We're in church with its beautiful light and high ceilings, and we can almost see each other in the pews. And an added benefit: Zoom links are easy to share with friends and family so they can join us at church.

Amazing! "See" you Sunday!

MONTHLY DEACONS

March 7 – Hilary Bourgoine
 March 14 – Beth Karlicek

March 21 – May Clark with Steffie Kyte
 March 28 – Janice Moore (Palm Sunday)



MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDS —

With May Clark and Nancy Jackson cycling off the Stewards, Karen Conrow joined the group, as did June Brening and Rosemary Wolpe. They join Bob Kyte, Jeanne Sterling, and Barbara Summers. As soon as the six of them meet online, and select a chair, they will share what their plans are.

From the DCC Board and Committees description, we read: “The Stewards are responsible for raising funds for the church through the Annual Pledge Campaign and Friends Campaign. Stewards plan and carry out these campaigns annually. Stewards keep the pledge and donor lists up to date. Stewards oversee fellowship aspects of the church – coffee hour, making sure we are always welcoming, and occasionally organizing a fellowship opportunity for the church.”



Easter is the only observance whose time is determined by the moon. Easter is always the first Sunday following the first full moon that follows the Spring equinox. This year, Easter is on Sunday, April 4.

MESSAGE FROM OUTREACH — Sally Hoover

This year, the Committee has expanded its Outreach to provide support for the Bond and Support Fund of the Immigrant and Refugee Support Group (IRSG), which functions under the auspices of the New Hampshire UCC in Pembroke.

Many may not know that not far from here, in Dover, the Strafford County Jail serves as an ICE detention site for New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont. Up to 100 asylum seekers are held in detention there, awaiting release. If they are bonded out, there is much to deal with as they move through the legal system. It is an extremely vulnerable time.

The IRSG Fund was established to help by raising funds to bond eligible immigrants out of detention, to connect asylum-seekers with vital legal assistance, as well as to provide detention and post-detention support and visitation, and to provide small levels of benevolent support for hosted immigrants who have been recently bonded out.

Next month, we will share brief stories of those who have been helped, showing how this fund has made a difference in the lives of asylum-seekers here in New Hampshire.

Two of our stalwarts have “termed out,” and we want to thank them for their mighty contributions to the work of the Committee. Penny Smith and June Brening gave so much of their time, their energy, and their good spirits – and then some – to all the Outreach Projects.

Welcome, new members: Grisel Levene and Lucy Shonk.

TAKE-OUT COMMUNITY SUPPER FOR ALL

The Outreach Committee is providing a Community Take-out Supper on **Tuesday, March 23**. Pick up begins at 5:30 pm. It will include meatloaf, potato, vegetable and dessert.

Reservations are required. Please call Laurie Jameson at 603-876-5003 to let her know the number of meals requested and give her your phone number. You will be given directions when you call for a reservation.



**OUR
OPEN & AFFIRMING
STATEMENT**

“As people of faith, we believe that God’s love is for everyone.

We honor human relationships that are based on love, responsibility, mutual respect, trust and fidelity.

We embrace each person’s uniqueness.

We welcome and support all people equally regardless of marital, social or economic status, race, ability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, age or religious affiliation.

Therefore, as an Open and Affirming congregation, we invite all persons to join in the full life and ministry of the church and to share its joys, privileges and responsibilities.



Knowing that this commitment poses a spiritual challenge, we encourage each other to accept God’s call to love our neighbors as ourselves.”

— Adopted by the Congregation in 2005 —



DUBLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 1125 MAIN ST., PO BOX 308
 DUBLIN, NH 03444

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Open 2-5 pm	2	3 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	4 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	5 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	6
7 Service recorded indoors for online viewing	8 Church Open 2-5 pm 		10 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; Outreach meets via Zoom 5 pm	11 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	12 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm 	
14 Service recorded indoors for online viewing; Daylight Savings begins	15 Church Open 2-5 pm	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	19 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	20 Bible Study, 8:30-10 am, Zoom
21 Service will be recorded. Deacons meet via Zoom 12 pm	22 Church Open 2-5 pm	23 Community Supper Take Out 5:30 pm	24 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	25 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	26 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	27
28 Service recorded indoors for online viewing	29 Church Open 2-5 pm	30	31 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm 			


**Dublin Community Church,
 United Church of Christ**
 An Open & Affirming Church
 1125 Main Street, PO Box 308
 Dublin, NH 03444
 (603) 563-8139
 dublinchurch@myfairpoint.net
 www.DublinChurch.org

**Traceymay Kalvaitis,
 Pastor (603) 715-0990**

**Rosamond Cady,
 Superintendent of
 Church School
 (603) 924-3120**

**Tom Martin,
 Director of Music
 (603) 563-8139**

**Wendy Douglass,
 Office Manager
 (603) 563-8139
 dublinchurch@myfairpoint.net
 Office Manager hours:
 Thurs & Fri: 9 am - 1 pm**

 Newsletter: Margaret Gurney