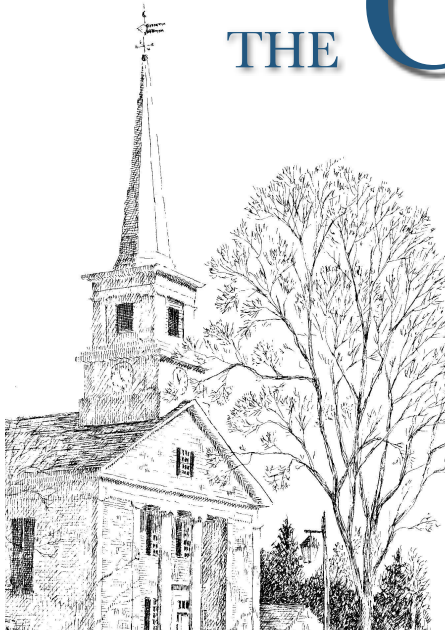


DECEMBER 2021

THE GOOD News



Visit [DublinChurch.org](https://dublinchurch.org)

All 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. Music opens at 10:15 am, as the candles are lit in church.

All are welcome to join Scripture Discussion in a Zoom meeting, every third Saturday at 8:30 am.

Please call for the Zoom link.

Becoming “Stewards of God’s Grace in Various Forms”

Next time you’re at church, I invite you to take a few moments to appreciate the church sign. It is a work of art. It’s probably been nearly ten years ago that an ad-hoc committee was formed to offer input about creating a new sign for the church. I remember serving on that committee. Mike Scott was our minister and he had the foresight to ask Jill Fischman to work on the design. She had a career as an Art Director and Designer for international magazines, and Mike saw clearly how her skills and experience would be invaluable.

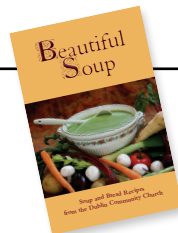
Jill remembers, “My process needed to take me deep into the soul and spirit of the church. What I designed needed to hold up the integrity and meaning behind those walls.” She drew, by hand, the olive branch that graces the top of the sign. The olive branch is “a symbol of friendship, reconciliation, cleansing and healing, light, victory and richness and, above all, a sign of peace.” Jill chose the granite pieces for the pillars that would give just the right proportions and worked closely with the artist who interpreted her design in three-dimensional form.

Our church sign is so much more than what meets the eye. Our church sign represents a recognition of gifts and experience, a willingness to share one’s gifts, and a host of collaborative efforts that led to a truly beautiful finished product.

We all have something to offer in making this church a beacon of light. Our church family is growing, have you noticed? It is imperative that we introduce ourselves and make the effort and take the time to get to know one another. Ask questions. Share stories. In doing so, we discover the gifts that others may not yet recognize in themselves. And we might just learn a thing or two about ourselves in the process.

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”
— 1 Peter 4:10

Traceymay



The Dublin Community Church’s “Beautiful Soup” cookbook of 69 soups and 13 breads, with recipes collected from members and friends of the church, is for sale in the Dublin General Store and at the church office for \$15 each.

They make wonderful gifts.



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

We are entering our second pandemic Advent Season, our second year without our beautiful children gifting us with their pageant. But thankfully, our children will be leading us in worship during Advent, two families at a time.

One of our older children will be calling us to worship and reading the scripture readings each week, and another family will be lighting our Advent Wreath candles. Our kids are involved in other holiday events, as well. The front portico of the church will be home to a brightly lit Christmas tree, decorated by our children – a beacon of light for the entire community. And the Sunday School will be hosting our annual Heifer International Alternative Giving Sale.

You may Christmas shop in the entryway of the church on the four Sundays of Advent, as well as at the Holiday Market on December 4th, or you may choose to shop online by logging onto our website at [Upcoming Events | Dublin Church](#) to access the personalized DCC Heifer Virtual Living Gift Market.

Merry Christmas.

Love, Yummy



In lieu of our traditional Christmas Eve service, Dublin Community Church is inviting village neighbors to once again place luminaria around the village center, beginning at dusk on Christmas Eve. Photo by Volkert Volkersz

A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA

A **Holiday Market** will be held on Saturday morning, December 4, from 9 am to 12 noon, in the bay at the east entrance of our Church (aka the Boutique).

No fees, no prices; pay as you wish for any festive ornaments, holiday housewares, Christmas linens or seasonal decorations, and other surprises.

Dress warmly for waiting outside, since attendance will be limited, and once inside, please wear masks.

Hot cider will be served outside!



MESSAGE FROM OUTREACH — Ellen Bingham

It's Time to Prepare Christmas Gifts for Our Local Families

Christmas gift tags are ready to be selected in the church vestry. Outreach members have made tags for 32 children that say "boy" or "girl," their age, and an item they hope to get for Christmas. Each child will receive two presents plus a gift card for the family. The tags are hanging on the Giving Tree in the vestry.

People may start taking tags Sunday, November 21, or any time during the week when the church is open. Please follow the instructions for taking a tag, so Outreach knows who has which tag in case it is necessary to be in touch. Also, please remember to put the tag back onto your wrapped gift before bringing it in, so your gift can be matched to the child who is supposed to receive it.

A member of Outreach will be available on Sundays (Nov. 21st, 28th, and Dec. 5th) to help with tags. All gifts must come back to the church by **December 10**, which gives us just enough time to sort and prepare everything for families to pick up during the week of December 13. Thank you!

News about our New Online Streaming From the Music Director

Tom Martin is happy to report that the new online streaming system is up and running as of Sunday, November 14. Those attending services remotely should notice a significant improvement in the picture and sound of the stream. Remote attendees will also be able to hear the sounds of the room — people singing and conversation from the congregation.

Traceymay and people attending live will be able to hear remote prayer requests and comments provided the sound is unmuted before (and after) a prayer request or comment.

The system was designed and installed by Alex Trombly of Swanzy (AMT Productions). Tom and Alex have worked together on many productions at Keene High School, Keene State College, and other venues. We are grateful for funding provided by the Spiker Fund.

Our usual stream operator, Woody Stockwell, was unable to be there on the 14th, so Frankie LeBlanc stood in with a big learning curve and did a fine job.

As we go forward, we will continue to fine-tune the system to take advantage of the audio and video capabilities.

A reminder to remote attendees, please mute your sound unless you wish to say something for the entire congregation to hear.

Should remote attendees have an issue with the stream, you can communicate with Tom Martin by using the Chat feature of Zoom. Please select Tom Martin to chat with, otherwise all people in the Zoom meeting will see your message.

So far, chats have mostly been about issues with sound, which we are working on mastering.



MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS — Beth Karlicek

Though the resumption of indoor services can be defined as Deacon News, I can't help but reflect that we're worshipping inside because of the remarkable synergy among the groups that keep the wheels of our church in motion. The wonderful new sound system that the trustees and Tom Martin implemented highlights our music and enhances online viewing. Christian Ed and Outreach have brought old and new friends to our services through their tireless work. Our web team has rolled out a new website that is contemporary and well, us! We have a vibrant church community, and nothing reveals this more than our coming together when we've lost our dear friend, Tim Clark.

Each of our groups considers Tim as one of their own, but for me, he will always be a Deacon. Before I joined this small group of candle-lighters,



Tim assured me that Deacons have fun, and for one unused to church involvement, there was no better invitation. Encouraging, thoughtful, full of stories and humor, Tim led me to find my church voice and set me on a path of church service. He has led us all on a merry Deacon adventure, and thanks to him, it will never end.

His smile, his singing, his stories, and his presence, are all sorely missed.

MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDS — Rosemary Wolpe

As part of our annual pledge drive, I spoke on a recent Sunday about the relationship I have had with the DCC since my childhood. I first came as a tag-along with the Wenigmann family, and not wanting to miss out, I continued coming — but it was never with a parent or one of my five siblings and so I always felt like I was just a guest.

Years later, married with a young family, we had moved to DC and were looking for a place to worship. That is how we found ourselves at a Unitarian church coffee hour where an older couple engaged us in a conversation. Learning I was from Dublin, they told me a memorable event that had happened on their New England honeymoon trip 60 years before.

They had pulled over to take pictures of our church.

A woman named Frederica James approached them and shared her own attachment to the church. After waiting for her to run home for the key, they got a personal tour of the church, a history lesson, and an invitation to tea. That woman was my grandmother.

This story was so profound for me on several levels. What are the chances I find myself in a big church in a big city talking to this random couple? Even more surprising, I find out that my grandmother had once been a trusted member of the church — perhaps even a steward like me! Most importantly, the key story unlocked a sense of truly belonging to our church.

Don't be surprised if I ask you to write about your own story of belonging to our church.

Stay tuned.

OPEN & AFFIRMING STATEMENT — *Adopted by this Congregation in 2005* —

"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."

MONTHLY VOLUNTEERS

	<i>Deacon</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Lift</i>	<i>Flowers</i>
12/5 – 2nd Advent	May Clark	Paul Simpson	Nancy Cayford	Bruce Fox	Julie Rizzo
12/12 – 3rd Advent	Janice Moore	Frank LeBlanc	May Clark	TBA	Nancy Cayford
12/19 – 4th Advent	Margaret Flick	Surasa Kalvaitis	Margot Close	Phil Gammons	Penny Smith
12/26 –	Steffie Kyte	Nancy Cayford	Ken & Anne Fields	Libby Haddock	

Dublin Community Church Take-Out Supper for All

Tuesday, December 28

Pickup begins at 5:30 pm

*The menu will be chicken surprise,
cranberry sauce, and dessert.*

Reservations are required.

*Please call Laurie Jameson at 876-5003
by Friday, December 24, to reserve a
meal and give her your phone number.
You will get directions when you call.*

*Offered by members of the
Outreach Committee and
volunteers from the community.*

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2021						
			1 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm	2 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	3 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	4 Decorating the Tree & Holiday Market, 9 am -12
5 Worship 10:30 am	6 Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	7	8 Church Open 10 am - 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm; Outreach Zoom 6 pm	9 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am; Veteran's Day	10 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; all gifts due wrapped to church	11
12 Worship 10:30 am	13 Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	14	15 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm	16 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	17 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	18 Scripture Discussion 8:30-10 am, call for Zoom link
19 Worship 10:30 am; Trustees meet after Worship	20 Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	21	22 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm	23 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	24 Lighting the Luminaria in the Village Center at dusk	25 Christmas Day
26 Worship 10:30 am	27 Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	28 Take-Out Community Supper 5:30 pm, call Laurie	29 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm	30 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	31 Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	January 1 – Welcome to the New Year 2022

Dublin Community Church,
United Church of Christ

An Open & Affirming Church

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