### A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF DUBLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH, DUBLIN, NH 03444

APRIL 2022

# THE GOOD News



### Visit 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 Discussions in a Zoom meeting, every third Saturday at 8:30 am.

Please call for the Zoom link.



# In the Cross

In this month of one of our highest and holiest of days, the celebration of Easter, I am thinking about the cross that is so often used as a symbol of Christ. In *World Atlas*, Sundree Attiwa writes, "A vast body of evidence shows that the cross was used centuries before the birth of Christianity. The pre-Christian cross was used as a religious symbol and as an ornament among the Egyptians, Syrians, Greeks, Persians, Europeans, and in some parts of Africa."

The oldest use of the cross as a symbol dates back to the stone age, some 3000 years before Christ, as carvings in cave walls across present-day Europe. We can only imagine what the symbol meant to our ancestors of long ago.



Consider the simplest form of a cross + and what a powerful symbol it is. Two perpendicular lines meet at one (and only one) point. It could represent a convergence, a union, a point of commonality. It could also represent a divergence and a moving outward from a common point. I have never really thought about this before; have you?

Recently I read somewhere that one way to think of the cross is as a reminder of Jesus's answer when he was asked, "What is the greatest commandment?" He answered, "There are two. The first is, love God with all your heart, soul and mind; the second is, love your neighbor as yourself" (Mathew 22). The vertical axis of the cross symbolizes love of God (reaching up) and the horizontal axis of the cross symbolizes our duty to love one another (reaching out).

I leave you, Friends, with that image of reaching upwards and outwards. May we be blessed in our reaching and may we, in turn, be a blessing to others.

'The word of the cross...is the power of God."

— 1 Corinthians 1:8 In the cross, — Traceymay

If you would like to purchase an Easter lily to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please call or text Mary Loftis (603-831-6641). She will be placing an order with Coll's Garden Center in Jaffrey. Prices are: Single Lily - \$16; Double Lily - \$36

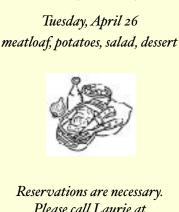
### MESSAGE FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Rosamond Cady

Funny thing happened to our older children during the two-year shutdown of in-person Sunday School — seven of them matured into "confirmation-aged" young adults! The logistical planning for somehow getting these kids engaged in the process began in January, while we were still in deep COVID territory. It was decided that a Zoom format would suit the needs of these busy kids best.

For the past many years, the confirmation program our church has offered has been mentor-based; the young adult would choose a member from the church to mentor them through a curriculum sponsored by the United Church of Christ together. In these COVID times, that did not seem feasible. But the basics of the curriculum, plus the enormous impact of our young adults to be able to see someone they know within their church family live their life of faith, became the core for an on-line class.

The need to create a new curriculum has proven to be a wonderful gift. Creating something new forced us to look carefully at the way we were ushering our kids through this beautiful rite of passage. It has produced some changes in our approach and language. The basic content presented in the preparation for our youth to become full members of our church has not changed; the delivery certainly has!

Our first class was held Sunday evening on March 6th; the hour-long classes are scheduled every other Sunday evening through the end of May. Each week one or two members of the church have been invited to be guest mentors, sharing their gifts of knowledge and life experience that directly relates to the focus of each class: Laurie Jameson, Lisa LeBlanc, Nancy Cayford, Ruthie Gammons, Avelea Kalvaitis, Katharine Fox, Traceymay, and Rosemary Weidner. When the class is completed, each young adult will hopefully have received the information needed to make an informed, adult decision whether or not to declare their faith as a rite of passage. They will be celebrated on Children's Sunday, June 12th.



Community Take-Out

Supper Is for Everyone

Please call Laurie at 603-876-5003 by Friday, April 22 to request a meal. She will give you directions for the 5:30 pm pickup when you call.

Please tell Laurie if you would like to help with cooking or meal distribution.

More awesome news! In-person Sunday School will resume April 10th! It will be the first class held in our beautiful new space. The weekly lessons will still be recorded and posted. It feels as though the faith formation of our children is emerging from a long, long winter. Thank God! Love,

	Yummy	
MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES — Teresa Imhoff	5	

Back in December, we reported that our church Audio Visual equipment was significantly upgraded to give a higher quality picture and sound experience to those who are unable to come to church in person. As a church member and trustee who has had many Sunday mornings on the other side of the improvement, I'd like to highlight just what this has meant for me, and hopefully, for our entire church community.

While we all agree that there is nothing like sitting in our beautiful Sanctuary listening to our minister's message, looking around, and feeling a deep connection as we pray together, sharing both our personal and the world's sorrows and joys, it may not always be possible to get to church physically. I have most recently attended church from another state with my 94-year-old housebound aunt. I've watched the recording from a hotel room at the airport when I was waiting for an early morning flight. And, both times, without fail, I instantly felt connected to our church, the familiar faces in the pews, the light streaming in the windows, the comfort of hymns sung together, and the peace that comes from a good hour spent at church, even when you are not able to be *in* church.

Yummy Cady reported to us that as Confirmation classes start for a group of our young attendees, the UCC's message of Extravagant Welcome was the first lesson, and the AV system was mentioned as just that: allowing more to "hear" and more to "see" online. With restrictions on physical numbers in church, we have still been able to hold funeral services, most recently, Mary Edick's, which was Zoomed and recorded, allowing more community members to celebrate her life.

When the new system was installed late last year, the intention was that our remote attendees will better be able to see, hear, and participate in church services as they streamed the service on their home computers. And, that very system, so artfully managed by Woody Stockwell on Sunday mornings, is a promise fulfilled.

### MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS — Beth Karlicek

Lent and Easter are a time of reflection and change: from one week to another, events shift. Our season reflects this as we switch dramatically from winter snowstorms to warm sunny days.

Daffodils sprout next to snowbanks. A year ago we were not worshiping together in person. Now we worship together at Easter and our children meet in person in Sunday School on Palm Sunday.

Let's celebrate the miracle of spring and the wonder of Yummy, as the Dublin Community Center dedicates a room in her honor.

### MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDS — Archie Roth

Meet our neighbor, Laurie Jameson. Laurie's family moved to Keene when she was 5 years old. She grew up there and went on to teach in Bennington, Vermont. When Laurie retired, she wanted to come back to the Monadnock Region because family members live here.

Laurie found the church because one Christmas eve, she and her daughter were looking for a service that

would fit their schedules. They saw that Dublin was offering a 6:30 service, so they decided to attend.

Laurie remembers that Traceymay came down the

## MESSAGE FROM OUTREACH - Ellen Bingham

Ascentria and Afghan Refugees

A family has moved into Keene. Volunteers are busy giving them the support they need. The paperwork required of them and the bureaucracy they need to navigate is immense. There is an ongoing need for funds and housing for the refugee program in general.

For more information, including joining Team Monadnock as a volunteer, go to the Ascentria website at www.ascentria.org and click on Team Monadnock. Donations should be marked "Team Monadnock" (and not Ascentria), so that they go to support our local program. Thank you.

### Sunday Services —1 0:30 a.m.; in-person in our sanctuary and over Zoom.

The Deacons met last Sunday to revisit the Covid protocols. They decided, and I concur, that we can remove the tape from the pews to allow for more open seating. So that we can keep singing safely, masks are still required in the sanctuary and elsewhere in the building. There are those among us with compromised immune systems, so we thank you for helping to create a safe and welcoming space for us all. -TMK

"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."

— MONTHLY VOLUNTEERS —									
	Deacons	Readers	Greeters	Lift	Flowers:				
4/3, 5th Sunday of Lent -	- Janice Moore	Tim Conrow	Penny Smith	Laurie Jameson	Nancy Jackson				
4/10, Palm Sunday –	Steffie Kyte	Phil Gammons	Bob Kyte	Bob Meissner	0.0				
4/17, Easter Sunday –	Beth Karlicek	Julie Rizzo	Brian & Jean Barden	Nancy Cayford	A Charles				
4/24 – Sunday –	May Clark	TBA	June Brening	TBA	200				

aisle exclaiming, "Merry Christmas!" The congregation was so welcoming, Laurie knew that she had found her place.

Laurie has immersed herself in the life of the church, serving as Chair of Outreach and as a representative with Monadnock Interfaith Project and Ascentria, focusing on affordable housing and the resettlement of Afghan evacuees within our region.

Laurie's bright smile and infectious enthusiasm make her a treasured neighbor in our community of faith.



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

Sunday		Monday				Wednesday		Thursday 2022		Friday		Saturday	
	Sunda	y Se	rvices —1 0:30 :	a.m.	; in-person in o	ur s:	unctuary and ov	ver Z	oom	1	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	2	
3	Worship 10:30 am; 5th Sunday of Lent	4	Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	5		6	Church Open 10 am - 3 pm; Outreach 6pm Zoom. AA 7-8 pm	7	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	8	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	9	Tim Clark's Memorial Service 2 pm; indoors & out —or via Zoom
10	Worship 10:30 am; Palm Sunday	11		12		13	Church Open 10 am - 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm; Outreach meeting 6 pm via Zoom	14	Maundy Thursday; Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	15	Good Friday; Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	16	Scripture Discussion 8:30-10 am, call for Zoom link
17	Easter Sunrise Service 7am; Easter Service 10:30am	18	Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	19		20	Church Open 10 am - 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm	21	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	22	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	23	
24	Worship 10:30 am; Deacons Meeting 12:15 via Zoom	25	Church Open 2-5 pm; Mavericks 7-9 pm	26	Take-Out Community Supper 5:30 pm, do call ahead	27	Church Open 10 am - 3 pm; AA 7-8 pm	28	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm; Book Group 10-11 am	29	Church Open 9 am to 1 pm	30	

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