

THE FLYER



Newsletter of the Community Church of Sandwich, New Hampshire

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From the Pastor...Ready or Not!

I just cannot believe it's the New Year! 2025! I've barely had time to process all that went on in 2024! I'm not ready to start a new year! Am I alone in this? I want to just stop and reflect on last year and yet, here we are, ready or not. So, while embracing the blessings and the heartaches of last year, I find myself having hopes for this year.

My hopes are many. Some are general, broad stroke hopes for our world, our nation, our state and our neighborhoods. Hopes for peace and unity, hopes that all will be fed physically and spiritually, hopes that people will understand the importance of caring for the earth while caring for each other. Hopes for communication to improve and electronics to not take over the world (or at least not our minds). Hopes that each person can see their value and the value of every other person. Hopes that as human beings we can relearn the art of looking one another in the eye while speaking and remember that we are human beings, not human doings. Other hopes I hold are more specific.

Personally, I am hopeful that I can practice being grateful in all circumstances, trusting that although I cannot see the big picture, God can. I am hopeful that through prayer, I will gain the desire to eat healthier and take walks outside, taking thought and time to take care of myself.

For this faith community, I'm hoping for a year of exploration. Gathering data from all the different groups of the church and examining all the ministries of past and present as we look to the future. I'm hopeful that we will be led to continue the ministries that we are meant to continue while celebrating and letting go of ministries that were a blessing for many years but perhaps the time has come for them to come to a close, making room for whatever God has in store. Ready or not, change is inevitable.



Office Hours and Contact Information

Church Phone: (603) 284-6151

Pastor Deb Hoffman - Office hours:
 Tuesday - Friday, 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.
 Pastoral emergencies call (570) 269-2000.
 Email: pastordebhoffman@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant - Joisse Rumary
 Office hours: Wednesday & Friday
 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
 Email: sandwichchurch@gmail.com

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CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Thank-you Note

☺ Our thanks to Tony Gasbarro for the cleaning of the Methodist Meetinghouse for the month of November. Our thanks also to Deb Kissell & Mary Hillsgrove for the cleaning of the Methodist Meetinghouse for the month of December."

Please contribute your notes of praise and gratitude by contacting the church office (284-6151 or sandwichchurch@gmail.com) with your request and it will be



The Newsletter submissions for the March / April edition will be due. February 19th.

Happy Anniversary to the following couples !!!

January 5 Marshall & Jude Davis
 January 10 Bob & Louisa Bryant
 February 16 Steve & Tracy Ripkey



A special birthday announcement!



Mr. Fred Antell
 Is celebrating his
 101th Birthday
 January 28th.
 Congratulations!!!

Welcome to Birthday Corner
 If you see one of these people
 please wish them a very Happy
 Birthday !!!

- January 8 Van Adriance
- January 9 Ray Elliott
- January 11 Ray Chappius
- January 18 Taylor Bryant
- January 23 Steve Johnson
- January 26 Tom Birch
- January 28 Fred Antell (101 yrs)
- January 29 Elaine Peaslee
- January 30 Adam Heard
- February 2 Laurie Norman
- February 2 Janet Reidy
- February 6 Russ Johnson
- February 6 Jennifer Rowan
- February 9 Kimberly Bryant
- February 9 Judith English
- February 11 Samantha Tuttle
- February 19 Wendy Chappuis
- February 19 Cecelia Hansen
- February 23 Jason Brown
- February 26 Bill Hoffmann
- February 28 Zoe Frentress

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I'm also excitedly hopeful as we begin looking at our two beautiful church buildings, seeking out the possibilities of utilizing one while the other serves perhaps a different purpose for the community at large. This will be an exploration that will take a couple years, but ready or not, the time has come to go through the process of finding all the potential opportunities.

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16).

For the town of Sandwich, I'm hoping that our light as the Community Church of Sandwich will shine brighter, and people will see a difference in us as people of faith. I'm hopeful that we will more and more be able to integrate ourselves within the community at large and be helpful in what is already happening in this town.

Ready or not, God chose us to be the light of the world right where we are...starting in our own homes and expanding out into our own neighborhoods, state, nation and world. God loves us and will use us for God's purposes if we but take time to reflect, pray and listen...and be ready to SHINE!

Ready or not, 2025 is here! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Blessings to you and your family this New Year!

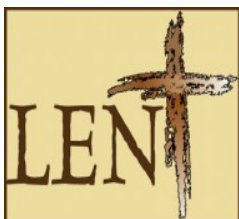
Love, Pastor Deb



Celebrating Epiphany

The actual day of Epiphany is January 6; however, we will be celebrating it on Sunday, January 5. A time of continued Christmas songs, celebrating the story of the Wise Men and sharing in Holy Communion.

Leadership Sunday will be celebrated February 9th. We will be acknowledging the leadership of past and present. The Community Church of Sandwich is blessed to have such willing and dedicated leaders in all facets of our church life...from Outreach to Trustees and Deacons to Finance...just to name a few.



A Lenten Retreat Day is beginning to be planned. Date, location and time will be shortly forthcoming.

Ash Wednesday is March 5. The intent of the retreat is to have a day apart... intentional time with God before or during the Lenten Season...intentional time to consider how the this season might be most meaningful for you this year.

Annual Church Meeting Coming Up!

On Sunday, January 26, 2025, we will have our 2025 Annual Meeting of the Community Church of Sandwich following the worship service. Light refreshments, coffee and juice will be provided. This is an important meeting for the membership of the church as the proposed 2025 Budget will be presented and adopted, the new officers and board/committee members will be presented and elected, and we will vote on an amendment to the Community Church of Sandwich Bylaws as outlined below.

We hope all of you can attend in person and participate in this important meeting. Your active participation in meetings like this are a vital part of your church stewardship commitment. It is what makes the Community Church of Sandwich an active and vital member of the greater Sandwich community.

For those who are not able to attend in person, a Zoom option will be available.

The 2024 Annual Report will be available in the Narthex as well as the Baptist Meetinghouse one week prior to the annual meeting. We will also email the Annual Report along with the Zoom invitation.

Proposed amendment to the Community Church of Sandwich Bylaws:

(NEW) 6.7.4 Conduct an annual Fall pledge drive to provide the necessary financial resources to support the work of the church in its ministry and mission in the next calendar year. Article VIII, Section 7

Note: The proposed language for 6.7.4 is actually not new. It is taken directly from the 2014 bylaws (Article VIII, Section 7). It was inadvertently missed in the 2022 update to the bylaws.

This proposed amendment to the Community Church of Sandwich Bylaws was reviewed and approved by the Church Council at their January 14, 2024 meeting.

Yours in Christ,

Tony Gasbarro, Moderator

Jennifer L. Rowan, Co-Moderator



Trustees' Meeting
Thursday Jan 9th
Thursday Feb 13th
Both are at 4:00 P.M. (MMH)

Board of Outreach
Tuesday Jan 7th
Tuesday Feb 4th
Both are at 11:00 A.M. (BMH)

Deacons' Meeting
Tuesday Jan 14th
Tuesday Feb 11th
Both are at 6:30 P.M. (Zoom)

Council Meeting
Tuesday Feb 18th
6:30 P.M. (Zoom)

LADIES AID – PAST and FUTURE



HUGE thanks to ALL (ladies and men) who helped with the Ladies Aid Chowder Luncheon & Crafts Sale in December.

It was a great **SUCCESS** again this year and SO many people were happily fed! The Luncheon served over 100 hungry souls and with the crafts, we raised over \$1700! All to help the charities we support. A new addition this year, a bucket for donations to the Tamworth Food Pantry collected \$77!

It takes **SO MUCH WORK** to pull this together – the more hands, the better. Thanks to all our **Customers** who enjoyed the delicious soup, bread & of course the traditional gingerbread! And thanks to ALL the Ladies Aid members and honorary members who contributed – too many to list here. Just know that you ALL are appreciated.

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS to Wanda Janiszewski for running the kitchen (first year!), Karen & Jennifer Rowan for handling the serving and Jackie Berry for leading the crafts.

One more thanks to all who baked or brought candy for the **35 Christmas Plates** we put together at our December Ladies Aid meeting. A special thanks to Jackie Berry & other crafters for making the ornaments included in each plate. A big thanks to Lucy Glenday and all the ladies who wrote the cards for the plates and for the additional people we wanted to remember.

Remember: NO Ladies Aid meetings in January and February.

March & April: Come to our March meeting to help us plan the upcoming year – all ladies welcome!

† *Ladies Aid Meetings* †
Next meeting: Thursday, March 13, 2025 MMH 11:15AM
 Program: *Planning Programs & Events*
Thursday, April 10, 2025 MMH 11:15AM

Dress A Girl Workshops -- Sewing &/or Cutting Do you have 2 hours per month to sew &/or cut material for the Dress A Girl Around the World mission? @Workshops are held on the 3rd Friday of each month. Complete kits– including instructions – are available in the BMH basement.

Upcoming Workshop Dates (10AM-Noon @ BMH): **Jan 17; Feb 21; Mar 21**

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Happy New Year	2 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 1 P.M. Prayer Shawl	3 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	4
5 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	6	7 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11:30 A.M. Outreach	8 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	9 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 4 P.M. Trustees Meeting (M) No Ladies Aid.	10 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	11
12 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	13	14 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Deacons (Zoom)	15 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	16 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	17 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	18
19 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	20	21 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Council (Zoom)	22 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	23 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 10 - 2 P.M. Isaiah 61 Café Ministry	24 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	25
26 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available Annual Church Meeting	27	28 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	29 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	30 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	31 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available Leadership Sunday	3	4 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11:30 A.M. Outreach	5 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom) Ash Wednesday	6 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) No Ladies Aid.	7 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	8
9 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available 1st Sunday of Lent	10	11 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6: 30 P.M. Deacons (Zoom)	12 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	13 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 4 P.M. Trustees Meeting (M)	14 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	15
16 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available 2nd Sunday of Lent	17	18 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Church Council (Zoom)	19 9-1P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	20 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 1 P.M. Prayer Shawl (B) 10 - 2 P.M. Isaiah 61 Café Ministry	21 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	22
23 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available 3rd Sunday of Lent	24	25 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	26 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	27 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	28 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	

**Community Church of Sandwich
P.O. Box 267
Center Sandwich, NH 03227**



Newsletter

If you would like to receive your church newsletter via email send a message to:

sandwichchurch@gmail.com
requesting that you be placed on
The Flyer email list.

~ Joisse Rumary

A chalkboard with a wooden frame. The words "OFFICE HOURS" are written in white chalk. Below the text, there is a small URL: "http://www.churchofsandwichnh.com".

OFFICE HOURS
http://www.churchofsandwichnh.com

Church Office Hours

**Wednesday & Friday
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

Pastor's Office Hours

**Tuesday - Friday
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**