

This Issue...

From the Pastor	1
Thank You Notes	2
Happy Birthday/Anniversary	2
From the Pastor cont	. 3
Deacons News	3
Ice Cream Social	
Speers Hymn Sing	
Church Meetings	
Ladies Aid	
Worship This Summer	
Welcome New Members	
Bible Study	_
Vacation	_
Church Picnic	/
Veterans Home	/
The Trustees	O
Puzzle	2
July Calendar	2
August Calendar	10
August Calcilual	11



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From the Pastor: The Great Cover Up AND the Great Commission

Although I preached on this during the Easter Season, it seemed worth repeating.

Jesus' resurrection begins with "The Great Cover-up". The guards, who knew they kept watch all night and yet the tomb was empty in the morning, went to report this to the chief priests. Some say they fell asleep. Even if they did, wouldn't the stone being rolled away been enough to wake them up? But the religious authorities didn't care about the truth, but rather what it might mean for them if people started believing that Jesus resurrected on the third day. Devout Jewish people were already following this Jesus as he had attracted crowds of people. The Chief Priests, Pharisees and Sadducees were losing respect, losing power and control and so, they gave the guards money to keep quiet. They were hoping things would go back to the way they were before this Jesus came into town. "The Great Cover-up".

Soon after, we hear Jesus giving his disciples "The Great Commission": "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded to you." (Matthew 28:19-20a)

Go and make disciples. What is a disciple? In Christianity it is a follower of Christ who is a lifelong learner of the faith, growing in love and compassion, and bringing others to learning this way of life, which relies on relationship with God. We are to teach through our actions and words right where we are and wherever God leads, with love and kindness, patience and humility, generosity and inclusion. Of course, we all fall short of being the person God created us to be, but God knows our hearts...our intentions...our desire to be faithful followers.

Continued on page 3

CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Thank-you Note

© Our thanks to Kevin & Cheryl Boswell for the cleaning of the Methodist Meetinghouse for the month of May. Our thanks also to Paula & Dennis Lauricella for the cleaning of the Baptist Meetinghouse for the month of June.

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 printed in the next newsletter.



Happy Anniversary to the
following couples !!!

July 4 Bert and Cecelia Hansen
July 12 Ben & Judith English
July 27 Walt and Diane Bellwood

August 20 Russ and Leslie Johnson

August 24 Dennis and Paula Lauricella

August 26 Dan and Janet Reidy

August 29 Van and Betsy Adriance

If you have a Birthday or Anniversary during this time and you do not see it listed here, please contact the church office and let us know. Thank you



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

July 4 Fran Howe
July 13 Virginia Jones-Newton
July 15 Dick Devens
July 22 Keith Forbes
July 25 Helen Steele
July 28 Cheryl Boswell
July 29 Silke Hoffmann
July 31 Jude Davis
August 1 Sue Speers
August 13 Joisse Rumary
August 5 Tom Larson
August 10 Warren Hoffman
August 16 Lois Merrithew
August 31 Tony Gasbarro

From the Pastor: The Great Cover Up AND the Great Commission - Continued.

But we need to remember that we are called to do more than just follow. We are called to make disciples. We are called to share our faith. We are called in our words and in our actions to spread the Good News of our risen Lord.

Many of you reading this right now, I'm sure, are faithful followers. Living your faith. Reading scripture, taking time for prayer, consulting God about decisions. You worship as part of a community. You help others. You are a disciple...there's no doubt; however, are you making disciples or are you part of "The Great Cover-up"?

Although different from the cover-up we find in the Gospel of Matthew where money is exchanged for silence, what is the exchange that keeps you silent about your experiences of God? Is it fear? Fear of being considered a religious wacko? Fear of rejection? Fear of not knowing how to share your faith? Fear of sounding silly? Fear of not being biblically adept? The thing is, sharing your faith need not be some big religious gesture, but rather a simple statement like, "I know God was with me when..." or "I am so thankful to God for..." or when someone gives you a compliment, you can reply, "By the grace of God I go." What is it that keeps you, a disciple of Christ, from sharing your faith to make disciples? Are you a part of "The Great Cover-up"? or "The Great Commission"? It is an important question, and I hope you take time to give it some thought.

DEACON NEWS

THANK YOU ALL for helping move the hymnals, Bibles, and other worship supplies to the BMH. It seems (almost) effortless when we have everyone in the congregation carry a little something to the front of the church!

If you want to continue to keep your hands busy, we are looking for a few hands to **scoop** ice cream and a few fairly healthy bodies to help **set up** or **clean up** after the ice cream social in July. Please contact any deacon or the pastor if you or a family friend would like to help! Our **Ice Cream Social** will continue to be the night of the Sandwich fireworks Saturday **July 5**th. Set up begins at 6:15. We will be serving from 7 to 8 pm this year. Come early for the best selection of flavors and toppings. Some flavors that we are purchasing from the Sandwich Creamery are: Polar Bear, Cow Tracks, Peppermint Stick, Mint Chocolate Chip, Black Raspberry, Coffee Kisses, Strawberry, Chocolate, and of course Vanilla!

We also thank you and continue to need your support as liturgists, greeters, and fellowship servers. To give of your time and talents please talk with a deacon, the pastor, or sign up on the easel board in the narthex.



The Community Church of Sandwich announces the 2025 Annual Free Ice Cream Social. The festivities will take place on Saturday, July 5, in the parking lot of the Baptist Meetinghouse on Church Street. Ice Cream will be served by church volunteers from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Come early for the best selection of flavors and toppings. Some of the ice cream flavors are: Polar Bear, Cow Tracks, Peppermint Stick, Mint Chocolate Chip, Black Raspberry, Coffee Kisses, Strawberry, Chocolate, and of course Vanilla! Community members and guests can request various toppings to build a unique sundae to enjoy.

Come see your friends and neighbors and discover the joy of this free annual event.

Speers Summer Hymn Sing

This summer marks the 87th year for the Hymn Sing in the Speers' Family smithy on Taylor Road (off Rte 113 toward Holderness just beyond the Recycling Center) Plenty of parking space, starts at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 6th and continues through August 31st. We plan to sit inside the smithy; if you prefer to sit outside, please bring your own chair.

All are welcome, especially so if you play a musical instrument! Each session lasts 45 minutes. If you have questions, call Will Speers (302 -463-5356) or Sue Speers at 603-387-6778.



Trustees' Meeting

Thursday July 10th
Thursday August 14th
Both are at 4:00 P.M. (MMH)

Board of Outreach

Tuesday July 1st
Tuesday August 5th
Both are at 11:30 A.M. (BMH)

Deacons' Meeting

No meeting for July / August.
Will resume in September

Council Meeting

Tuesday August 19th at 6:30 P.M. (Zoom)

LADIES AID - PAST and FUTURE

It's a CRAFTING Year — and Summer! We are blessed to have Amanda Twaddle coming to our meetings with supplies and instructions for making crafts! So far, we've learned how to make stretch bracelets, bracelets with clasps, and glass etching using some glass ornaments. We have the remainder of these supplies available in the Ladies Aid cabinet at the MMH. And we have plans for some additional types of crafts through the summer. See the schedule below for our Quilling and Quilting sessions.

Come to our meetings for some creative fun. All ladies are welcome – bring a friend along! Don't forget to bring your lunch.

† Ladies Aid Crafting Sessions †

Leader: Amanda Twaddle – Quilling (3D – snowmen)

<u>Thursday, July 10, 2025</u> MMH 11:15AM – 1:30PM <u>Thursday, August 14, 2025</u> MMH 11:15AM – 1:30PM

Leader: Dotty Burrows – Quilting (Potholders, towels)

<u>Friday, July 18, 2025</u> Hodge Bldg 12:00PM – 2:00PM (after DAG) <u>Friday, August 15, 2025</u> Hodge Bldg 12:00PM – 2:00PM (after DAG)



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 – see the dates below. Complete kits—including instructions – are always available there and in the BMH if you'd like to pick one up.

Upcoming Workshop Dates (10AM-Noon):

July 18*; Aug 15*; Sept 19 (BMH)

* NOTE: June, July & August sessions will be held at
the Fairgrounds – Hodge Building

Here is a recently-sewn dress. It's so fun to create pretty dresses!

Worship This Summer will be focused on "healings"...the healings of Jesus we find in the Gospels and the healings we continue to experience today. If you have a personal experience of a healing of body, mind, and/or spirit that you would like to share during our time of worship, please just call, text or email me at 570-269-2000 or pastordebhoffman@gmail.com. Sharing our healing God story is an important way to bring hope, peace and a renewed sense of how God continues to work in our lives today!

Sunday, August 3 will be Hymn Sing Sunday for Old Home Week! The worship will include a time of prayer, scripture reading, sharing communion and mostly SINGING YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS! In the past and for many years, Lee Quimby led the Hymn Sing portion of this worship. He continues to be deeply missed. The last couple years, Jennifer Rowan has led the Hymn Sing portion of our worship and has agreed to do so again this year. We hope you will come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!





Celebrating New Members!

On Sunday, June 8, we had four people become members of the church.

We welcome:

Darlene Atwood

Jason Haddock

Anita Larson

Tom Larson

And on Sunday, July 6, we will be welcoming Samantha Tuttle into membership of the church.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY TO RESUME IN SEPTEMBER! DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING!



Vacation

A Dictionary definition of the word vacation is, "an extended period of leisure and recreation, especially one spent away from home or in traveling."

I will be on vacation from Monday, August 4 through the 18th.

I look forward to some extra time at home (that first week) and spending a week at the beach with family and friends.



If there are any pastoral emergencies during this time, please call (570-269-2000) my cell and I will make sure you get the appropriate help.



The 4th Annual Church Picnic to be held at Deb and Warren's home in Tilton on Saturday, August 23 from noon until ???? We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs and sausage sandwiches. We ask that you bring a dish to share along with whatever beverage/s you would like to drink. Although we have some outdoor seating, you might want to bring along a lawn chair as well. Along with food and fellowship, there will be games to play and songs to sing! ©

We look forward to hosting this church picnic.

Love, Deb and Warren

The Community Church of Sandwich, NH is on Facebook and YouTube.

Our Facebook page www.facebook.com/sandwichfederatedchurch has our latest information and links to our Virtual Services. If you "like" and "follow" the page you will get information when it is posted there.



The Church videos are on YouTube www.youtube.com/channel/UCVGiY-RGGNTInPY4Q8Yy18g and have several years of videos for your enjoyment.

Please feel free to share these links with your friends anywhere in the world who would be enriched by our services and like to help spread His Light.

THE VETERANS HOME SUNSHINE CART!

The Outreach team will have a laundry basket in the entranceway of the Baptist Meetinghouse this summer to collect items for the residents (men and women) of the Veterans Home in Tilton, NH.

Please purchase NEW items from the list below.

Are Body Wash
Women's Body Wash
Aqua Velva After Shave

Afta After Shave

Act Mouthwash

Poligrip Adhesive for Dentures

Efferdent

Neuropathy Crew Socks (mens/womens)

Hair Brush

Sensodyne Extra Whitening Toothpaste

Kleenex (regular size boxes and small packets)

Colored Pencils

Adult Coloring Books

Puzzle Books (Sudoku, Search a Word, Crossword, etc.)

Note Cards

Small Note Pads

Pencils

Pens

Any other toiletry item or activity you feel led to give.

The Sunshine Cart provides a wide selection of personal care items to the residents at no cost to them. The Cart is made possible through many generous donations of items from the <u>Sunshine Cart Wish List</u>. If you like to shop by Amazon, then you can use this link.

Thank you! Let us show our appreciation to our veterans by overflowing the basket!



The Trustees continue to be busy (which is an understatement).

The good news is that the Baptist Meetinghouse Steeple repairs will soon resume with the weathervane.

The bad news is that the pigeons who moved into the Steeple over the winter because the wind blew open the door to the bell have caused some issues..

Peter and his friend Bill removed what we hope are the last 3 pigeons by catching them with a fishing net! Too bad there is no picture of that! We are currently looking into the clean-up from the mess they left. We also had Granite State Glass replace the attic window the pigeons broke trying to escape.



On another note, the Methodist Meetinghouse parking lot had gravel added to the driveway by the Town. They also placed some large rocks along the parking area to keep people from driving into the Pond. We have requested a few more rocks be added for your protection.

There is paint peeling on the ceiling of the Methodist Meetinghouse and this is scheduled to be repaired this summer.

All Fire Extinguishers have been inspected and replaced as needed. Thank you to Chief Call for his help!

Lastly, but certainly not least, we welcome Tom McIlvain onto the Board of Trustees. Tom recently showed interest in being part of this team once again, and was recently voted in to be on the board for the remainder of this year and then will have the opportunity to make the two year commitment in January 2026.

Yours in Cheerful Service, J. Albert Handford Trustee Chair

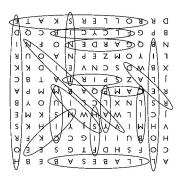
Summer Activities

Here are some summer time activities. Can you find them in the puzzle? Make your own list of things you would like to do.

Camp Music Swim Read Baseball Garden Bible School Bicycle

Horseback Ride

Tennis
Trips
Vacation
Play
Fish
Hike
Climb
Roller Skate



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July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11:30 A.M.	2 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	3 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 12:30 P.M. Prayer	4 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	5 7 PM Ice Cream Social
		Outreach (B)	Office Hrs (B)	Shawl	Office Hrs (B)	
6 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	7	8 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	9 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	10 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11:15 A.M. Ladies	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	12
		6: 30 P.M. Deacons (Zoom)	Office Hrs (B)	Aid (M) 4 P.M. Trustees Meeting (M & Zoom)	Office Hrs (B)	
13 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	14	15 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 10 A.M. Ministry	16 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	17 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 10 - 2 P.M.	18 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	19
		Data Team (B)	Office Hrs (B)	Isaiah 61 Café Ministry	Office Hrs (B) 10 A.M. Dress a Girl Workshop	
20 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	21	22 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	23 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	24 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	25 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	26
			Office Hrs (B)		Office Hrs (B)	
27 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	28	29 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	30 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's	31 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)		
			Office Hrs (B)	10 - 2 P.M. Isaiah 61 Café Ministry		

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	2
3 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	4	5 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) Pastor on Vacation 11:30 A.M. Outreach (B)	6 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) Pastor on Vacation	7 Pastor on Vacation	8 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) Pastor on Vacation	9
10 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	11	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) Pastor on Vacation	13 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) Pastor on Vacation	14 Pastor on Vacation 4 P.M. Trustees Meeting (M) 10 - 2 P.M. Isaiah 61 Café Ministry	15 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) Pastor on Vacation) 10AM-Noon Dress A Girl Workshop	16
17 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	18	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Church Council (Zoom)	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	21 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	Noon till ??? Church Picnic
24 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available	25	26 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	28 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 10 - 2 P.M. Isaiah 61 Café Ministry	9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	30
31 10 A.M. Worship Online Worship Available						

[&]quot;B" = Baptist Meetinghouse; "M" = Methodist Meetinghouse

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



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.