

THE FLYER



Newsletter of the Community Church of Sandwich, New Hampshire



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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

From the Pastor...Remembering What Matters Most

Last year, around this time, I shared an Editorial piece from the Meredith News by Brendan Berube. Although, what I'm about to share differs from the editorial written before last years' election, the premise is the same...Staying United as People of Faith. And so, what follows is based on this same editorial by Brendan, but with my own editorial additions.

No matter what side of the political fence you are on (or perhaps you are still "on the fence"), it is important to remember that we are still neighbors, friends, and family. We are still part of humankind...so wouldn't it be nice to be both at the same time, **Human AND Kind.**

Politics can highlight our differences. I was recently in a conversation with a friend and I could feel myself getting a bit disturbed as we are politically polar opposites; however, thank God for the Holy Spirit...literally, which reminded me to keep things in perspective. Of course she has her right to her thoughts, opinions and beliefs, but as different as they are from my own, she is still my friend. We share about each other's' lives, we laugh and joke. The core of what really matters is that we care for one another. That's the same core of every healthy faith community. When politics start to divide us into "us" and "them", we need to find our way back to what holds us together... our God, our faith, our shared commitment to the well-being of our families, our friends, our neighborhoods, and the place we call home.

While political divisions can feel sharp and personal, especially in today's climate, it's essential to remember that the most meaningful connections in our lives aren't determined by "who did you vote for?" The person who will lend you a cup of sugar, help you shovel your driveway, or cheer for your kid's or grandkid's team on a chilly Saturday morning is your neighbor—not just a political identity.

Continued on page 3

CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Thank-you Note

☺ Our thanks to Tracy & Steve Ripkey for the cleaning of the Baptist Meetinghouse for the month of September. Our thanks also to Tony Gasbarro for the cleaning of the Methodist Meetinghouse for the month of October."

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.

Thank you from Pastor Deb

Thank you for all the prayers and well wishes after my fall. I continue to heal and am grateful that it wasn't worse. I am also so thankful to saint, "Sue", a resident of the Wesley Retirement community that picked me (a stranger) up and took me to the hospital.

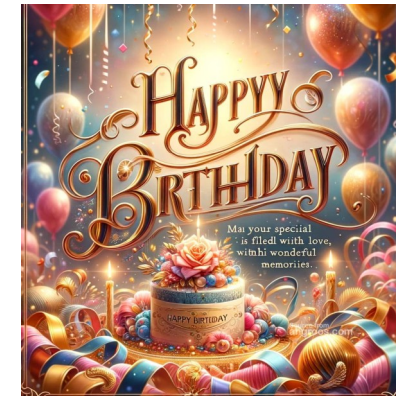
Opportunity to Help

Would you like to help out with Audio/Visual on Sunday mornings? Warren, who currently runs the PowerPoint and sound system, would like to train someone to share the responsibility. Please prayerfully consider. If so led, please contact Warren directly.



The Newsletter submissions for the January / February edition will be due. December 19th.

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 !!!

November 1 Jackie Berry

November 9 Sandra Bicknell

November 16 Betsy Adriance

November 16 Susan Steeves

November 21 Bob Michael

December 4 Bob Bryant

December 10 Carol Farnsworth

December 15 Dennis Lauricella



Happy Anniversary to the
following couple !!!

December 19 Ty and Kim Bryant

Continued from page 1

No matter what side of the fence you are on, we are all required to move forward—together. Our communities are built on cooperation and common ground, regardless of politics. We rely on each other in ways that go far beyond governmental principles.

Schools still need teachers, businesses still need customers, and we all still need that feeling of connection with those around us. The conversations we have at the local coffee shop, at school pick-ups, or during community events are what truly shape the fabric of our daily lives. These moments are what sustain us. This is not to say that the issues at stake don't matter—of course they absolutely do.

We must continue to advocate for what we believe in, speak our minds, and hold our leaders accountable. But it's also vital that we don't let the divisions of the political arena spill over into the personal relationships that hold our communities together. After all, we still share the same streets, parks, grocery stores and sanctuaries.

So, how do we move forward? First, by listening. Let's take the time to really hear one another, even when we disagree (most of us are a work in progress on this...but that's OK as long as we keep trying). Let's focus on finding common ground—there's often more of it than we realize.

Whether it's addressing local issues, supporting a neighbor in need, or simply being kind to one another, we can all contribute to the healing and re-building process that needs to happen in such times of change. So let us take a breath and remember what matters most.

Happy Holidays from Joisse Rumary



Merry Christmas



Veterans Day Annual Dinner

November 11th from 4:30 to 6:30 PM there will be the annual Veterans Day spaghetti dinner at the Methodist Meetinghouse.

The menu is spaghetti with meat sauce or marinara, salad, garlic bread sticks, cookies and brownies. Cost, Veterans are free. Ages 12 and up are \$8.00 per person. Children 3-11 are \$5.00. Under 3 are free.

We can once again come together and visit with friends, members of the church and the members of Club Sandwich 4-H and the Sandwich Super Sew-ists. This year will be a sit down dinner with take-out option. If you want a take-out meal please place orders ahead of time by emailing Dotty at burrowsdotty@yahoo.com or by calling her at (603)284-6636 and leave a message or text her at (603)247-5270.

Please help us to say thank you to our Veterans and help us all to recognize all they have done for us.

Wreath Making Workshop by Peter Pohl

Saturday, Nov. 22nd, 10:00 - 12:00, in the basement of the Baptist Meetinghouse. All materials will be provided. Dotty Burrows will be on hand to provide ribbons. Bring a small hand clipper if you have one. All are welcome to attend. If you are planning on attending please give the church a call (603) 284-6151 and let us know. Registration deadline is Friday November 14th. This way Peter will know how many supplies are needed.

**Sandwich Singers Concert**

Sunday December 14th, at 6:00 P.M.

The Sandwich Singers will hold a concert of seasonal music at the Methodist Meetinghouse.

Come get in the spirit!!!



Church Meetings

Trustees' Meeting

Thursday November 13th

Thursday December 11th

Both are at 4:00 P.M. (MMH)

Board of Outreach

Tuesday November 4th

Tuesday December 1st

at 11:00 A.M. (BMH)

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday November 18th

Tuesday December 9th

Both are at 6:30 P.M. (Zoom)

Council Meeting

Tuesday December 16th

at 6:30 P.M. (Zoom)



Sunday, November 2, is All Saints' Day.

During our 10 AM time of worship, we will have the opportunity to light candles in memory of our loved ones. Please extend a personal invitation to those in the community whom you know have experienced a loss. We will also talk about what it means to be a saint today.

Stewardship and Thanksgiving—These really go together! Beginning November 9th, we will be focusing on stewardship, being caretakers or curators, if you will, of our time, talents and possessions. Then, on November 23rd, we will be sharing what we are thankful for in our abundance.



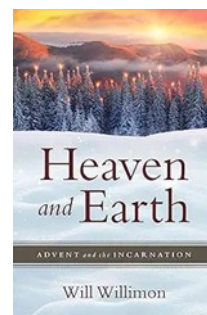
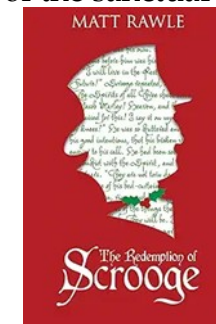
[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author



[This Photo](#) by Unknown

Hanging of the Greens Worship Sun. November 30th @ 10 AM. This is the first Sunday of Advent. We will prepare the church together for the Advent Season and Christmas and share the symbolism behind all the decorations...Why the greens? The poinsettias? The tree? The Advent wreath? There is a meaning to it all. This will be a worship time where we all share in the liturgy and decorating of the sanctuary.

Our Advent Worship Series this year will be based on “The Redemption of Scrooge”, a book by Matt Rawle, who uses the story by Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” to bring the meaning of our faith and the birth of Christ to us in a new way.



Advent Bible Study: As it stands right now, at the time this newsletter is being prepared, the Bible Study will be meeting on Zoom on Monday nights at 6:30 to study one chapter a week of this biblically based Advent book by Will Willimon. Retired Pastor Phil Polhemus will be leading the discussion.



The Sandwich Singers will be performing at the Methodist Meetinghouse on Sunday, December 14 at 6 PM. We welcome the sharing of their gift of music during this most precious season!



Blue Christmas Gathering will be offered on Sunday, December 21 at 4 PM.

We will gather in the front of the sanctuary, sharing some scripture, prayer, memories, and placing a blue Christmas ball on the tree representing the losses we are grieving.



A Traditional Christmas Eve Service is planned this year at the Methodist Meetinghouse at 7 PM December 24.

A time of retelling the Christmas story along with lots and lots of music! This is a great time to invite your neighbors and friends.

Moravian Love Feast will be celebrated on Sunday, December 28 with Moravian cake, coffee, tea, and juice being served during worship!

This is a wonderful celebration when we take a moment to share with each other where we have seen God working in our life this past year!



Sandwich Community Church Discretionary Fund

As we approach the Holiday Season and the end of the year, please consider making a donation to the Discretionary Fund. Traditionally the offering from the Christmas Eve Service, is given to the Discretionary Fund. Some of you may not be able to attend the service and the needs which the fund helps go on year-round.

We have given over \$2,500 to the community to assist those who needed help with burial costs, fuel, and vehicle registration. In addition, smaller amounts have been given in the form of gas and grocery cards to those in need. All requests are kept confidential.

Please consider a holiday gift to our community neighbors. Checks may be made out to the Community Church of Sandwich with Discretionary Fund on the memo line and put in the offering plate or mailed to the Church Office.

LADIES AID – PAST and FUTURE

At our October meeting, we started the sign-ups for the Chowder luncheon and made some Christmas ornaments to sell. We hope to hold some additional craft days – watch the Sunday bulletins.

These are in preparation for the upcoming Ladies Aid Chowder Luncheon and Craft Fair during Christmas in the Village. We need help! Please contact Jackie Berry to help with this event.

† Upcoming Ladies Aid Meetings †

Thursday, November 13, 2024 10:30AM @ MMH

Work on crafts – bring your own or help with other crafts

We still have supplies available in the Ladies Aid cabinet at the MMH for making stretch bracelets, bracelets / necklaces with clasps, and glass etching using some glass ornaments or bottles. You can use these supplies to work on crafts yourself!

Saturday, December 6, 2024 MMH 10:00AM – 2:00PM

Ladies Aid Chowder Luncheon (11AM-2PM) and Craft Fair (10AM-2PM)

Everyone enjoy the soups and stock up on crafts for presents!

Thursday, December 11, 2024 MMH 9:00AM

Christmas Cookie Plates!

Plan to bake up a storm! We will also need card-writers.

Please get any names of those needing plates to Jennifer Rowan.

Dress A Girl Workshops -- Sewing &/or Cutting

Dress A Girl Workshops -- Sewing &/or Cutting: We are back downstairs at the **BMH**. Whether you sew or not, we can use you for 2 hours per month for the Dress A Girl Around the World mission. Complete kits– including instructions – are always available for pickup in the BMH.

Update: We have helped the group based in Meredith to send off over 2000 girls' dresses to date! Thanks to ALL who have contributed!

Upcoming Workshop Dates (10AM-Noon @ BMH):

Nov 21; Dec 19; Jan 16





Community Church of Sandwich

P.O. Box 267
CENTER SANDWICH, NH 03227
OFFICE: (603) 284-6151



October 29, 2025

Greetings!

Can you believe it? It's that time of year again! The leaves that turn brilliant in color begin finding their way to the ground and the air becomes crisper and cooler as we await the first white covering. It's also that time of year that we ask you to prayerfully consider the giving of your time, talents/abilities and monies in the new year to come.

Stewardship, the giving of our time, talents/abilities and monies as God leads us to do, are important aspects of our faith. Although our two-part sermon series that begins on November 9 will incorporate all three parts of stewardship, this letter focuses on the financial portion of this three-fold topic.

Some of you reading this have completed a pledge card each year, or perhaps began pledging last year, as it was something you felt led to do; continuing to do so is much appreciated. Others of you reading this may have never completed a pledge card and yet give faithfully to the ministries of the church. This was me for many years. I didn't feel the need to complete a pledge card even though I did feel led to give a certain designated amount regularly to the church. A couple years ago, I was led to change my ways as I learned that it is truly helpful for the budget team to know what monies they can count on when preparing a budget for the coming year. So, if any of you reading this can relate to how I used to think, I hope you will reconsider (as I did) to complete the enclosed pledge card.

Please know that these cards will remain confidential as they go directly to the financial secretary. If anyone checks off that they would like a pastoral visit, the financial secretary lets me know this through an email and then I'd be in touch.

Again, please prayerfully consider this part of your stewardship for 2026 and if you are led to complete a pledge card, please have it back to us by December 31. Thank you.

Blessings,

Deb Hoffman, Pastor
603-284-6151 (office)
570-269-2000 (cell)

Community Church of Sandwich - Pledge 2026

I/We commit to supporting Christ's ministry at the CCS through my/our financial pledge.

Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided ☐

Weekly \$_____ Monthly \$_____ Quarterly \$_____

Semi-annually \$_____ Annually \$_____

The total pledge for the year is \$_____

A semi-annual and annual statement will be provided.

Signature _____ Print Name _____

☐ I/We would like a pastoral visit.

Pledge 2026 Reminder

I/We have pledged: We'll \$_____

Monthly \$_____ Quarterly \$_____

Semi-Annually \$_____ Yearly \$_____

Please cut out and return this pledge card to:

Community Church of
Sandwich
C/O Financial Secretary
P.O. 267
Center Sandwich, NH 03227

Thank you to all for your continued support.

An Advent Study
Monday evenings at 6:30 on Zoom
Study leader is Phil Polhemus
Watch out. God is on the way.

It's not within our own power to make a fresh start. If we're to have a future different from the past, it must come as a gift, something not of our devising. What we need is a God who refuses to be trapped in eternity, a God who not only cares about us but is willing to show up among us and do something with us, here, now.

In Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation, Will Willimon introduces you to the God who does just that, bringing heaven to earth and changing everything. In Advent we celebrate and anticipate the earth-shaking, life-transforming good news that God is coming to us. Watch out. Get ready. God is on the way.

Additional components to use the book as a four-week small group study include a leader guide and DVD/Video Sessions featuring Will Willimon.

To sign up for this study contact Phil at pmpolhemus39@gmail.com You can order the book from Cokesbury \$12.99 plus postage or Amazon \$18.99.

Christmas
Word Search

Name: _____

K	C	D	S	L	E	I	G	H	R
V	V	H	F	A	M	I	L	Y	E
U	K	J	R	N	G	F	J	B	I
L	F	I	C	I	X	I	A	J	N
B	Q	N	A	M	S	O	F	T	D
E	O	G	N	E	F	T	F	T	E
L	X	L	D	R	U	A	M	O	E
L	Q	E	L	R	R	F	F	A	R
S	R	U	E	Y	B	O	F	M	S
M	Y	P	S	N	O	W	M	A	N

Word list:
BELLS
CANDLES
CHRISTMAS
FAMILY
GIFT
JINGLE
MERRY
REINDEER
SLEIGH
SNOWMAN



SunCatcherStudio.com

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-RGGNTInPY4Q8Yyl8g 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.

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 A.M. Worship All Saints Day Online Worship Available	3	4 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11 A.M. Outreach Team	5 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:00 P.M. Bible Study w/ Pot Luck MMH	6 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 12:30 P.M. Prayer Shawl	7 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	8
9 10 A.M. Worship Stewardship 1 Online Worship Available	10	11 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	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) 11:15 A.M. Ladies Aid (MMH) 4 P.M. Trustees Meeting (MMH & Zoom)	14 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	15
16 10 A.M. Worship Stewardship 2 Online Worship Available	17	18 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6: 30 P.M. Deacons (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) 10 A.M. Dress a Girl Workshop	22 10 - 2 P.M. Wreath making BMH
23 10 A.M. Worship Thanksgiving Online Worship Available	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) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	27 Thanksgiving	28 Joisse Vacation 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	29
30 10 A.M. Worship Hanging of the Greens Online Worship Available						

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 P.M. Advent Study (Zoom)	2 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11:00 A.M. Outreach (B)	3 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	4 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 12:30 P.M. Prayer Shawl at Jackie Berry's home.	5 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	6 11 - 2 P.M. Chowder Luncheon/ Craft Fair
7 10 A.M. Worship Communion Sunday Advent 2 Online Worship Available	8 6:30 P.M. Advent Study (Zoom)	9 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6: 30 P.M. Deacons (Zoom)	10 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	11 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 11:15 A.M. Ladies Aid (M) 4 P.M. Trustees Meeting (M & Zoom)	12 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	13
14 10 A.M. Worship Advent 3 Online Worship Available 6 P.M. Sandwich Singers (M)	15 6:30 P.M. Advent Study (Zoom)	16 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Church Council (Zoom)	17 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)	18 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 10 - 2 P.M. Isaiah 61 Café Ministry	19 9-2P.M. Church Office Hrs (B) 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 10 A.M. Dress a Girl Workshop	20
21 10 A.M. Worship Advent 4 Online Worship Available	22 6:30 P.M. Advent Study (Zoom)	23 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	24 Joisse Vacation 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B) 7 P.M. Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas	26 Joisse Vacation	27
28 10 A.M. Worship Moravian Love Feast Online Worship Available	29	30 10-4 P.M. Pastor's Office Hrs (B)	31 New Years Eve Joisse Vacation 6:30 P.M. Bible Study (Zoom)			

“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.