



PETROS

**The Newsletter of the Kearsarge
Community Presbyterian Church**

Faith, Hope & Love Abide

DEAR KCPC,

These last weeks, we have been busy with special events: Juneteenth Celebration... KCPC Annual Meeting... Idit Shemer's Benefit Concert... a festive Sunday worship with the staff at Camp Wilmot... preparing to host the Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Northern New England in another month... And it is all good!

And, I admit that, going into August, I am feeling both burnt-out... and wilted from these 90 degree New Hampshire days. I look forward to a couple of weeks of Continuing Education/Study Leave to recharge for the kick-off of the Program Year in September. In the meantime, I am aiming to "*keep things simple*" for myself, for the staff & for you all. (Consider, this classic layout for the cover of the Petros!)

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Along with "*keeping it simple*", I pray that we not let the non-stop "BREAKING NEWS" distract us from our most important relationships. May we:

1. Sustain our capacities for critical thinking & discourse.
2. Not grow weary in doing good.
3. Ground ourselves in our tradition of faith & community.

To help with this, we have beloved Guest Preachers coming in fresh. In-person... LiveStream... YouTube... please find ways to stay connected.

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I am grateful to be in ministry with you. Together, we are the Body of Christ... that never burns out nor wilts. Thanks be!

Pastor Kurt

AUGUST 2024

SUNDAY, 8/4

Rev. K. Shaffert
preaching
& presiding

SUNDAY, 8/11

Rev. Rachelle Eaton,
preaching

SUNDAY, 8/18

Rev. K. Shaffert &
Rev. Dr. Kay Huggins,
dialogue sermon

SUNDAY, 8/25

Rev. Skye Murray,
preaching

~ News from the PNC ~

KCPC Pastor Nominating Committee

On April 7, 2024, the PNC was elected, and we began the process of finding the new pastor for KCPC. Since then we have been meeting every week, including the two sessions where the congregation communicated to PNC the areas that were most important as the PNC develops a position description.

We thank all of the individuals who participated in these events, and also those who helped us when we needed it.

Throughout the summer, we will work with the Presbytery to fulfill their required steps to begin the search in earnest. During this time, we ask for your support and prayers as the committee works diligently. We will update the congregation as we receive more information as our activities continue throughout the summer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any one of us on the PNC.

In Christ, your Pastor Nominating Committee:

Jane Barban, Tom Cleaveland, Russ Doughty, Bill Hoffman, Roberta Hollinger, Stephanie Jennison, Betty Stockwell, and Kris Walters

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AUGUST

KCPC August Calendar of Events:

Sunday Worship @ 10 AM In Person & Online

August 4th

Worship, Celebration of the Lord's Supper

August 11th

Worship with Guest Rev. Rachelle Eaton

August 18th

Worship with Dr. Kay Huggins

September Petros Deadline

August 25th

Worship with Guest Rev. Skye Murray

Every Thursday

Gospel O'Mark 9:00 AM

August

Birthdays



8/2 **Greg Gutsell**
Helen Knox

8/4 **Nancy Clark**

8/5 **Kris Walters**

8/9 **Colleen Ericson**
Susan Rhodes

8/13 **Gerry Putnam**

8/14 **Don Wright**

8/27 **Peter Bride**

8/31 **Nancy Marsh**

Live and Learn

by Roberta Hollinger

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

We have been so lucky to have families invested in making KCPC a part of their "oh so brief" summer schedules and bringing their children to worship. Currently churches of all denominations share the challenge of encouraging attendance for families and children. Their busy schedules are demanding enough, but add to that the draw of these magical, yet short summer months and the challenge increases! To continue to welcome children in our KCPC family, since they are our future, we again have the Kids' Table out in the Narthex.

You may notice that we leave the doors to the sanctuary open once the children are dismissed. This ensures not only the safety of the children, but also allows the adult sitting with them the opportunity to hear the sermon and participate in worship from afar. I sat with the kiddos two days ago and was so impressed on how quiet and mindful they were in keeping only soft conversations so as not disturb the congregation. They do such a wonderful job, and I always tell them so, and thank them.

In researching ways to welcome families, Kurt found this article for me:

Rules for children in the worship service:

One. If you find that you're sitting in front of a child and they can't see, lean to the side.

Two. If the children seated behind you are rustling papers, hand them a crayon.

Three. If there is a baby that is crying, offer to take the baby from their parent and walk to the back of the church and rock the child for a while. The parent really needs a break.

Four. If the teenagers are whispering give them some Smarties. The rustling and crinkling will replace their whispering.

Five. If an adult complains to an usher about the noisy children near them, offer to trade seats with that adult and then apologize to the parents of the children.

Six. When a child is running around giving everyone high-fives during the time of passing the peace/greeting your neighbor make sure to give them an extra fun high-five, and then high-five the next five adults that you see.

Seven. If a child has worn tap shoes to church and is dancing on the wood portion of the floor, slip the sheet music for "The Entertainer" to the pianist and roll with it.

Eight. When the children can't hear because an adult around them won't take off their puffy jacket and it keeps squeaking and distracting the children, offer to help them off with their jacket and go hang it up for them where it goes.

Nine. When the three-year-old insists on standing on the front pew turned backwards looking at the rest of the people, give the child a pair of very dark glasses. That will prevent the child from catching any adult's eye, which would lead to distracting them. This will protect the adults who as we know have very short attention spans and are easily distracted.

Ten. When a child in front of you is very squirmy, and then they finally turn around and you realize suddenly, "Oh, it's Jesus!" take it in stride and play Got Your Nose till he turns around to the front again.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Jane Barban '24
Gary Rothe '24
Paul Sahler '24
John Walters '24
Annie Beck '25
Lorelle Foulds '25
Jeff Hollinger '25
Paula Schoonmaker '25
Russ Doughty '26
Bruce Herd '26
Paul Seyfried '26
Ruth Storey '26

Barbara Rothe

~ Clerk of Session

Anne Holmes

~ Financial Secretary

John Walters

~ Asst. Financial Secretary

Bob Koester

~ Asst. Financial Secretary

Sara Scheuch

~ Treasurer

Deacons

Betty Stockwell '24
Barry Bradford '24
Rick Marsh '24
Jan Sahler '24
Barbara Cooper '25
Anne Holmes '25
Kris Walters '25
Donna Young '25
Susan Bradford '26
Jerry Cooper '26
Wanda Doughty '26
Nancy Marsh '26

Susan Bradford

~ Moderator of Deacons

Barbara Cooper

~ Secretary of Deacons

CONTACTING THE CHURCH

Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church
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603-526-4800 officem@tds.net
www.kcpcnlh.com

Staff:

Rev. Kurt F. Shaffert, *Transitional Pastor*
Maria Barnard, *Office Manager*
Roberta Hollinger, *Education Director*
Frances Steven-Putnam, *Music Director*
Jason Paquette, *Church Accompanist*

Please Contact For More Info:

Presbyterian Women, *Roberta Hollinger*
WishListNH Ministry, *Lorelle Foulds*
Christian Education, *Roberta Hollinger*
Bell Choir, *Gary Rothe*
Good Day Respite, *Jan Sahler*
Feed the Freezer, *Ruth Storey*
KLS Food Pantry, *Kathi Kelly*
KCPC Food Bank, *Doug Darling*

PETROS PUBLICATION Deadline for the September issue of the newsletter is: Sunday, August 18th.

**A Special Thank You Goes To:
Our "Angels" who help us prepare
the Petros newsletter for mailing
each month.**

**One way to send info to us:
officem@tds.net**

**Or: You may submit a typewritten
copy of your article. The above may
be left in the church office mailbox.**

Statement of Purpose:

The Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church is a community of Christians striving to do God's work on earth. We proclaim that the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, give us direction and purpose as a people of faith.

Online Giving now at KCPC!

The Stewardship Committee is pleased to announce that KCPC now has an online giving platform. Click on this QR code to direct your pledge payment, monetary gift in the general offering plate, or specific donation to things like WishList NH, planned gifts, staff Christmas presents or a gift in memory of a loved one.

You will receive an immediate email acknowledgement of your gift and an end-of-the-year acknowledgement of your tax-deductible donations from the church.



Kearsarge Community

Presbyterian Church

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New London, NH 03257

Non-Profit

Organization

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