



PETROS

The Newsletter of the Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church

Notes from the Session January 2022

As we usher in 2022 we have exciting news! At our meeting on December 14th the Session approved an agreement with the Rev. Kurt Shaffert to lead us as our interim pastor during the transition period between permanent pastors. Kurt comes to us from Acworth, NH where he and his wife Katie have resided for several years. Kurt is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, Vermont Conference (similar to our Presbytery). There is a Letter of Agreement between the Presbyterian Church USA and the United Church of Christ that allows us to use each other's pastors. Kurt brings to us extensive experience as an interim which will be vital as he helps shepherd and guide us during the process of hiring a permanent pastor.

Kurt will begin his interim duties on January 9, 2022 fulfilling the usual duties of a pastor such as:

- Leading worship and preaching at Sunday service including communion
- Calling on sick and homebound members
- Officiating at baptisms, weddings and funerals
- Administering Church business and overseeing church staff
- Helping the Church prepare to call a settled resident pastor

His normal office days will be Tuesday and Thursday, and we invite you contact the church office at 603-526-4800 to schedule a time for meeting him.

Another item that we discussed and approved was the relocation of the fuel tanks that supply the heating oil to the sanctuary, office and Foulkes Hall. Many of you are aware that we have had "issues" with the fuel supply to these boilers, so the tanks will be relocated to a portion of the nursery area close to the boilers. The nursery space will still be adequate, the fuel will be nearby and easily fillable from the parking lot, so no more fuel spills and odor problems.

Since the situation with Covid-19 has worsened, the Session revisited our mask policy and procedures. It was decided to ask everyone using the building to wear masks throughout their time in the building no matter what their vaccination status might be. As a church we strive to care for each other, and this is simply another manifestation of this. Thank you for your cooperation.

We are all looking forward to the New Year. It will be very busy and hopefully more "normal". We on the Session shall be seeking your assistance as we begin the challenging process of selecting a settled pastor. We will require input and collaboration from the entire congregation as we move forward with the search for a new pastor. More detailed information regarding this search process will be provided in a subsequent Petros article.

We wish you and your families the best for the coming year.

Paul Sahler, Elder



JANUARY 2022

In this issue:

Cover: A Note from Paul Sahler

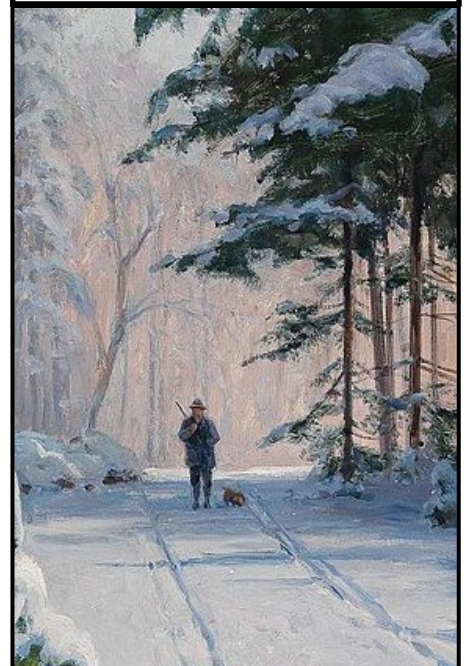
Page 2: Thank you from PW

Page 3: Feed The Freezer

Page 4: Reflections

Page 5: January Calendar

*Page 6: KCPC Office Hours
January Birthdays*



Christmas Cookie Grab-n-Go PW Project was a Huge Success!



Thank you to everyone who baked, dropped off, packaged treats and donated money to our Presbyterian Women's project. We made 140 packages of cookies and gave a bag to everyone who was in church on December 12th. We also sent cookie bags out with the carolers for their audiences. And several bags were delivered to our church friends who are unable to attend service in person.



Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets for the beautiful Mary Catherine Rawls quilts. It was a great way to honor Mary Catherine as well as raise funds for Turning Points Network.

KCPC member Kim Novak was the winner of this wonderful twin quilt!



Happy New Year!

Just when you thought you were done with all that cooking....!

Overall, Feed the Freezer had a pretty solid year in 2021. The total number of meal containers delivered to the Newport Food Pantry was 1,362! We have settled into a more sustainable pattern from our pandemic high of 2,181 in 2020, while managing to exceed prepandemic totals of around 1,000. This demonstrates our commitment to meeting the needs of the community as we continue to weather the challenges together.

Maria's arrival in the spring gave us a most welcome administrative boost! It's been so helpful to have her to help coordinate kitchen bookings, order containers, print labels, manage reimbursements and more!

After an August Moment for Mission, we gratefully welcomed a couple of new cooks to our team. Their energy and fresh perspectives have been a blessing!! It's been lovely to get to know these new friends as we roll up our sleeves together.

Fall, usually a time when efforts redouble as temperatures cool, saw a quieter period in the kitchen, as we bid a fond farewell to our dear Pastor Bob. Time for reflection and adjustment to this new normal was needed.

Thankfully, as November put us to work ahead of winter outside, our cooks picked up steam in the kitchen! It's been wonderful to see the freezer fill up again on a more regular basis, and the Food Pantry has been grateful for the robust deliveries at a time when many find themselves in need of that little extra help.

I want to thank all those cooks who have been so faithful to this mission, not to mention the folks who've willingly stepped in to make deliveries when needed. You provide not only manpower (and womanpower!) in the kitchen, but a loving and dedicated witness to others in our community of our faith in action.

A new year is always a good time to look around and look ahead. If you've been thinking about whether you might like to help Feed the Freezer, do reach out - we would love to get to know you over the potato peelings! Blessings to you and your family.

Ruth
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jetsetruth@gmail.com



Thank You



When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

By Howard W. Thurman

~ Reflections ~

January, 2022

*The firefly flickers of God's grace are
enough to embrace the unknown –Joyce Rupp*

It is hard to believe that a year has passed and another one is HERE! As I look out through the sliders to the deck, I can see, through the leafless trees, winter hints of the lake. I wonder what the new year will bring as the ice thickens, then recedes, the promise of spring, the joys of summer and the beauties of fall before another winter arrives. If you are like me, you pray the world will be rid of Covid-19 and that no more outbreaks of another pandemic are on the horizon.

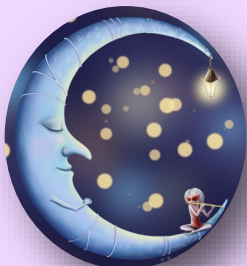
No two years, or Januarys, are alike and as I watch the birds coming and going to the feeder, I realize they are being fed and have no concerns, at least for now. We humans have doubts and worries but we know our faith will see us through, knowing that God is with us. As written in Jeremiah 6:16: "We stand at the crossroads and look, ask for ancient paths, which is the good way? Take it and you will find rest for yourselves." Our God will guide and see us on the best path for our life, surrounding and energizing with peace and love.

God is with us: "Embrace the present, for the past reflects the life you've lived and tomorrow reflects the life you're promised, but today is here and now to cherish the moment" – Unknown

*Healthy, happy days ahead, to you and family!
Always Hugs – Elaine*

God is the wind at your backs,
not the rain in your face. – Guideposts

I worked on a Christmas tree farm.
One time a lady asked, "So what are
these trees made out of?" - Readers Digest



The future belongs to those who
believe in the beauty of their dreams. – Eleanor Roosevelt

Don't cry because it's over,
smile because it happened. – Dr. Seuss



January 2022

Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 10:00 Worship	3	4	5 10:00 Line Dancing 4:45 Mission Mtg. On Zoom 6:00 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	6 5:45 Deacons Mtg Zoom	7	8
9 10:00 Worship	10	11	12 10:00 Line Dancing 6:00 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	13	14	15
16 10:00 Worship Petros Deadline	17	18	19 10:00 Line Dancing 6:00 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	20	21	22
23 10:00 Worship	24	25	26 10:00 Line Dancing 6:00 Bell Choir 7:15 Choir	27 7:00 Session Mtg. On Zoom	28	29
30 10:00 Worship	31					



KCPC Office Hours

Maria is in the office every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. It is always best to call (526-4800) prior to stopping by the church office during the week or email Maria at officem@tds.net.

Fully vaccinated or children under 12, wear a face covering when visiting the office. Email officem@tds.net to schedule a visit when needing additional time. A face mask is required when visiting the office for all vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.



Let's Celebrate January Birthdays!

Jan. 2	Marilyn Soper
Jan. 5	Jesse Smerald Danielle Smerald
Jan. 10	Molly Schad
Jan. 11	Jonathan Scheuch
Jan. 12	Ed Olney
Jan. 12	Chrissy Wolf
Jan. 17	Josh Bennet
Jan. 18	Lou Hunter
Jan. 21	Jane Springer
Jan. 22	Allan Davis
Jan. 27	John Shaw
Jan. 27	Barbara Altman

KCPC Mission: Feeding Our Neighbors



IT'S A NEW YEAR!!! Wouldn't it be wonderful if food insecurity is not a problem this year for families in our area?

Help KCPC re-commit in the new year to supporting those who are less fortunate. Your donations of one or two food items each week has been a blessing to local families, and will be a source of comfort in the months to come.

Consider setting a goal for your family of two or more food items each week, on average. Last Spring KCPC averaged 50 to 100 items donated each week however that decreased as the year went on. I would love to set a **KCPC goal of donating at least 40 food items to our local pantries each week** during 2022. To meet this goal, we will need more KCPC families to be involved. Any donations you can make will be greatly appreciated. The KCPC grocery cart will be in the narthex every Sunday for your donations.

To highlight a few novel items that would be appreciated (but are rarely donated):

Boxed milk is a treasure, as it is needed for cereal. Cooking oil is needed for some prepared foods. Spices, or salt and pepper would be a special gift. Tea bags and coffee make them feel like you care. Cake mixes and frosting make it possible to make a child's birthday cake. Dishwashing detergent is expensive and is always appreciated.

In addition, the local food pantries need any of the following:

Canned Meats such as Spam, chicken, tuna beans

boxed mashed potatoes

canned vegetables

medium boxes of cereal

canned vegetable drinks

juice drinks (including 2 qt bottles)

pasta sauces

hearty canned soups

small bags of rice

Rice-A-Roni

peanut butter

boxed UHT milk

canned vegetables

Chef Boyardee can

Skillet Meals

jelly

small ground coffee

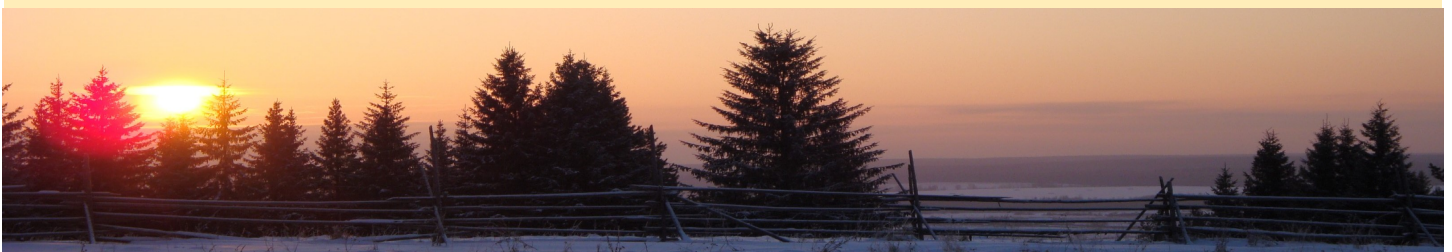
Small or medium sizes only. Importantly, please check the "Best By" date on your donations. The food pantries must follow local and NH Food Bank regulations, so they cannot use food past either the "Best By" or expiration dates.

KCPC Weekly Emails

For the foreseeable future, KCPC will continue to utilize MailChimp to send a weekly email to our members and friends. It will provide timely news, worship announcements, and other in-person meeting specifics.

If you are not on our email list, you can sign-up on the homepage of our website (www.kcpcnlh.com, scroll down until you see "Want to Receive our Weekly Email?" about half way on the left side), call the church office at 603-526-4800 or email Maria at officem@tds.net.

If you have signed up and don't receive our weekly email (normally sent on Friday afternoons), check your junk folder and move it to your inbox. This will assist your email program to "learn" that MailChimp emails from KCPC are worth reading! Gmail users should check their "Promotions" Tab at the top of the Gmail web page. If you don't use email, and would like a hard copy sent, we will arrange to do so. Please contact the church office.



KCPC Guidelines for Worship and In-Person Gatherings
can be found at www.kcpcnlh.com/re-opening-at-kcpc.html

CHURCH OFFICERS

Session

Pam Cooper	'22	380-1070
Jeff Hollinger	'22	526-2591
Karen McGrew	'22	763-9406
Paula Schoonmaker	'22	877-0046
Bruce Herd	'23	863-6983
Paul Seyfried	'23	763-9232
Ruth Storey	'23	252-0238
Nancy Walters	'23	863-1968
Jane Barban	'24	731-6252
Gary Rothe	'24	723-5841
Paul Sahler	'24	927-4168
John Walters	'24	863-1968

Deacons

Barbara Cooper	'22	763-9286
Anne Holmes	'22	938-2696
Kathi Kelly	'22	454-4404
Joanne Miller	'22	526-2377
Susan Bradford	'23	526-6465
Laurie Bride	'23	763-1410
Jerry Cooper	'23	763-9286
Nancy Marsh	'23	526-4391
Barry Bradford	'24	526-6465
Tom Cleaveland	'24	763-4210
Rick Marsh	'24	526-4391
Jan Sahler	'24	568-2521

Kearsarge Community
Presbyterian Church
82 King Hill Road
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CONTACTING THE CHURCH

www.kcpcnlh.com

Kearsarge Community
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82 King Hill Rd., New London, NH 03257

Church Office Phone

603-526-4800

Church Office Fax:

603-526-4822

Church email:

officem@tds.net

Staff:

Kurt Shaffert, *Pastor*
Maria Barnard, *Office Manager*
Lorraine Christy, *Church Keeper*
Roberta Hollinger, *Education Director*
Jason Paquette, *Church Accompanist*
Frances Steven-Putnam, *Music Director*

Please Contact For More Info:

Hand Bell Choir, Gary Rothe, *Director*
Presbyterian Women, Roberta Hollinger
Cub Scouts, Paula Schoonmaker
Good Day Respite, Jan Sahler
Youth Programs, Roberta Hollinger
Feed the Freezer, Ruth Storey
KLS Food Pantry, Kathi Kelly
KCPC Food Bank, Doug Darling
KCPC Wood Ministry, John Foulds
WishListNH Ministry, Lorelle Foulds

Barbara Rothe ~ Clerk of Session
Helen Knox ~ Asst. Clerk of Session
John Walters ~ Financial Secretary
Sara Scheuch ~ Treasurer
Susan Bradford ~ Moderator of Deacons
Jan Sahler ~ Secretary of Deacons

PETROS PUBLICATION

Deadline for the February Issue of the newsletter is:

Sunday, January 16th

Editors:

Kurt Shaffert, Maria Barnard,
Roberta Hollinger
& Elaine Koester

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A Special Thank You Goes To:
Nancy Clark and her "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 striv-
ing to do God's work on earth. We pro-
claim 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.

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