



# PETROS

May 2026

## The Newsletter of the Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven... Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Lately, I have been pondering my past, present, and future. For some of you, that is par for the course, but for me, this is highly unusual. I am one of those people who tends to focus on the present with an eye toward the future. Jenise will tell you that I am often quiet about my past, especially pre-Jenise, until it becomes relevant to the present. On more than one occasion, Jenise would make me call my Mom to verify that what I was saying was actually true, since I had never mentioned it before.

So why am I reminiscing so much? Is this an age thing or a psychotic episode? I think the former might be at play, but a few people may think the latter. But my past is important because it reminds me of the twists and turns God had planned for me throughout my life. If you had told me in 1999 that this former Catholic would go to seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, and become a Presbyterian pastor, I would have thought you were insane, but the Lord knew. If you told me I would serve churches in rural Illinois, economically depressed southwestern Pennsylvania, or a suburb in New Jersey fifty miles from New York City, I would have laughed at you, but the Lord knew. If you had told me I would lead churches through a building collapse and two other major insurance claims over 15 years, plus COVID, I would likely have said "NO!" to the ministry. All of this and more make up my past, and it fuels my present as I serve a church family in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Here's your past. This church family began with a vision in the late 1980s and originally met at Colby-Sawyer College. It had undertaken three construction projects as it grew, and, like every church across the nation, it experienced an existential crisis during a global pandemic. It also experienced three and a half years without a called and installed pastor. And you survived! I have been on the ground for nine months now, and I am fascinated by the fortitude and tenacity of this church family. There are legacy ministries that are mind-bogglingly cutting-edge and sound, the biggest little church choir I have ever seen, and deacons who would be the envy of many a church. In the present, this church has all the characteristics of a vital ministry. That represents what who you are now.

Now the BIG QUESTION: What are we going to become over the next ten years or more? God knows your future, and it's our job to figure it out. In a time when denominationalism is faltering, the world around us is becoming increasingly secular, and nationalism finds its way into segments of the Christian church, what will be our niche? God knows the future, and it's our job to figure it out.

It's time to exercise the Baptized Imagination!

In His Service (and yours),

*Pat*

**Rev. Dr. Patrick A. Sileo**

Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church

New London, NH 603-526-4800

Cell Phone: 724-557-6840



# The KCPC Yard Sale

## May 23, 2026

### Save The Date!



**Bring your donations: Sunday May 17, 2026**  
**Set-Up Week: May 18 – 22**  
**YARD SALE: Saturday May 23**

Mark your calendar: **Saturday May 23, 2026** for the 34<sup>th</sup> KCPC Yard Sale, and plan to volunteer during Set-Up Week. Outdoor sales start at 7:30 AM, church doors open at 8:00 AM, sale ends at 1:00 PM.

Please plan to donate both your attic treasures and your time. Volunteers will be needed to help receive, sort, and tag thousands of donations during the week before the sale. Lunch will be served for everyone working during Set-Up Week.

Now is the time for spring cleaning and renewal; donate your unused furniture, tables, rugs, jewelry, tools, flat-screen TVs, working electronics, china, glassware, gently used clothing, toys, gas grills, outdoor furniture, yard + gardening equipment, bicycles, and other sporting goods. Clear the decks for a good cause! Run and tell your neighbors!

Furniture donations must be clean and in good condition. The KCPC truck fleet can pick up your donations from your home. To schedule pick-up of large items, or if you have questions, call Maria at 603-526-4800, or email [officem@tds.net](mailto:officem@tds.net).



*Dear friends,*

Thank you for sharing your time, talents and tasty soups, salads and treats! (Thanks also for your flexibility!)

As you may know many towns have their own food pantries for their community. Keeping these smaller pantries full and fresh takes effort.

Thanks to you, PW of KCPC was able to donate \$520 directly to the Newbury Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity, and appetites!

*thank you*



Peace and blessings,  
*KCPC Presbyterian Women Leadership Team*

Roberta Hollinger, Kathi Kelly, Kris Walters, Anne Holmes, Paula Schoonmaker,  
 Susan Hollinger, Donna Young, Wanda Doughty & Sara Scheuch - treasurer

*Psalm 46:5 "God is within her, she will not fall."*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING...

**Bible Study**  
9:00 AM  
Thursdays  
*Book of Acts (B.O.A.)*

**Mother's Day**  
Sunday,  
May 10<sup>th</sup>

When you walk  
to the edge of all the light  
you have and take that first step  
into the darkness of the unknown,  
you must believe that one of two things  
will happen:  
There will be something solid  
for you to stand upon, or,  
you will be taught to fly."

— Patrick Overton,  
*The Leaning Tree*

## KCPC April Calendar of Events:

*Sunday Worship @ 10 AM In Person & Online*

**Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
*Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM*

**Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**  
*T.O.D. 6:30 PM*

**Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**  
*Faith Book Group 6:30 PM*

**Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
*Yard Sale 8 - 1 PM*

**Yard Sale  
Set-Up Week  
May 18-22**

**Every School**  
*Sunday School*

**Every Monday**  
*Women of Faith 10:30 AM*

**Every Wednesday**  
*Bells 6:00 PM*  
*Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM*

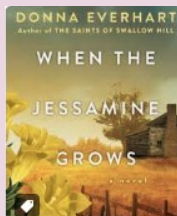
**Every Thursday**  
*Bible Study (B.O.A.) 9:00 AM*

**KCPC Yard Sale**  
Saturday, May 23<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 to 1:00 pm



**Faith Book Group**  
~ May Read ~

*When the  
Jessamine Grows*  
by Donna Everhart



# Big Wishes to May Birthdays!

- |        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| May 2  | Steve Wolf        |
| May 4  | Rick Marsh        |
| May 5  | Jessie Mae Wilson |
| May 6  | Bob Koester       |
| May 10 | Wanda Doughty     |
| May 11 | Joan McCulloch    |
| May 18 | Doug Darling      |
| May 28 | Bette Bennett     |
| May 30 | Donna Young       |



## ~ Church Officers ~

	<b>Session</b>		<b>Deacons</b>
Russ Doughty	'26	(774) 219-9066	Barbara Cooper '26 (603) 763-9286
Bruce Herd	'26	(603) 863-6983	Anne Holmes '26 (603) 491-5299
Paul Seyfried	'26	(603) 763-9232	Kris Walters '26 (603) 731-7762
Ruth Storey	'26	(603) 252-0238	Donna Young '26 (603) 748-2202
Doug Darling	'27	(502) 468-2623	Susan Bradford '27 (603) 931-2869
Linda Hoffman	'27	(603) 520-9981	Jerry Cooper '27 (603) 763-9286
Gerald Putnam	'27	(603) 927-6363	Wanda Doughty '27 (774) 219-9065
Paul Sahler	'27	(603) 568-2522	Nancy Marsh '27 (603) 748-4980
Peter Bride	'28	(603) 491-7337	Laurie Bride '28 (603) 545-2377
Jeff Hollinger	'28	(603) 526-2591	Roy Jobst '28 (203) 980-6094
Jonathan Scheuch	'28	(603) 526-9097	Susan Rogers '28 (603) 770-9239
			Lauri-ann Smerald '28 (603) 491-9891

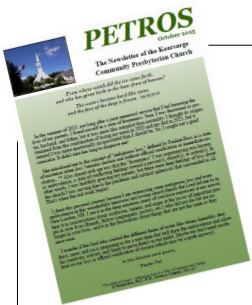
*Clerk of Session, Barbara Rothe*  
*Financial Secretary, Anne Holmes*  
*Asst. Financial Secretary, John Walters*  
*Treasurer, Sara Scheuch*

*Co-Moderators, Wanda Doughty & Kris Walters*  
*Secretary of Deacons, Barbara Cooper*

### 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.



**PETROS PUBLICATION**  
 Deadline for the next  
 issue of the newsletter is:  
 Sunday, May 24, 2026.

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.

### CONTACTING THE CHURCH

Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church  
 82 King Hill Rd., New London, NH 03257  
 603-526-4800 officem@tds.net  
 www.kcpcnlh.com

#### ***Staff:***

Rev. Dr. Patrick A. Silco, *Pastor*  
 Roberta Hollinger, *Education Director*  
 Frances Steven-Putnam, *Music Director*  
 Jason Paquette, *Church Accompanist*  
 Maria Barnard, *Office Manager*  
 James Sferes, *AV Technical Director*

#### ***Please Contact For More Info:***

Presbyterian Women, *Roberta Hollinger*  
 WishListNH Ministry, *Roberta Hollinger & Susan Hollinger*  
 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*