



# PETROS

WINTER EDITION

The Newsletter of the Kearsarge  
Community Presbyterian Church

## Call the MID WIVES

Lo, in the silent night  
A child to GOD is born  
And all is brought again  
That ere was lost or lorn.

Could but thy soul, O one,  
Become a silent night...  
GOD would be born in thee  
And set all things aright.

~ 15TH CENTURY ~

Beloved in Christ,  
In this season of short days and long nights...  
Big concerns and too rare relief... too much war and too much grief...  
May we be as mid-wives with each other ... tender... skilled... attentive...  
Such that "GOD would be born in thee" ... Christ might be "born unto us"...

With ONE LOVE... this century and every century... this day, every day...

Christ's peace , Kurt



## ~ Reflections ~

*And she brought forth her firstborn son,  
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger – Luke 2:7*

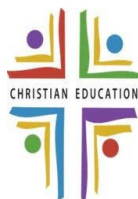
In a Christmas magazine advertisement that I recently saw, a young child stood with eyes wide open as he stood before a brightly lit tree. His thoughts were surely on the many gaily wrapped presents spread underneath. My ‘older person’ thoughts were of the joys, music and plans of the season and, most of all, on the story of Christ’s birth and the love that was born that night.

Having raised seven children, you can imagine the rolls of wrapping paper that were needed for presents and the mounds of crumpled paper that filled the many trash bags! Funny thing, though – as they grew older, the gifts got smaller and more expensive. At least, there was less paper!

No matter what, the peace and joy that the shepherds found at the stable is the best gift that any and everyone can be given. As we reflect on the many joys of this season, peace, laughter and, most of all, the love that is shared with family and friends come to mind.

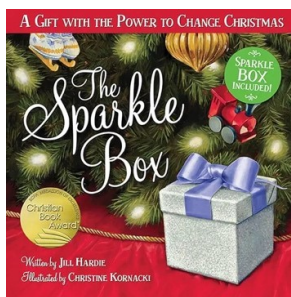
Wherever you are this Christmas, dear friends, may you know happiness and many peace-filled moments. Merry Christmas!

*Christmas Hugs,  
Elaine*



## ~ Christian Education ~

In the months to come I’ll write about empathy, a timely topic. I’ve been reading about *how* to teach empathy to kids and teens and found that it applies to all of us, regardless of age. This month I put a book The Sparkle Box by Jill Hardie in the library. It’s a story about the power of kindness to transform Christmas. Perhaps it will inspire you to adopt this faith centered tradition in your own home.



### Coming up:

Date with a Book Christmas FBG 12/14. See details on the bulletin board in Foulkes Hall.

Monday Small Group will recess starting 12/18 and return 1/8. Our next book is An Altar in the World by Barbara Brown Taylor.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,  
Roberta*



## Christmas Staff Gifts

*It has been the historic practice at KCPC to provide a Christmas “bonus” to the members of our dedicated Church Staff as a way of thanking them for their tireless service on behalf of KCPC. To accomplish this we create a pool of funds from which we allocate the gifts to each person in accordance with a formula approved by the Session.*

*We recognize that we are not always able to compensate our wonderful Staff in a manner that we might otherwise prefer. This is one way to show our collective appreciation for all the good works that they do for us, week in and week out, to make KCPC the special place that we all love.*

*We invite you to participate in this program again this year. You can place your check in the offering plate or mail it to the Church Office. Make your check payable to KCPC and indicate in the lower left that it is for the Christmas Staff Gifts.*

*We thank you in advance for your ongoing support.*



# December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Please Recycle					1	2
3 Worship 10 Blue XtMas	4 Small Group 10:30	5 Men's Brkfst 7:30 T.O.D. 6:00	6 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	7 Deacons Gospel O'Mark 9:00	8	9
10 Worship 10 Caroling	11 Small Group 10:30	12 Stewardship	13 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	14 FBG 6:30 Gospel O'Mark 9:00	15	16 Cookie Grab & Go/Pizza 12:00
17 Worship 10 Pageant	18	19 <sup>Session</sup>	20 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	21 Gospel O'Mark 9:00	22	23
24 Worship 10 Family Ser. 4 Choir Ser. 6	25  Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31 Worship 10						

# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2	3 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	4 <sup>Deacons</sup> Gospel O'Mark 9:00	5	6
7 Worship 10	8 Small Group 10:30	9 T.O.D. 6:00	10 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	11 Gospel O'Mark 9:00	12	13
14 Worship 10	15 Small Group 10:30	16	17 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	18 <sup>Session</sup> Gospel O'Mark 9:00	19	20
21 Worship 10 Petros Deadline	22 Small Group 10:30	23	24 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15	25 Gospel O'Mark 9:00	26	27
28 Worship 10	29 Small Group 10:30	30	31 Bells 6:00 Choir 7:15			

*Wishing you peace, health and happiness in the new year.*



**Presbyterian Women**  
invite you to don your favorite Christmas sweater  
and join us for some holiday fellowship and fun!

Please join us for  
a holiday pizza & ice cream lunch and mini meeting followed by  
a cookie packing extravaganza for our 3rd annual

## **Christmas Cookie Grab & Go!** **Saturday December 16th**

- 12:00 Pizza & ice cream lunch & a mini meeting - please come, even if you choose not bake this year—we love having time to catch up with friends
- 1:00(ish) Cookie packaging begins!

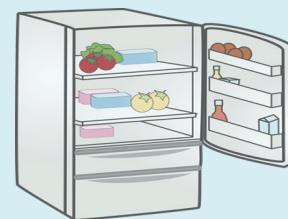
We're looking for our army of cookie baking elves to once again donate their time, talent and most importantly, cookies for this fun-filled and scrumptious event. Please plan to donate a minimum of 2 dozen cookies each.

Questions? Please contact Kris Walters at kriswalters66@gmail.com

*Ho Ho Ho & Many Blessings to you all, Kris (Walters) Kringle.*



## *Feed the Freezer*



*Feed the Freezer needs new cooks to make tasty meals for the Newport Food Pantry. Whether you'd like to cook occasionally or on a regular basis, it would be great to have your help in the kitchen! If you'd like to know more, or arrange a time to join a cooking session and see how it works, please contact Ruth Storey at: jetsetruth@gmail.com or (603) 252-0238*

# CELEBRATING WINTER BIRTHDAYS!

## **December**

12/01 Mark Perry  
12/02 Carolyn Hager  
12/03 Kathy Bennett  
12/09 Sally Jones

12/13 Tom Cleaveland  
12/15 Chris Cundey  
12/17 Ron Cooper  
12/18 Eve Hiatt  
12/30 Susan Chadwick

## **January**

1/05 Jesse Smerald  
1/05 Danielle Smerald  
1/11 Karen McGrew  
Jonathan Scheuch

1/12 Ed Olney  
1/12 Chrissy Wolf  
1/22 Allan Davis



## 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

### Deacons

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

### Barbara Rothe

~ Clerk of Session

### John Walters

~ Financial Secretary

### Bob Koester

~ Asst. Financial Secretary

### Sara Scheuch

~ Treasurer

### Susan Bradford

~ Moderator of Deacons

### Jan Sahler

~ Secretary of Deacons

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

### Please Contact For More Info:

Presbyterian Women, Roberta 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  
KCPC Wood Ministry, John Foulds  
WishListNH Ministry, Lorelle Foulds

## PETROS PUBLICATION

**Deadline for the February issue of the newsletter is: Sunday, January 21st.**

**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 pur-

## Holiday "Must See KCPC"

- Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>** First Sunday of Advent  
*Blue Christmas Coffee House 3 PM*
- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** Second Sunday of Advent  
*Caroling & Cocoa After Worship*
- Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>** Third Sunday of Advent  
*No Stress Christmas Pageant*
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** Fourth Sunday of Advent  
*Simple Service 10 AM*

## Christmas Eve Worship

4:00 Family Service

6:00 Choir Service



## Please join us at our monthly Men's Breakfast

TUESDAYS @

7:30 AM

Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>

Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>

Mar. 5<sup>th</sup>

Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>

May 7<sup>th</sup>

Serving great food & fellowship!

### Kearsarge Community

### Presbyterian Church

82 King Hill Road

New London, NH 03257

Non-Profit  
Organization

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New London, NH

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