

FROM THE PASTOR

December, 2023



Dear Church,

Advent is a sacred time. A time to reconnect to our faith and our life in the church, while we revisit the narratives of Jesus' birth. A time to reconnect to each other. During the month of December may we find ways to live our faith in action. One tangible way is to make a commitment to attend all worship services and special events. On December 9th we will have a public Stuff the Tent event at Goodwins Mills UMC, while also holding our Christmas Fair at our West Kennebunk location. Volunteer and be involved in the worship life of the church by agreeing to be a reader, an acolyte, a greeter. Gather and donate items to our food drives and Toys for Tots mission. Be in prayer and study. Each day read a daily devotional, or find a spiritual biography to read. Call a fellow Parishioner and ask them if they want to be your prayer partner for December. By getting involved you will experience your faith on a new level. Please plan on attending our Christmas Eve Services (4pm at West Kennebunk and 6pm at Goodwins Mills). Remember to bring family and friends to these special services.

Also in December I ask you to consider a Year End Financial Gift to the church. A one time gift that will have a huge impact. I thank you in advance for considering this. I thank you in advance for your generosity.

May this Advent and Christmas season bring you and your family much joy and happiness. May it allow you to grow closer in your relationship to God, through Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

I wish you blessings and peace, Merry Christmas

Rev. Ed





Since Christmas Eve is on a Sunday we will not be having morning services. Please join us for special Christmas Eve services at West Kennebunk UMC at 4:00 pm and Goodwins Mills UMC at 6:00 pm.

for this Special Service at

West Kennebunk UMC starting at 4:00pm.

Goodwins Mills UMC starting at 6:00pm.





West Kennebunk UMC 160 Alfred Street, West Kennebunk, ME

> **Goodwins Mills UMC** 55 Church Street, Lyman, ME

Due to the type of service, with nine readers, Zoom will be unavailable this evening. Rev. Ed suggests these two wonderful Lessons and Carols videos on YouTube if you're unable to attend in-person.

The first is from Duke University Chapel and the second is from King's College in London where this service originated.

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols 2022 - YouTube

"A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols" King's College 1992 (Stephen Cleobury) - YouTube

Gift Card Drive



The biggest challenge for our unhoused neighbors during the cold, dark days of winter is to stay warm, and to get enough to eat. We will continue to collect warm clothes, blankets and shoes during this holiday season, but we would also like to provide gift cards to Cumberland Farms, Walmart, Hannaford, Dunkin Donuts, or any place where our neighbors in need can purchase food and a warm

drink, or gas to keep their vehicle running so they can keep warm. A tank of gas, or an hour to sit in Dunkin Donuts with a hot coffee can save a life. We have so much to be thankful for. Let's share it with our neighbors who don't have a fire to sit beside and are struggling to survive during this holiday season.



Share some light this Christmas!

Goodwins Mills United Methodist Church Saturday, December 9th 1:00 to 3:00 PM

There are now around 600 unhoused people living in York County. Many of them are elderly. We are inviting anyone who would like to donate gently used warm winter clothes, boots, or shoes to help us stuff our tent with items to make Christmas a little more joyful for those who have no place to live. We are also accepting:

Flashlights and batteries

Personal hygiene items like soap, toilet paper, and toothpaste Warm blankets

Sleeping bags

Pillows

Warm socks

New underwear - both genders

Hats and waterproof gloves or mittens

Gift card for Hannaford, Walmart, Duncan Donuts, Cumberland Farms, or any other place that sells gas, food, or hot coffee.

Please join us for coffee, hot chocolate, and a cookie when you drop off your donation.





Grandma's Attic received donations of \$194.00 for fuel assistance. We will be doing this again on December 9th at the West Kennebunk Christmas Fair and Cookie walk!





The Granite State Ringer handbell choir is presenting concerts of winter-themed music this season.

Where: Star Theater, 120 Rogers Rd, Kittery, ME

When: 3:00 pm on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023

Tickets can be purchased online at granitestateringers.org or at the door.





www.granitestateringers.org

The Village Ringers will perform during the service at the December 17th worship service at West Kennebunk UMC at 160 Alfred Road in West Kennebunk.

FANC

What is HeartSource?



Participants say:

"HeartSource is a community of believers focused on enhancing worship through illuminating Scriptures." Beverly

"HeartSource is a loosely gathered group of people who create collaboratively from heartfelt belief, enhancements to make worship joyful and more meaningful. To me, our common source of belief in Christ's love, allows us to respectfully interact despite our individual differences and to care about each other."

"A community that gathers to share gifts, talents, and inspirations to develop scripture based projects to support and enhance Sunday worship." Suzanne

"Just as Jesus meets us where we are in our journey of faith, Heart Source is striving to make the Word and messages alive & relevant in another way to reach people where they are."

Michelle

"HeartSource, to me, is an opportunity to look deeply into scripture to understand what it meant in the time and culture in which it was written, but also how it applies to our lives in our time and culture, which is sometimes not the same thing. Then it is a way of communicating that understanding to the congregation during worship by using spoken, written and artistic expression to make it more intellectually and emotionally meaningful than just hearing the same scripture readings we have all heard over and over again for most of our lives."

"HEARTSOURCE is an opportunity for anyone who enjoys creating for worship. All forms of art, music, drama, liturgy, poetry, movement, and new ideas are included as possibilities. What is used comes out of reading chosen scripture, conversing and hearing ideas that come from the participants through this process. It is a powerful example of the Holy Spirit working among us!"

Collective definition:

Beacon of Hope's HeartSource is a group of believers who respectfully interact in conversation through deeper study of scripture, making the Word alive and relevant by sharing gifts, talents, and inspirations to the worshiping community.



Rev. Susan Heafield—2 Dick Thompson-14

Trinity Noble Polchies—4 Carol Bento—24

Miriam Gorski—7 Larry Strickland-24

Dan Stone—7 Jennifer Clapp—27

Don Small—13 Jim Heald—29

Cynthia Mahler—14



If we don't have your birthday or anniversary on file please leave a note or email for Sandy Farrar at good-winsmillsumc@gmail.com and we will get our records up to date. Thank you.



We'd **REALLY** like to see you in person on Sunday Mornings!



Video Just found in the UMCatalyst from the Conference - a three -part Advent video series from Bishop Johnson is available on line. The link is New

England Conference: See Bishop Johnson's Advent video series (neumc.org)



Let's sing in choir again!

All are welcome!

For the month of November, Beacon of Hope Choir rehearsals are held **Fridays at 11:00 a.m. at the West Kennebunk UMC, 160 Alfred Street in West Kennebunk**. Any questions, contact Susan Heafield: heafield.susan@gmail.com or 207-502-7402.

The choir will sing at <u>West</u>
<u>Kennebunk UMC</u> every
Sunday in November!







We would love to have a Christmas card to hang in the church! Please feel free to send one to Goodwins Mills UMC, 55 Church Street, Lyman, ME 04002 or West Kennebunk UMC, P.O. Box 532, 160 Alfred Street, West Kennebunk, ME 04094.





Don't Forget our

Super Senior Gathering!

We meet at WKUMC on Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 to 3:00 every other week.



In December, our meetings will be the 12th and 26th.

Some folks just sit and chat, others knit/crochet, play a board or card game or work on a craft. It's mainly a time to "get out of the house" and visit with others.

We'd love to have you join us!

FMI: Contact Beverly (207) 809-9268

Challenge Grant for Daisy's Children

The York Association of the UCC had issued a challenge grant of \$5,000 to all the churches in the state to raise the necessary funds to purchase food for the school children in Honduras, known as Daisy's Children. This is a long-term project of the UCC to support the school in Honduras that educates and feeds the children who are in great need. Many years ago we started supporting this effort by filling buckets of food to be sent to Honduras under the Amigos Project. Then it changed to Feeding Forward which realized fund raising was a more effective way of purchasing food in Honduras rather than shipping it in buckets from the United States. Eventually it became known as Daisy's Children and continues the work that is so vital to God's people.

Several years ago Dan Moisan and members of his family went to Honduras to experience first hand the wonderful work that is lifting this community up. The work is hard; the work is never ending; and the work is vital and necessary with our help.

We are asking for donations in any amount to be sent to the York Association Treasurer Daniel Moisan 39 Deerwood Road, Wells, ME 04090. Checks should be made out to York Association with Daisy's Children in the memo line.

Each donation will be matched up to \$5,000 by the grant money. Every dollar donated becomes two dollars. At the November Cabinet meeting it was voted to send \$100 on behalf of Christ Church.

These words from the York Association Executive Team should inspire us in this challenge:

"God be praised for the gift of sharing the cost and the joys of this work as we attempt to foster the world God is dreaming into being... a world without violence, a world without displacement, a world in which every child belongs and is properly fed."







Directions: Find the words listed below. Then unscramble the intersecting letters to complete Luke 2:11, NIV.



Shepherds
Child
Nazareth
Census
Baby
David
Mary
Travel
Town
Register
Born
Night

T	В	W	Y	Α	Z	K	Ε	S	Н	N	G	D	J	K
Q	0	Y	Α	Р	R	Α	L	В	F	Р	I	С	Q	L
N	R	W	X	В	Е	Y	R	M	В	D	M	0	Е	Е
S	N	0	Z	W	G	Α		В	Α	С	D	0	T	D
R	G	X	7	F	I	W	M	V	В	R	R	С	E	0
P	S	С	E	N	S	U	S	Н	Y	U	Y	F	Р	N
0	T	Р		G	T	Q	С	N	T	G	M	U	S	T
0	Α	N	D	В	E	С	Н		L	D	N	Z	F	Α
Α	T	В	Α	U	R	W	Н	G	F	V	Α	В	U	М
T	R	Α	V	Е	L	J	С	Н	V	0	Z	G	N	Н
F	В	Q	I	W	D	X	Р	T	E	N	Α	0	L	Q
Z	С	R	D	Q	S	Н	E	Р	Н	Е	R	D	S	V
R	U	V	Y	K	N	I	R	T	K	G	E	Y	I	R
K	V	Α	Z	X	L	S	Н	Y	T	P	T	J	S	K
L	L	E	S	M	J	Z	L	Q	R	U	Н	V	W	X

"Today in the town of David a ____ _ _ _ _ has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

LUKE 2:11, NIV



Below are the names of people or situations from the Beacon of Hope Cooperative Parish that need your prayers. To add or remove names on the list, please contact Sandy Farrar before the 20th of the month at gmumc@gmail.com

Pam Boyden

Baby Miracle Chapman

Cory, Liam & Maverick

Lisa Dufour (Ruth Morrison's sister-in-law)

Kevin Hickey

Bethany Hickey (wife)

Kevin & Kelen Hickey (sons)

Jessica & Family

Connor Johnson (West Kennebunk)

Barbara Lawson

Marcia Lawson

Lettie Lemay

Cathy Mullen (Margie Lord's sister-in-law)

Laurie Thompson

Ed Philbrook

Dick Cadmus

Joanna Brown

David Harriman (Sandy Farrar's cousin)

Helena called and asked to be put on the prayer list along with her daughter, Laura, and friends: Kathy & husband, John, Chris,

Linda, Gloria, Patty, Everett, Donna,

Michelle, Steve, Gail, Cindy &

Maureen.

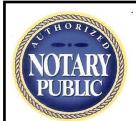
Matthew Philbrook

Stephen Raynolds

Roy & Derrick

Pattie Vigue

Thanks for the many blessings we have received and for this church family. Please also keep our Bishop Rev. Peggy Johnson, our District Superintendent, Rev. Arlene Tully and our pastor Rev. Ed Bove and family in your prayers.



Reminder that notary services are available at the church! Please contact Sandy Farrar, Office Administrator, during regular office hours if you're in need of a notary.



For Pastoral Care

Hear

Our

Prayer

Please Contact

Rev. Ed Bove

(401) 525-6866 or

revbove@gmail.com

United Methodist Credit Union

www.umfcu.org

If you are a United Methodist in New England, you are able to join the United Methodist Federal Credit Union. The link is posted above.

Many services are available, and an ATM card is available. Please check out the link to see if it's something you might want to do. It might even be a place where you could start a savings account for vacations or other projects! \$\$\$\$\$\$



The Beacon of Hope supports both the <u>York County Food Pantry</u> in Alfred and <u>Community Outreach Services</u> (COS) in Kennebunk. They are always in need of supplies. Please consider giving weekly to these causes. Donations can be brought to the West Kennebunk UMC and/or Goodwins Mills UMC any Sunday.

You or someone you know could be in need. Please always feel free to reach out for help.

Here are some suggestions:



- Any canned meats, poultry, and fish (tuna, especially)
- Muffin, Brownie, Cake or Cornbread Mixes
- Fruit & Vegetables (canned)
- Hamburger or Tuna Helper (type meals)
- Peanut butter
- Jelly and jam
- Juices and bottles of water
- Saltine crackers, granola bars, chips
- Cereals (preferably non or low sugar, hot or cold)
- Oatmeal (packets or container)
- Macaroni & Cheese (boxed)
- Pancake/waffle Mix
- Pasta & Meals in a can (Ravioli, Spaghetti, etc.)
- Pet Food (canned or dried) and treats
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Toilet Tissue, napkins and tissues
- Shaving Cream & soap (bars & liquid)
- Paper Towels
- Feminine Products
- Deodorant
- Laundry & dish soap

Church Mailing Addresses:

West Kennebunk UMC, P.O. Box 532, 160 Alfred Road, West Kennebunk, ME 04094 Christ Church, c/o Goodwins Mills UMC, 55 Church Street, Lyman, ME 04002 Goodwins Mills UMC, 55 Church Street, Lyman, ME 04002



If anyone is looking for addresses for members, non-members, people who no longer attend or anyone not in the directory, please call or email Sandy.

You are invited to BOH scheduled Zoom meetings.

Topic: HeartSource meeting

Time: Tuesdays at 03:30 PM Eastern Time (US

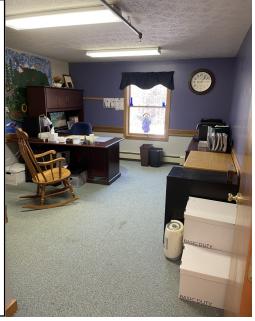
and Canada)

- 1. Go to Zoom.us
- 2. Click "Join a meeting" near top
- Enter meeting ID 899 5832 2582 and passcode 182150 click "join."
- 4. Click "Leave Meeting" when finished

Christ Church Federated
Goodwins Mills UMC
West Kennebunk UMC



We have exciting news! Our Cabinet and Ad Councils agreed to consolidate Sandy's office into one location. Previously, Sandy was available two days at Goodwins Mills and two days at Christ Church. With the Christ Church building being up for sale, we decided to have one central office for Sandy. At Goodwins Mills we painted Sandy's new office. We recognized that the mural in that room was a legacy art piece for the church, and worked it into the design. It looks great! So, the new Beacon of Hope Cooperative Parish Central Office is located on the 2nd floor of Goodwins Mills UMC. Please come and check it out! This bigger office will serve us better, and be more efficient. We want to thank Sandy and her family for painting the new office. Thank you for your commitment to BOH Cooperative Parish.





Our Outreach Missions

Our Food Baskets in the Sanctuary and ready to be filled!!

Non-Perishable Food items and Personal Care items can be brought to church on Sunday morning and left in the baskets behind the back pews. Each week donations are brought to the food pantry or Community Outreach Services (COS).

You may also send a donation:

York County Shelters Food Pantry. You can mail a check to York County Shelter Programs, 24 George Rd, Alfred, ME 04002, Attn: Pam please write "food pantry" on the memo line of your check.

Community Outreach Services (COS), which supports Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Arundel. You can mail a check payable to COS to PO Box 1175, Kennebunk, ME 04043...again, please write "food pantry" on the memo line of your check.

UNITED METHODIST ECONOMIC MINISTRY

Check them out at www.umeconomicministry.com

or United Methodist Economic Ministry on Facebook



Every month Betty Schofield makes a trip north to deliver clothing and other needed items to the people at the Salem Economic Ministry in Franklin County, ME. The next trip will be in **early December** with **warm clothes** and **holiday items**. Especially needed are items for teenage guys and gals. Any suggestions? Do you have any sports items you could donate like Red Sox or Patriots items? Maybe new or lightly used sporting equipment like basketballs, soccer balls, etc. How about filling a cosmetic bag or basket with something for a teenager? Art supplies and/or musical gifts would be welcome. The ministry works diligently to fill many family wish lists. If you want to bring donations to either WK or GM we'll make sure they get to Betty for her December trip.

Remember we can help this Ministry at any time without leaving home!

To donate by mail, send your check to **United Methodist Economic Ministry**, 1458 Salem Road, Salem Township, Maine 04983



Thank YOU for Your Support!

Special thanks to Beverly Staples from West Kennebunk UMC and Betty Schofield from Christ Church for delivering donations several times a year!

Celebrating our 30th Season Seaglass Chorale presents

a Celtic Holiday

Celebration

Jean Strazdes, Artistic Director

Featuring

Irish Fiddlers Ryan & Brennish Thomson
and

Dancers from the Stillson School of Irish Dance

December 1st at 7 p.m.

December 2nd at 4 p.m.

Saint David's Episcopal Church

Kennebunk, Maine

BEACON OF HOPE CALENDAR DECEMBER, 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	BER, 202 Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
9:15am Worship service at WKUMC w/ Zoom 11:00am Worship service at GMUMC	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open Super Sr Gathering 1-3 WK 3:30 pm Heart- Source Meeting via Zoom	9:00-1:00pm Office n er Sr Gath- g 1-3 WK pm Heart- rce Meeting		Office CLOSED 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal at WKUMC	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am Men's Club at GM 9:15am Com- munion service WKUMC with Zoom 11:00am Com- munion service at GMUMC	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 3:30 pm Heart- Source Meeting	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 5:15-7:00pm TOPS in FH at GM Pearl Harbor Remembrance	Office CLOSED 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal at WKUMC	WK Christmas Fair 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Stuff the Tent at GMUMC 1:00 –3:00 pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:15am Worship service WKUMC with Zoom 11:00am Worship service at GMUMC	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 1-3pm Super Sr Gathering WK 3:30 pm Heart- Source Meeting via Zoom 6:00 pm CC Cabinet Mtg on Zoom	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open School Around Us Holiday Concert	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 5:15-7:00pm TOPS in FH at GM	Office CLOSED 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal at WKUMC	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:15am Worship service WKUMC with Zoom 11:00am Worship service at GMUMC	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 3:30 pm Heart- Source Meeting 6:00pm CC/FT meeting in FH	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 5:15-7:00pm TOPS in FH at GM	Office CLOSED 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal at WKUMC	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
4:00pm Christ- mas Eve service WKUMC with Zoom 6:00pm Christ- mas Eve service at GMUMC	Office CLOSED	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 1-3pm Super Sr Gathering WK 3:30 pm Heart- Source Meeting WK Ad Council Mtg 6:00 pm	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 5:15-7:00pm TOPS in FH at GM	Office CLOSED 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal at WKUMC	
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
9:15am Worship service WKUMC with Zoom 11:00am Worship service at GMUMC	Office CLOSED Happy	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 3:30 pm Heart- Source Meeting	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open 16	9:00-1:00pm GM Office Open	Office CLOSED 11:00 am Choir Rehearsal at GMUMC	