www.gilfordcommunitychurch.org **APRIL 2016** Issue 4

Coming to Gilford Community Church
Sunday, April 10, 2016
3:00 p.m.

Free and Open to the public with a suggested donation of $10.00.

Elisabeth Von Trapp

(granddaughter of the legendary Maria and Baron Von Trapp, whose story inspired the "Sound of Music")

In Concert

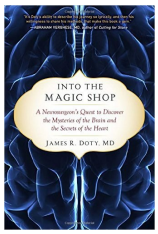
"Before the concert is over, she will have the crowd gasping with the sheer beauty of her voice" *Boston Globe*

Meet and Greet on Sunday, April 10th, after the worship service. Come and learn more about the church and consider joining our church family!

Annual Outdoor Spring Cleanup at Church
Saturday, April 16th
7:30 a.m.
Bring your favorite rake & clippers! ALL WELCOME!

Sunday, April 17th at coffee hour, the OUTREACH Committee presents **Outreach Missions Expo!** Displayed information on our many mission programs and the organizations that we support! For more info contact Jessi Fleck at 728-5671 or jfleckjr@metrocast.net.

The next book for the **Adult Study on Wednesdays** at noon:
"Into the Magic Shop: *A Neurosurgeon's Quest to Discover the Mysteries of the Brain and the Secrets of the Heart.*" (page 5)



When he shook my hand, he laughed and then said, "Every time I come to church you either sing *Joy to the World* or *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*. Don't you guys know any other songs?" We chatted for a moment longer and then I wished him a happy Easter. He left, only to turn around and add with the nod of his head, "I'll see you Christmas Eve." I don't know what percentage of people only go to church on Christmas and Easter, but it's fairly significant. Going to church every Sunday, twice a year, or never, doesn't make a person good or bad. Nor does it speak to their level of faith. What it does do, however, is give one a very truncated understanding of what it is to be a Christian.

Twenty years ago, Linda Ellis wrote what would become a very popular funeral poem called "The Dash". It begins,

> *"I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.*
> *He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning…*
> *to the end. He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke*
> *the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most*
> *of all was the dash between those years. For that dash represents*
> *all the time that they spent alive on earth. And now only those who*
> *loved them know what that little line is worth.*

The dash; that is what one misses by only coming on Christmas and Easter. And that dash, his life, is what makes his death significant. For some, Jesus' death is what mattered supremely. For others, like me, his life is what mattered and matters immensely. Jesus models what a good life might look like. From that humble beginning as the son of a carpenter, one of history's nobodies, he became one of the most important figures to ever live. When we encourage someone to *go the extra mile* or *to turn the other cheek*, we harken back to the sage from Nazareth; as we do when we call someone a *good Samaritan* or refer to a lost child as *a prodigal son*. When we aspire to let *our light shine* and to *love our enemies* we are following the way of Jesus, as we are when we refer to someone as *the salt of the earth.*

If you are reading this, your dash has yet to be determined, but I hope that his dash, Jesus' life, will have an influence on yours.

Sincerely,

Michael

New to our church? Would you like to learn more about it? Would you like to join the church?

Come join Rev. Michael Graham and others to learn about our church and what we can offer you.

Watch this space for notice of the next Meet n' Greet, held on a Sunday after worship in Conference Room A. **The next Meet and Greet will be held April 10th after the worship service.**

The Village Newsletter is a
monthly publication of
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email: rick.edson99@gmail.com
Jane Karagianis—Financial Accountant
email: gccjane@metrocast.net
Dru Chatterton—Office Secretary
email: gccoffice@metrocast.net
Church Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 to 2:00 pm
THE OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

OUR CHURCH COMMITTEE CHAIRS
2016

CHURCH COUNCIL	Jessica Fleck	jfleckjr@metrocast.net	728-5671
PASTOR/STAFF	Lori Marsh	milo2001@metrocast.net	524-8677
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MEMORIAL GIFTS	Doris MacHaffie	dcmachaffie@metrocast.net	524-1169
VILLAGE NURSERY SCHOOL	Katie Bryant	dukefans@metrocast.net	520-6660
FELLOWSHIP & KITCHEN	Eloise Post	eloise@metrocast.net	986-6723
PRAYER LINE COORDINATOR	Barbara Hauck	bfhauck20@metrocast.net	524-3381

03	Cindy Brown
05	Pat Fowler
06	James Buckley
09	Carolyn Scattergood
11	Sara Allen, Michael Bryant, Kevin Tripp
14	Brienna Tomlinson, Chet Devarney
18	Brian Mercer, Roy Carsen
19	Barbara Partridge
21	Nancy Castellon, Steve Birch
23	Warren Hutchins
24	Rachel Blandford
28	Carole Williams
29	Lynne Baron
30	Opal Roys

April Anniversaries

04	Donna & Steve Snow	1981
05	Jan & Rich Briggs	1975
10	Jan & Kevin Keady	
17	Bethany & Shea King	1997
17	Bill & Kathy McNamara	
19	Dan & Judy Brown	1969
20	Laurel & David Greenlaw	1974
23	Brian & Kathy Arenstam	1994

The church has new name tags, thanks to Mel and Charlotte Van Dyke, who donated a substantial amount toward their purchase. Pick up your name tag in Fellowship Hall on Sunday and wear it proudly!
Irene Santaniello,
Membership Chair

Carolyn Ames
(Music Director/Organist)
AJ Coppola
(Choir Director)

Music Notes

The Choir has been busy with preparations for Holy Week, with many musicians collaborating for Palm Sunday and Easter. On March 24, we commemorated Maundy Thursday by singing at the United Methodist Church in Gilford.

We are also happy to have a newly refurbished home! Alex Stewart made some changes to the choir loft that we hope everyone will enjoy. Let us know what you think of our "new look!"

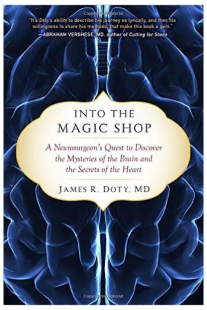
As always, we are looking to expand our choir family—we have even made more room for you to come and join us! Drop by rehearsals on Thursday nights from 6-7 in the sanctuary, or see Carolyn or AJ.

Musically Yours, Carolyn and AJ

PRAYER LINE

If you would like prayer support for yourself or for a loved one, call your Prayer Line Coordinator, Barbara Hauck, at 524-3381, with your requests. STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!

Adult Study Group



"Into the Magic Shop: A Neurosurgeon's Quest to Discover the Mysteries of the Brain and the Secrets of the Heart" by James Doty, MD.

Growing up in the high desert of California, Jim Doty was poor, with an alcoholic father and a mother chronically depressed and paralyzed by a stroke. Today Doty is the director of the Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education at Stanford University, of which the Dalai Lama is a founding benefactor. But back then his life was at a dead end until at age twelve he wandered into a magic shop looking for a plastic thumb. Instead he met Ruth, a woman who taught him a series of exercises to ease his own suffering and manifest his greatest desires. Her final mandate was that the keep his heart open and teach these techniques to others. She gave him his first glimpse of the unique relationship between the brain and the heart.

"This is one of the most compelling and inspiring books I have ever read. We're with Jim at each step, as he struggles with poverty and trauma, becomes a world-class brain surgeon, gains and loses a fortune, and learns deep lessons about the magic in each person's heart. Gripping, profound, extraordinary." - Rick Hanson, Ph.D; Author of *Hardwiring Happiness.*

"Dr. Doty's powerful book is a testament to how faith and compassion extend beyond religion, race and nationality and can help an individual overcome adversity and personal limitations. It is an I nspiration." - Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, spiritual leader and founder of the Art of Living Foundation.

Discussion begins on this book: Wednesday, March 23, in Conference Room A at 12 noon. Join us!

Hands Across the Table

Can you help to prepare, serve and/or clean-up at one of these dinners? Call Eloise 986-6723 or email her at: eloise@metrocast.net

The next *Hands Across the Table* dinners are:

June 29
August 31
November 30

COFFEE HOUR

We are asking people to volunteer to bring baked goods or fruit for any coffee hour on any Sunday that is convenient for you. If you can do this, contact Bea Snow at snows@metrocast.net or 832-3195 and let her know what Sunday would be good for you and what you can bring in. Any and all baked goods and fruit needed!

Thank you so much for your efforts in keeping our coffee hours alive and well and available to all every Sunday!

FRIENDLY KITCHEN is Friday, April 22nd. The Winter Menu is: **(American Chop Suey; brownies)** Please sign up downstairs on the bulletin board. Please bring your donations to the church kitchen by 9:30 a.m. on the 22nd.

(The first Sunday of every month is FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY and parishioners are invited to bring donations for the Food Pantry to church with them.)

Food Pantry Needs for the month of April: Cereals and spaghetti sauce.

For ***New Beginnings*:** (Please label these donations "New Beginnings" and bring to church): Children's pants, sized 4-12, regular-sized hair conditioner, dish soap, sponges and dryer sheets.

Check out the Gilford Community Church on Facebook!

LIKE US ON facebook

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS

Free and Open to the Public

Please feel free to come and join our support group for parents or for anyone who has lost a child.

We will be gathering every OTHER Wednesday at Gilford Community Church in the parlor ("Gathering Room") starting Wednesday, March 9th. We meet from 6:30 –7:30 p.m. (note time change).

Contact Information:
Nikki Thomas
njt8588@hotmail.com

PLEASE LET US KNOW!

If you become aware that someone from the church has been taken to the hospital or has been admitted to the hospital, please give the church office a call as soon as possible! (The hospital does not notify churches of who has been admitted). Also, if YOU are admitted to the hospital, please identify yourself as a member of the Gilford Community Church. Michael wants to be there for you!

An Opportunity to Host:

Host families are a critical component of the ***Winnipesaukee Muskrats*** baseball team. Without local residents opening their homes to our players, we could not support a team. Being a host family gives you the opportunity to form a lasting bond with a potential Major Leaguer. What it entails: A spare room with a bed, access to laundry facilities, occasional meals (mostly breakfast) for the players. What you receive: Free season tickets for your entire household, free admission to all other NECBL venues, discounts on Muskrat merchandise, access to special pre-season events and the opportunity to help a player get one step closer to his goal of playing professional baseball.

Email: kristian@muskratsbaseball.com
603-303-7806

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Prayers of comfort and strength to family and friends.

Norman Greenwood 1/9

Roger Roache (Jessica Fleck's father) 1/18

Carol Martine (Sandy Stafford's sister) 2/15

Egon Zimmerman (Penny Pitou's former husband) 2/27

Yvette Johnson 2/27

On April 24th and May 1st, Mother's Day Cards from Church World Service will be sold at Coffee Hour.

Purchase a card ($5.00) *"in honor of"* or *"in memory of"* a a mother in your life, and the dedication will be printed in the Sunday bulletin on Mother's Day.

All proceeds purchase blankets for those in need of warmth all over the world.

SOUPATHON

Hands Across the Table
April 8th—5-8 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Hall
in Laconia
Eight soups plus salads,
breads and cookies
ADULTS: $9.00
CHILDREN age 3-12: $3.00
Under age 3 FREE

Social Security Retirement
Workshop
Tuesday, April 19th 6-7 pm
Fellowship Hall
Guest Speaker: Susan Hoop—National Speaker on Social Security issues.

To educate the public about the best time to enroll for SS benefits. How to maximize your Social Security income.
TO REGISTER: Contact Michael Blanchard at 286-3603

GCC Scholarship, Berghahn Family Nursing Scholarship and Hook Scholarship applications available in the church office!

Scholarships

Available NOW in the Church Office and the high school Counseling Office!

(ALL Applications must be returned to us by May 1st)

GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP

(Formerly called the Helping Hand Scholarship). This scholarship is made possible by grants from the Robert and Barbara Daniell Family Foundation. The scholarship was established in 1996, and has helped hundreds of students attend the college of their choice, and to become all that they can be. This scholarship is for students who have a B academic average or better and meet at least one of the following: an active member of Gilford Community Church; a graduate of Gilford High School, or received a scholarship from us the previous year. Once a student is awarded a grant for their freshman year, it is the intention of the scholarship guidelines to award similar grants throughout his/her under-graduate years, assuming the grade point averages are maintained.

Questions? Contact scholarship committee chair Dale Dormody:
(ddormody@piperwebs.com or 731-2336.)

HOOK MEMORIAL AWARD

This financial award is given each year to a senior at GHS and an active member of our church. An applicant must display academic promise, wholesome character, and a significant concern for others, with an intention to pursue further education. These applications are available in the church office. Recipients are chosen by members of the GCC Educational Ministries.

BERGHAHN FAMILY NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is offered by the Walter Berghahn family. A student must have a B average or better for their latest semester or year, and meet at least one of the following:

- An active member of the church.
- A graduate of a local Lakes Region high school.
- Received a Nursing Scholarship the previous year.
- Be actively enrolled in a Nursing Career Program (for those returning to school).

To be eligible for a renewal of the scholarship, a student must have a B academic average or better for the latest semester in a nursing program, and meet at least one of the following: received a scholarship from us the previous year, and/or be actively enrolled in a Nursing Career program for the fall of the current year.

Interested in going to a Celtic's game?
We have tickets reserved for Wednesday, April 13th,
8 pm game, vs. the Miami Heat.

We need 14 to sign up to get the tickets.
Tickets will be $60pp.
All ages are invited to attend. Please let Scott know by 4/5

High School Tea Time
Sundays During Service

High School "Tea Time"
Sunday, April 10th

We will meet in the Gathering Room following "Children's Time" during worship. Tea Time is a group discussion about life as a teenager. We discuss various topics and relate them to our faith. All high school students, and friends, are invited to join us.

Save the Date

Overnight Trip to the Boston Museum of Science
Friday, May 20th.

We will be spending the night at the Boston Museum of Science. The night will consist of activities, games, videos and demonstrations.

If interested in attending, contact Scott.

CHRIST QUEST
GILFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

Spring Edition

April 25-27, 10am-2pm

We will be doing various projects around the church grounds and with the Gilford Parks and Recreation Dept. All High School and Middle school youth group members are invited to attend.

Lunch will be provided.

Contact Scott to sign up!

Senior Breakfast and Bingo
Saturday, April 23rd
9-10:30

We will be continuing our senior outreach this month with a breakfast and bingo event for the seniors of the Village Knolls.

The past events were a huge success. We are in need of both middle and high school students to help set-up, cook, serve, run bingo, and clean up.

If you wish to help, please contact Scott. Helpers should be at Fellowship Hall at 8:15am.

APRIL 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1 4:45 Troop 10578	2 10-12 Troop 12481
3 10:00 Worship and Communion Food Collection Sunday 11:15 Diaconate	4 1-3:30 Opechee Garden 7:00 Chordsmen	5 10-12:30 Rug Group 6-7 Troop 10249 6:30 CNHARC	6 12 :00 Adult Study 6:30-7:30 Grief Support for Parents 6:30 Cubs 243 7:00 Troop 243	7 6:00 Chancel Choir	8 5-9 Private Birthday Party for 4th grade class	9 Championship Banquet
10 9:40 Hymn Sing 10:00 Worship (Tea Time for HS students following Children's Time) 11:15 MEET & GREET 3:00 Von Trapp Family Concert ($10.00 suggested donation)	11 11:30-2:30 Senior Momentum 5:30 Membership 6:30 Church Coun 6:30 CNHARC Steering 7:00 Chordsmen	12 WAXING OF FLOORS in FELLOWSHIP HALL Troop 10249 (YR)	13 12:00 Adult Study 6:30 Cubs 243 7:00 Troop 243 Group Trip to Celtics Game	14 6:00 Chancel Choir	15 4:45-6 Troop 10578 5:30-8 Firemen's Annual Award Night	16 7:30 am Annual Outdoor Spring Clean-Up at Church 10-12 Troop 12481 12-4 Princess Tea Party
17 10:00 Worship Outreach Mission Expo during Coffee Hour (displays of our church's outreaches and mission)	18 8:30-12 Senior Momentum 1:30 D.A.R. 7:00 Cubs 243 Comm. Mtg 7:00 Troop 243 Comm. Mtg 7:00 Chordsmen	19 10-12:30 Rug Group 6-7 Social Security Seminar 6-7 Troop 10249	20 12:00 Adult Study 6:30-7:30 Grief Support for Parents 6:30 Cubs 243 7:00 Troop 243	21 6:00 Chancel Choir	22 FRIENDLY KITCHEN 3-8 Gilford Fire-fighter Relief Assoc. Dinner	23 9-10:30 Break-fast & Bingo 11:00 Baptism
24 10:00 Worship 11:15 Outreach	25 10-2 CHRIST QUEST 11:30-2:30 Senior Momentum 6:00 Rotary Brd. 7:00 Chordsmen	26 10-2 CHRIST QUEST 10-12:30 Rug Group 6-7 Troop 10249	27 10-2 CHRIST QUEST 12 :00 Adult Study 6:30 Cubs 243 7:00 Troop 243	28 6:00 Chancel Choir	29 8-12 Lakes Region Fire Chiefs' Breakfast	30