

THE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



www.gilfordcommunitychurch.org

March 2019

Issue 3

Spring

March	2	Morning Meditation 9:30
March	3	Food Collection Sunday
March	9	Morning Meditation 9:30
March	10	Turn Clocks Ahead
March	11	Senior Momentum 12:00 Lunch and Speaker
March	14	Guys' Night Out 5:30
March	16	Morning Meditation 9:30 St. Patrick's Day Dinner 6:00
March	22	Gals' Night Out 6:00
March	23	Morning Meditation
March	24	Reiki Circle 11:30
March	25	Senior Momentum 12:00 Pizza and Bingo
March	30	Morning Meditation 9:30





During the winter the past few years, I have done most of my running on the treadmill. It's comfy, no slippery surfaces, and it's not dark. To help pass the time while I get in my 8 miles, I watch the news on my iPad.

As I watch it, I worry about a few things: I worry about how polarized we are. I worry that we aren't very good at listening. I worry too, about people who get their information from only one source. Finally, I worry about those who always insists their side is right. Rabbi Brad Hirshfield touches on those issues in his book, "You Don't Have to Be Wrong for Me to Be Right: Finding Faith Without Fanaticism." Hirshfield pushes for what Rabbi Jonathan Sacks has termed "the Dignity of Difference"--i.e. the ability to respect the possibility that *an other* can have legitimate faith and access to truth as well.

Before he died, Dale Eddy was fond of quoting his former Harvard Business Professor General Doriot who said, "You waste your time reading those with whom you agree. You know what they think, but you must find out what your enemies are up to." While I don't generally regard those who think differently than I do as enemies, I did recently read a couple of books that were written by people on the "other side." Although I was a bit skeptical, both books made some excellent points. They exposed some of my prejudices and I learned several things.

In her book, *Beyond Left and Right*, Amy Black deals with the polarizing nature of politics and how often God is used to endorse different positions. She opens with a quote from professor Michael Horton, "One of the Ten Commandments is for us not to take the name of God in vain. That means we are not to use his name in a way he did not authorize. We have to be careful what we make him the patron for. We, on the left and the right, have made God some kind of mascot. Instead of transcendent God who speaks to us, he's someone who blesses our agenda and sanctifies our programs." It is ironic how often God hates the same people we do, holds our position on capital gains, and has the same foreign policy that we do.

I love the inclusive respectful spirit of the Gilford Community Church. We are a community of people with lots of different ideas and positions; but we are united around our conviction that together we can make a real difference in the world. Let's keep up the good work and stay open-minded.



New Beginnings is one of the local organizations that our church supports through donations of funds, food and other items as needed. Our Outreach contact Jan Briggs maintains regular contact with them, including delivery of GCC donated items. Below are excerpts from www.newbeginningsnh.org/ with details about who they are and what they do. If you would like further information regarding ways to help directly support their services and current activities or volunteer, go to their website noted above, check out their FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NewBeginningsNH> or call (603) 528-6511.

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Our Guiding Principles

We are committed to confronting domestic, sexual, and stalking violence by:

1. Providing direct services and support to victims of violence.
2. Educating survivors about the choices they have.
3. Educating the community about the history, causes, and methods of confronting domestic and sexual violence.

We acknowledge and support the right of each victim/survivor to make their own decisions in their own time and in their own way. We value and respect each victim/survivor for their own lived experiences.

Our History

In 1991, a group of concerned citizens came together with the belief that it was important for battered women to have a voice. The speed with which New Beginnings came into being was nothing short of phenomenal. Within six months of the decision to start a new agency, New Beginnings had filed incorporation papers with the Federal Government to gain non-profit status, offered a 30-hour training for new volunteers, began offering services through a 24-hour crisis line, and had received the endorsements of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, the Division of Mental Health, and the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. Since those early days, New Beginnings has continued to grow stronger, and despite many challenges, New Beginnings has reached multiple milestones, including opening the first open shelter in the state.

Our work at New Beginnings continues to evolve as we explore the next frontiers of this work. Our focus has moved from being solely on the victim/survivor as an individual, to also working with his/her children. We offer an array of services for children and teens who have been affected by domestic and sexual violence, especially those who witness domestic violence. We encourage our community partners to become engaged in prevention as well, and have presented to community groups about prevention and its importance. We have a presence in every school district in Belknap County and are consistently furthering our involvement by expanding our programming in more schools.

In 1991 when the organization started, it had 228 contacts. Today, we serve over 900 individuals each year. Battered women first found their safe haven from abuse when the shelter doors opened. Today, domestic and sexual abuse hasn't ended and neither has the need for New Beginnings, which has helped and continues to help thousands of women, men, and children rebuild their lives.





**St. Patrick's Day Dinner
Saturday, March 16, 2019**

6:00 p.m.

in the fellowship hall

**\$16.00 per person
(\$5 for children under 12)
Advanced payment requested or
at the door.**

**For reservations call or text Eloise Post at
986-6723 or email eloise@metrocast.net.**

MENU:

**Traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage
Potatoes/Onions/Carrots
Rhutabaga
Homemade Irish Soda Bread
Homemade Carrot Cake
Coffee/Tea Provided (or bring your own beverage)**



CARE AND CONCERN COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

At the Coffee Hours on March 3 and March 10 the Care and Concern Committee will hold a volunteer recruitment. Church members are asked to please sign up to help the committee provide services to our church families. Please come over to the table to sign up or to speak to Committee members about assistance that is needed with providing meals, transportation to a medical appointment, visitation or light handyman help.

You are Invited to Safety First Conversations - Part 2



Please join Wesley Woods in welcoming Chief Steve Carrier of the Gilford Fire Department, for Part 2 of our Safety First Conversations, on Thursday, March 21st. at 10am in the Wesley Woods Community Room.

Chief Carrier will be giving an introduction and brief overview of the Gilford Fire-Rescue Department, discussing how to assess emergency services, and to keep you safe in your home through the winter and beyond, going over the 3 common types of incidents, Cardiac/Respiratory emergencies, Slips, Trips, Falls and Carbon Monoxide alarm activations, how to avoid them and the steps you should take if they happen to you.

Please contact Stace Dicker-Hendricks at 603-528-2555 or shendricks@wesleywoodsnh.org to register or if you have any questions.



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 our next Meet and Greet, held on a Sunday after worship service in conference room A.

The Village Newsletter is a monthly publication of
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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 to 2:00 pm

March Birthdays



- 01 Sandy Stafford
- 02 Barbara Daniell
- 03 Karlyn Brown
- Grace Lopardo
- Richard Snow
- 04 Carey Fay Blandford
- Clark Blackwelder
- Ken Parker
- Valerie Chase
- 05 Roger Bailey
- Thais Whitehead
- 06 Eston Ross
- 07 Abigail Watson
- 08 Rich Milligan
- 09 David Greenlaw
- Marilyn Goodwin
- 11 Melanie Nix
- Rachel Bauer
- 13 Jennifer Boucher
- 14 Cindie Graham
- Malte Mueller
- 18 Barry Arvidson
- 20 Bryan Bailey
- Lorie Gallien
- Chris Resca
- 21 Sue Allen
- Lola Whitehead

- 21 Molly Notkin
- 22 Wendy Boysen
- 27 Rick Nelson
- 28 Connor Leggett
- 30 Peter Sawyer
- 31 Isabella Bryant
- Nicholas Resca



March Anniversaries

- 03 Grace & Tom Lopardo 1979
- 15 Cindie & Michael Graham 1980

Did we miss your birthday? Omit your anniversary? Please let the church office know.





February was a cold month, but the choir has been warming up with some great anthems. We've celebrated Black History Month with spirituals, "Climbin' Up the Mountain" and "Balm in Gilread". We had a great time singing favorite tunes and our Winter Choir Party - one of the many "choir perks" we enjoy!

February brought beautiful instrumental and vocal solos during the services, be sure to check out Michael's Weekly Notes for links to the YouTube videos, if you happened to miss a service. Thanks to May Stewart for making sure they always get recorded!

In this time in between Advent and Lent we hope you consider joining the choir - the Easter season has beautiful music that will be even more impactful, if you get to rehearse the text with a great family of people! If you are interested in joining the choir, please talk to AJ or Carolyn after a service, or drop by rehearsal from 6:00-7:00 on Thursday evenings in the Sanctuary!

Musically Yours,

Carolyn & AJ



GALS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, March 22nd 6:00 p.m.

Speaker: Josh Brooks, P.T., MPT

"P.T. Them Bones"

Dinner catered by Ellie Murphy

Cost: \$12.00

Reservations to Carolyn Ames

524-1952

by Monday, March 18



The **deadline** to submit for the April Newsletter is March 20th.

Friendly Kitchen is **Friday, March 22nd**. Our volunteer crew serves lunch at the Salvation Army in Laconia at noon on the 4th Friday of each month. To help serve or contribute food to the meal, please sign up downstairs on the bulletin board. For this month's menu they need donations of American Chop Suey and brownies. (The crew provides green beans.) Thank you!



The first Sunday of every month is

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY

Please bring donations to church.

Food Pantry Bottle juice, cookies and canned pasta (e.g. Beef-A-Roni, Spaghetti-os).

Please make sure items have not expired.

New Beginnings does not need anything this month.

Coffee Hour Hosts



We would love to have members of our church community commit to volunteering **once a year** to help host coffee hour during the scheduled "Members of the Church" days. You can host it with your family, a friend, or join forces with another family! Please contact Eloise Post for more information or to get yourself onto the coffee hour schedule.

986-6723 or eloise@metrocast.net



GUYS' NIGHT OUT

March 14th

5:30pm

Speaker: Bill Moran

"Civil Air Patrol Mission & Rescue"

Dinner catered by Ellie Murphy



Church Attendance for February

3	228
10	159
17	202
24	82



Easter Lilies

Each year, the Flower Committee decorates the sanctuary with Easter Lilies and spring flowers. Members and friends are invited to donate plants to decorate our sanctuary for Easter Sunday. Many of these plants are given in memory of loved ones. The list of donors will be included in the Easter bulletin.

This year, Easter is April 21st.

The cost of the Easter lilies will be \$10.00 per plant.

Your plant may be delivered to a shut-in by a member of the Committee, or you may pick up your plant after the Easter service.

I would like to order _____ plants at \$10.00 each.

_____ My plant may be delivered to a shut-in.

_____ I will pick up my plant after the Easter service.

Please fill in the names for the Easter bulletin: (print)

Given by _____

In loving memory of: _____

OR

To celebrate the life of: _____

Please forward your completed order form to the church office. Please make your check payable to Gilford Community Church, and please indicate that it is for Easter Lilies. Thank you for your gift!

ORDERS MUST BE IN BY Monday, April 14th.



Family Night Out St. Patrick's Day Party @ The Gilford Youth Center

March 15th.
5:30-7:30pm



Easter Egg Hunt and Craft Day

Sunday, April 14th following service

Join us for our annual Easter celebration. There will be several Easter themed arts and craft stations, followed by an Easter Egg hunt.



Festivities kick off following service in the Gilford Youth Center



INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THIS YEAR'S MISSION TRIP TO
NORTH CAROLINA?

EMAIL SCOTT AT GCCSCOTT@METROCAST.NET OR PICK UP A
MISSION TRIP PACKET IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Morning Meditation 9:30am
3 Worship 10:00am Communion Food Collection	4	5	6	7 Adult Book Study 10:30am Chancel Choir 6-7pm	8	9 Morning Meditation 9:30am
10 Hymn Sing 9:45am 10:00 Worship Day Light Savings	11 Senior Momentum Lunch & Speaker 12:00	12	13	14 Adult Book Study 10:30am Guys' Night Out 5:30 Chancel Choir 6-7pm	15	16 Morning Meditation 9:30am St. Patrick's Day Dinner 6:00pm
17 Worship 10:00am Happy St. Patrick's Day! 	18	19	20 Spring begins 	21 Adult Book Study 10:30am Chancel Choir 6pm	22 Gals' Night Out 6:00pm	23 Morning Meditation 9:30am
24 Worship 10am Reiki Circle 11:30	25 Senior Momentum Pizza & Bingo 12:00	26	27	28 Adult Book Study 10:30am Chancel Choir 6-7pm	29	30 Morning Meditation 9:30am
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