

Church of Our Saviour *Episcopal* Milford, New Hampshire

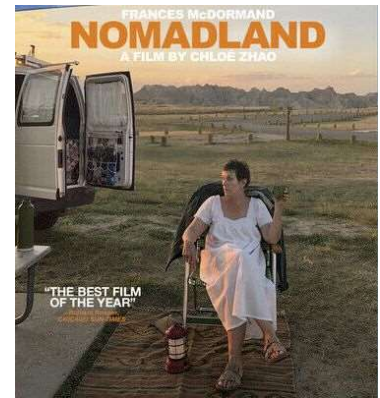
*Forming community through Christ,
serving community in Christ*

Wednesday Notes for May 17, 2023

Dates to remember

Join us for Movie Night! Faith and Film Series

Join us **THIS Friday, May 19, at 7 p.m.**
for movie night in the Holder Chapel.
The film will be "Nomadland."
A short discussion will follow.



Month of May: **Construction continues, building entrance near the Office is for construction use only.** *Access to the lower level of the Church will be through the Undercroft doors.*

Sunday, June 11: **Worship in the Park begins, 9 a.m., Emerson Park**

Please check our online calendar for upcoming dates and events [HERE](#).



From our Associate Priest

On Sunday, I spoke about an article in the New York Times. The article "But an expansive new study, based on billions of social media connections, has uncovered a powerful exception to that pattern that helps explain why certain places offer a path out of poverty. For poor children, living in an area where people have more friendships that cut across class lines significantly increases how much they earn in adulthood." You can find a link to the full [article here](#).

Now it is tempting to read an article like this and say "well that is very nice but I don't live in one of those zip codes." The amazing thing, and again, I encourage you to read the full article but we actually do. Looking at the map in the article, we, and generally all in New England, live in an area with much more economic integration than in other parts of the country. In Nashua, while there certainly are low income and upper income neighborhoods, there are two high schools enrolling the northern and the southern half of the city. It is possible to have

towns and cities where we don't intentionally segregate into the haves and have nots and I believe, when that happens, we are the better for it.

Of course, just because we happen to live in an area where economic integration is more likely does not mean we can move on to other issues. There is still a considerable role to play. I was talking today with a woman from Citizen's Bank. They have a program providing economic mentors for people living in shelters. She related that several of the mentors, three years later and long after the program had ended, were still in touch and that one had even helped a mentee find a new kidney. Profound and amazing!

There are lots of opportunities to have similar experiences. On June 2, between 5 and 7p.m., we will be having a conversation about Messy Church. Looking at their website, here are some good reasons to think [Messy Church](#) might be interesting for the Church of Our Saviour:

- We want to make disciples of Jesus through faith formation.
- The people in our communities who don't belong to church would enjoy the experience of coming to a Messy Church.
- We want to share the love of God in Jesus in a way that's as accessible as possible to families of all shapes and sizes.
- We believe that the best way for people of all ages to come closer to God is by journeying together.
- We want to model who Jesus is to those around us.
- We believe God is in Messy Church and we want to follow where God leads.
- We think Jesus is the person to give people in our community life in all its fullness.
- And many, more...

Looking forward to seeing you in a couple of weeks!

Blessings,

The Rev. Michael Reinke

Associate Priest

This Sunday's Gospel

John 17:1-11

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that



everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

Wednesday Group: *Check-in and Bible discussion*

We gather every **Wednesday at 11 a.m. on Zoom** to check in with each other and to discuss Sunday's gospel. All are welcome to join the group whenever you can, as we reconnect and discuss our faith and life together. You do not have to be a Bible scholar to participate. It's informal. It's a small, decidedly unintimidating group. Please join us.

Look for the Zoom link in an email each Monday.

Father Michael will celebrate Holy Eucharist at noon on the last Wednesday of the month, **May 31**, and through the summer on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, **June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26, and August 9 and 23**. Please join us in the church on these days. On those dates, the service and Bible study will take the place of the online Wednesday Group gathering.



Building project update: Construction Report

The long-planned construction project has begun. I am pleased with the respect shown for our building and the occupancies while the project proceeds. Demolition operations will be completed in the next 10 days. The noisiest day of the whole project will be today, Wednesday, May 17, when jackhammers will be active. The slab at the shaft location for the lift will be removed to form the necessary recess and the new slab concrete will be placed.

The construction team apologizes for the lack of lighting in the toilet room near the Akerman Room on Sunday. It has been corrected. The problem experienced with the organ was not related to the construction, it was simply a coincidence that the transformer failure occurred this weekend.

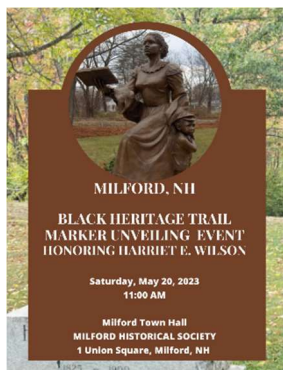
Anne
Construction Coordinator

UTO Offering

Please remember to drop a coin into your "Blue Box" or into an envelope or a white box! The United Thank Offering ingathering of these coins will be on June 4 at both services. Through UTO, we all nourish the habit of giving thanks to God as we recognize and name our daily blessings -- the return of a loved one, a healing, a glorious sunset -- and drop a coin or two into your box.



These "thank God" moments and your UTO monies support the worldwide mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church. So, on June 4, collect your coins and write a check for that amount to Church of Our Saviour with United Thank Offering noted in the memo line. You can find the blue boxes in the Narthex if you need one.



Harriet E. Wilson Marker Event

The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire will be unveiling a new historical marker honoring Harriet E. Wilson, the first African American to publish a novel in the United States. Wilson's groundbreaking work, "Our Nig, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black," has been widely recognized as a significant contribution to American literature and African American history.

The program will take place this Saturday, May 20, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at Milford Town Hall, and will feature a play titled "Hearing from

Harriet" written by Milford's own JerriAnne Boggis. Following the unveiling of the marker and the play, attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy a delicious lunch and explore an exhibit about Wilson's life and work.

"We are thrilled to honor Harriet E. Wilson, a remarkable woman whose contributions to American literature and African American history have often been overlooked," said JerriAnne Boggis, Executive Director of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire. "We believe that the unveiling of this marker and the performance of 'Hearing from Harriet' will serve as a powerful reminder of Wilson's impact on our culture and our society."

For more information about the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire, the event honoring Harriet E. Wilson, or to learn more about how you can support the organization's work, please visit the website at blackheritagetrailnh.org.



Above, JerriAnne Boggis in front of the Harriet Wilson statue during Stations of the Cross on Good Friday about four years ago, when Church of Our Saviour joined clergy and members of several local churches on the walk to learn about places -- including the land on which our own church sits -- that are significant in Milford's African American history.

Providing pastoral care

Over the last couple of years, we have talked about how parishioners could support both the parish and our priests. Often, we had talked about taking on more pastoral care, reaching out to those who need comfort, a kind word, a prayer.

Many of us, though, may fear we won't know just what to do or what to say. This might be the answer.

What on Earth should I say?

Useful pastoral care techniques for lay people



When someone you care about is ill, grieving, lonely, or in pain, it's sometimes hard to know what to do. You want to be helpful, but should you visit? Call? Bring food? Offer some wise words? Pray? What is truly helpful and comforting and what is not?

The Rev. Elsa Worth, rector of St. James Episcopal Church, Keene, in partnership with the Diocese of New Hampshire's School for Ministry, is offering a four-week series to answer some of those questions.

Mondays: June 5, June 12, June 19, and June 26
Online 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The goal of this four-week series is to equip participants with some basic information and solid tools that are helpful in offering a loving pastoral presence to those who are suffering or in pain. The series will provide a solid introduction for anyone who wants to feel more confident in reaching out to their friends and loved ones in times of trouble.

This series is appropriate foundational work for people discerning or practicing a call as Eucharistic Visitors, lay pastoral caregivers, healing prayer teams, and similar forms of lay pastoral care.

For more information or to register, contact course leader [the Rev. Elsa Worth](#). Please register no later than May 31.

Support the SHARE Center

The SHARE Food Pantry reports being the busiest it's ever been, now providing food for close to 20,000 meals per month! They are having a hard time keeping the shelves stocked. With SNAP benefits dropping this month back to pre-pandemic levels, demand on the food pantry is expected to increase even further. We can help.



This week, please consider bringing in fruit juice, soy milk or almond milk for the SHARE basket in the Narthex.

You may also take items directly to SHARE, 1 Columbus Ave., Milford, Monday through Friday, 8:30-4:30, or leave them in barrels at Shaw's or Market Basket in Milford, or Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, 32 Elm St., Milford. Thank you!

Mobile Health Care at SHARE

Lamprey Health Care's Mobile Health Care van visits the SHARE Center, 1 Columbus Avenue, Milford, on Tuesdays from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

No appointments are needed, so just drop in. No one is ever turned away for inability to pay or lack of insurance.

Services include treatment of health-related concerns, behavioral health care, chronic care treatment, health education, substance use disorder treatment, medication assistance, prenatal care, and resource assistance.

Our Prayer List this week

Please keep these loved ones in your prayers for healing and support: *David, Elizabeth, Kelly, Izzy, Daryn, Alex, Cheryl, Diana, Michael, Richard, Kathy, Peter, Deirin, Rev. Paul, Carol, Madison, Sandra, Dick, Amanda, Dolores, Lisa, Karen, McKenna, Susan, Michelle, Kathleen, Sharon, Fr. Jack, Kevin, Lu, Ford, Matt, Eileen, Melissa, Debbie, Fran, Mike, and Fred.* May God's grace and the healing love of Jesus Christ be with them each day.

Please call or email the office to add names to the prayer list. When the time comes that a name could be removed, please let the office know that, too.

Altar flowers/Sanctuary lamp

Altar flowers are given this week by Susan and Frederick in loving memory of Alured.

The sanctuary lamp burns in honor of the Lord's presence with us and is given this week by Susan and Frederick in thanksgiving for Edie.

To donate for the sanctuary lamp or flowers, sign up on the calendar in the Narthex (to the left of the Memorials Book) and fill out one of the forms next to the calendar; or simply contact the church office (mail, email or phone) with your name and those to be honored. The suggested donation is \$10 for the lamp and \$35 for flowers.



E*News: *Follow The Episcopal Church of NH

A regular e-newsletter is sent to church members, clergy and lay leaders, delegates, wardens, and retired clergy. To join the mailing list, email a request to officeassistant@nhepiscopal.org.

Website: www.nhepiscopal.org

Facebook: **Episcopal Church of NH**

YouTube: **NHEpiscopal**

Twitter: **@NHEpiscopal #NHEpiscopal**

Contact us:

Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Office phone: **603-673-3309**

E-mail: office@coosmilford.org

Web: www.coosmilford.org

PO Box 237, Milford, NH 03055