

THE SPIRE

January 2024

We seek to be a Christian community by worshipping God through prayer, music, and the proclaimed Word. Following Christ's example, we enthusiastically reach out to everyone with compassion, respect, and love so that we may grow in faith and commitment together.

Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC

142 Exchange St., Millis, MA 02054

www.millisucc.org • (508) 376-5034 • millisucc@msn.com



An Open and Affirming Congregation

Worship God, Serve our neighbors, Share God's love.



A Message from the Moderator

- Jan Krohn

Last week's rain resulted in flooding in the church basement. It flooded the food pantry and two church storage rooms. We thank the Millis Fire Department for helping with the clean-up and all the Food Pantry volunteers. Thankfully, the food pantry had minimal loss of items, and we cleaned up the storage rooms. Extra Thanks to Wendy Schneider for her discovery of the flood, and help with the clean-up.

We have, in the last year, limited resources for church maintenance issues. After a review of our needs, the council has approved the use of a local contractor, DMI Home Improvement Solution of Medway, to help with any emergencies and general maintenance.

Happy New Year 2024! A new year is when the church seeks new volunteers to lead the church. In the next few months, the council will be evaluating our committee structure. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, or have ideas for the leadership group, please contact me.

From Your Deacons

The Deacons thank everyone who helped with leading worship in 2023! Rev. Mary will be leading worship and Communion on January 7th. If you would like to help with worship in 2024, including giving a message, reading scripture, or helping film the service for Zoom, please let one of the Deacons know.

Lauren, Allen, Kathy, Katie, and Doug



New format, same great fellowship!

3rd Sunday of every month
Cooking starts around 7:30am
Breakfast 8-9am

ALL are welcome!!!

*please bring a breakfast item to share.

For more info contact Art Payne



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

You may have noticed our new bin! Bay State Textiles and Merit have joined together in this endeavor to benefit Millis teachers. Simply bag up your unwanted textiles (clean and dry please) and drop them in our bin. Bay State Textiles accepts clothing, accessories, shoes, linens and stuffed animals. Got a pair of jeans covered in paint? They'll take them! Items can be in any condition so long as they are clean, dry and sacked. Please DO NOT leave items beside the bin on the ground. If the bin is full, there are additional bins that benefit Merit at the Middle/Highschool and the Millis Transfer Station.

Your donations benefit Millis teachers by supplying grant money for educational programming. What a great way to feel good about cleaning out unwanted stuff!



Jolly Holly Recap

A tradition in our church, more than 70 years old, this year's fair was a great success! I would like to thank everyone for their hard work in helping prepare for the fair, we could never do it without you! This year's fair saw our traditional tables like the Silent Auction, Knits and various food as well as new vendors, new faces and creative use of our space! This year we brought in more that \$7,000! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

Becki Abalutzk & Gail DiGioia



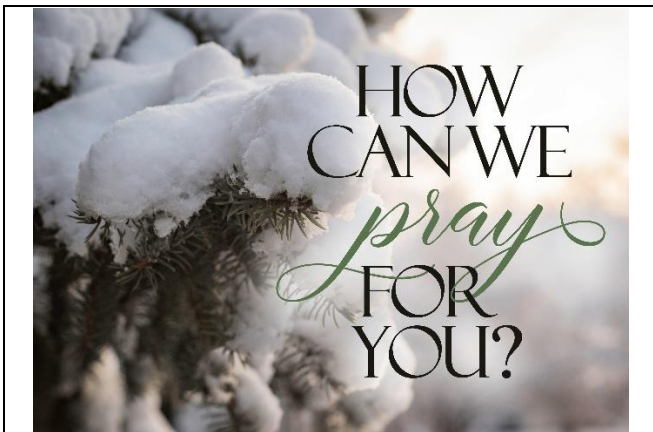


To all the folks who enjoy my chutney, please return the plastic containers and covers to me. All the local supermarkets who donated them no longer use those round clear plastic pint tubs. If you know where I can buy them, please call me.

Kathy Stevens



We just wanted to make everyone aware that if they received an email addressed from, or regarding Rev. Geary, this is a potential SCAM. We have received several to the church email requesting help with something, or asking for gift cards. There is NO REASON why Rev. Geary would reach out to our congregation in this way. Please do not open any attachments and certainly don't offer any private information in response to these emails.



If you would like to be added to the prayer chain, or if you or someone you know wants to receive prayers for a specific situation, please

Contact Mary Jensen.



M&Ms Reconvene!

After a well deserved holiday break, the M & M's (Monday Morning Needlework Group) will reconvene on Monday, January 8th 2024 at 10:00am. All are welcome! Bring your handwork if you have it, or just come to socialize. We'd love to see you there!



We wanted to make everyone aware of a situation where some incorrect information was given to some town leaders in Millis. The Senior Center Director was told that the church was imminently going to be put

up for sale. We want to reassure everyone that it is not true, and the church is not nor will be for sale. We will be going out posting in social media and in our local newspapers that the church is still active. If someone reaches out to you asking if the church is for sale, please assure them that it is **NOT** the case. If you have any concerns, feel free to reach out to the council.

Thank
You!



The Search Committee, for their tireless efforts to find a settled pastor to lead us in 2024

The Deacons, who have led us in worship since last May

The Millis Fire Department, Jan Krohn, Elizabeth Derwin and Food Pantry volunteers, for assisting in clean-up after the flooding of the basement during the recent storm.

The Deacons and volunteers, for a wonderful family Christmas Eve service.

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We're on the Web!

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