

## SILENT MEDITATION

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.  
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.  
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.  
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.  
Fast from worries and have trust in God.  
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.  
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.  
Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.  
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.  
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.  
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Pope Francis

The United Church of Dorset & East Rupert

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Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 8-4,  
Friday 8-12



**All people are welcome here**

~ MARCH 1, 2026 ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ~

~ WORSHIP SERVICE ~

*\*Stand if you are able*

**NURSERY CARE AND CHURCH SCHOOL**

Babies and children are invited, welcomed, and encouraged in worship services. We have worship bags in the narthex filled with activities to use during the worship service, as well as a rocker at the back of the sanctuary for parents with babies and toddlers. Children ages Pre-K through grade 7 are invited to join us downstairs for church school after the children's message.

**PRELUDE** *Nocturne on Conditor alme siderum*

Katherine Wright

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

**ENTER THE FLAME & THE WORD**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let us meet God in this gathering.

**People: We gather together to praise God, to offer our hopes, to hear again God's call, to strengthen our faith.**

Leader: God calls us to honor all persons, be kind to our neighbors, and to praise God's holy name.

**People: Let us worship God.**

**\*HYMN #686** *Of Women, and of Women's Hopes We Sing*

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Ruth Stewart

**Thy presence come between me  
and all things evil.**

**Thy presence come between me  
and all things vile.**

**Thy presence come between me  
and all things of guile.**

**Thy presence come between me  
and all things that defile.**

**Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of thine eye  
and hide me under the shadow of thy wings.**

## **MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, hear and receive the Good News: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.**

## **PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: Since God has made us the blessed community, the Church, let us greet one another with the peace and joy of Christ. The peace and joy of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **\*RESPONSE #37 Gloria Patri**

Glory be to God and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

## **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**HUDSON ALAN KOHLER**

**Parents: Emily Welsh Kohler and Joseph Alan Kohler**

**Maternal Grandparents: Lynne and Scott Welsh**

**Paternal Grandparents: Carol and Jeff Kohler**

**Godparents: Kelsey DePriest and Jack Bonnikson**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Leader: Let us welcome him to this ministry.

**People:** *With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's Church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you and to help you know and follow Christ.*

**CHOIR ANTHEM** *Nella Fantasia*

Ennio Morricone

Translation:

In my fantasy I see a world of justice, where all people live in peace and honesty.  
I dream of a world where spirits will be always free;  
they will be ever free like floating clouds full of humanity within the deepest soul.

**PRAYER OF PASTORAL CARE**

Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson

**Our response:**

God of compassion, **hear our prayer.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN 638 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

**WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD**

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS** Exodus 15:19-21; Acts 2:17-18; Luke 1:26-38

Steve Holman

**SERMON** Guest Preacher

Rev. Julie Demaree

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *Just The Way You Are*

Billy Joel

**DOXOLOGY HYMN #46**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

\***COMMUNION HYMN #419** *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly ( vs. 1)*

Music during distribution of Communion: Piano music of women composers

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

Leader: . . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever proclaim the glory of your name.

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**CLOSING HYMN #53 *Morning Has Broken***

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE *Sonata in E Major***

Marianne von Martinez

The flowers this morning are given by The Kohler Family, in celebration of Hudson Alan's baptism, first birthday, and the many friends and family who have loved on us this past year!

Our thanks to today's scripture reader, Steve Holman; liturgist, Ruth Stewart; deacons and ushers, Liz Schafer, Sid Staunton, Lee Romano, Keith Michl, and Marietta and Karl White; the attending deacon for the baptism is Lynne Welsh; coffee hour hosts, Richard and Barbara Urso; and tech crew, Chris Lima, Patrick Honan, and Puck Bell.

Our guest preacher this morning is the Reverend Julie Demaree. Julie is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, with a Master of Divinity and Master of Christian Education and Formation. In her time at seminary, Julie cultivated her passions for the contemplative life, pastoral care, wellness, missional entrepreneurship, and vocational discernment as a lifetime spiritual practice. Julie has lived in Vermont since 2020, was ordained last June to a call serving three Methodist churches, is a member of Brandon Congregational Church, and now serves on the Southwest Association Committee on Ministry (SWACOM) and the Southwest Association Executive Committee.

**PRAYER LIST:** Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.

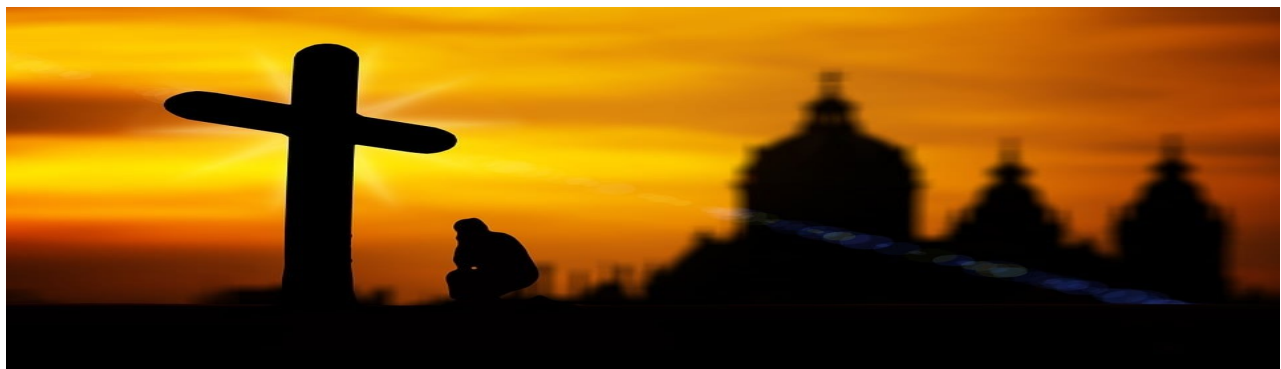
**IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER CONCERNS:** Helen Melhado; Ann Troumbley; Meghan Gill; Eric Perry, George VanDelinder; Cathy Condon; Bill A.; Emma Ingison; Auburn; Mark Cassidy; Steve Larsen; Jimmy Weiss; Jeff Duel; Robin Hoag; Spencer March; May; Larry Cochran; Damon Wilder; Bill Childs; Pete Ianacone; Michael; Oliver Bucholt; Donna Harris; Steve and Val Smith; Tom Drunsic; Bella & Baby Enzo; Linda Bushee; Mason; Robert Goepel; Jo, Jeff and Sara; Shelby Baughn; in the Dorset Church, for our Truth & Justice Committee; in the Vermont Conference, for the Pawlet Community Church, and their pastor, Tracy Weatherhogg; in the UCC, for Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, who has joined nearly 300-plus faith leaders endorsing Christians to take action against injustices.

**LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS:** Craig, Jaxson, and Jacob Smith; Diane; Millie Holland; Michael Chambers; Patrick Denis; Dody Marcotte; Eric Parks; Tim Velie; Kris; Kay Kwasniewski; Robbie Littlewood; Sandy Cary; Elizabeth LaBerge; Dottie Hinkle; Chip Wilson; Hazel Prouty; James Jankowski; Jameson Gray Pelton; Evelyn Tobin; Cassia Duran; Rich; Bill Wise; George Smith; Jack; Jonathan Dickinson; Judy Dunn; Alan Wiegand;

## **PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Pastoral Search Committee has been meeting weekly for the past month. Our first task is to complete the online UCC Church Profile. This 17-page “fill in the blanks” document includes a tremendous amount of data specifically about our demographics and finances as well as sections on history, community vision, and scope of work to name a few. We decided that this format, while required, doesn’t allow us the freedom to truly convey who we are as the United Church of Dorset & East Rupert. So additionally, we are working on a free-form narrative profile that will allow us to paint a picture that fact and figures alone don’t tell. Another decision we’ve made is to wait until our updated website goes live before our profile is activated since candidates will most certainly begin their search by accessing our website for information. Another expert team is working on that and has made great progress. Please keep our committee members in your prayers as we continue to move forward.

Joel Ario & Linda O’Leary, Co-chairs



Dear Church Family,

Lent is here! The Christian Education Committee invites you to use the following resources for this meaningful journey.

During coffee hour throughout Lent, Lenten devotionals will be available in both hard copy and electronic formats, perfect for personal use or to share with a friend, neighbor, or someone who is homebound.

We also have a selection of Bibles on display for you to explore. If you haven't looked at your Bible in a while, this is a wonderful time to revisit it or even discover a new one.

If you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out:

**Gretchen Lima, Christian Educator**

[gretchenlima@aol.com](mailto:gretchenlima@aol.com) • (973) 900-1485

You don't have to wait until Lent begins to start a daily practice. Here are a few electronic devotional resources you can access now:

• **United Church of Christ Daily Devotional**

<https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional>

• **d365 Daily Devotional** — especially meaningful for families with children and youth. Devotions are written by ministers, professors, students, teachers, missionaries, and denominational leaders.

<https://d365.org>

• **The Upper Room** — Perfect for anyone. We will also have hard copies of this devotional available soon.

<https://www.upperroom.org>

Grace and peace, Gretchen Lima and the Christian Education Committee



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Truth & Justice - March 3 @ 5:00 pm

Search Committee - March 4 @ 5:00 pm

Music Committee - March 5 @ 6:30pm

Deacons - March 8 @ 11:30 am

**The Dorset Group hosts an open meeting for Alcoholics Anonymous here at the Dorset Church in the vestry every Monday night starting at 8:00pm**

**All are welcome.**

**BILLY JOEL THEMED**

**CHORAL CONCERT**

**SPONSORED BY THE DORSET CHURCH**

**MARCH 7, 2026**

**AT 7:00 PM**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT**

**THE BAPTIST CHURCH FOUNDATION,  
LOCATED IN MANCHESTER, VERMONT.**

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE  
CALL 802-867-2260.**





# March

Wish List



## Community Food Cupboard

Spring is coming and the mornings are getting brighter. Our goal is to help our families get every day off to a good start! (802.733.8119)



Breakfast Cereal/Instant  
 Oatmeal Breakfast bars  
 Pancake Mix & syrup  
 Nuts & dried fruit  
 Peanut Butter  
 Coffee/Tea/shelf-stable milk  
 Toothbrushes & toothpaste  
 Deodorant

Thank you!  
CFC

**Drop-off locations:** Manchester Town Hall, Shaw's, Manchester Library, Dorset Post Office, Christ our Savior Parish, First Congregational Church, Dorset Church.

# SCHOLARSHIP



**THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** wants to alert the church community that applications for scholarships awarded for the 2026-2027 year are now available. Call the church office at 867-2260 for applications. **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS APRIL 10, 2026.**



*In Defense of Our Constitution*

**Truth and Justice Vermont**

Visit our website: [truthjusticevt.org](http://truthjusticevt.org) for news and information about defending our constitution and working with empathy to relieve the suffering of the mistreated, marginalized, and oppressed.

**Some resources highlighted on the website:**

- Migrant Justice for emergency response to immigration actions
- ACLU fighting for Justice and Equality in Vermont
- The Trevor Project for young LGBTQ lives and access to crisis counselors
- PFLAG – the oldest ally organization for LGBTQ families and friends
- Red, Wine and Blue – women organizing women
- Books Unbanned
- Ways to contact your Vermont delegation
- UCC justice training resources
- Links to credible and informed podcasts

## Men's Breakfast

Our next breakfast is on Saturday, March 7, at 8 am in the church vestry. Please come enjoy fellowship with other guys as we have informal conversation, voice our prayer concerns, and plan for possible programs you might be interested in at future breakfasts.

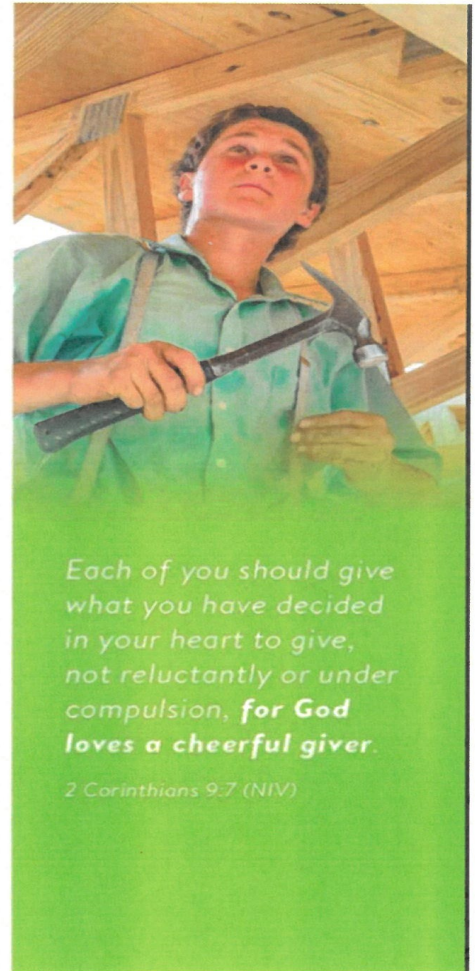
Please email Phil Peterson [phil.peterson100@gmail.com](mailto:phil.peterson100@gmail.com)

**COLLECTION DATE IS MARCH 15, 2026**

**Your offering helps rebuild from disaster, feed the hungry, provide clean water to the thirsty, empower the oppressed, and restore hope.**

Orfelina works with families in the northern regions of Honduras to help them understand how to transform their families and communities through agriculture. The list of things she does is mindboggling: Checking on local farmers' harvest. Monitoring water projects. Teaching the women in the community how to prepare more nutritious meals for their families. Chatting up community leaders for support. Running workshops for things like creating organic fertilizers and sprays.

But Orfelina doesn't just work with farmers and their families, she supports and encourages them. Visiting them in their homes. Bringing God's light to everyone she meets. And all of this is made possible through your giving to One Great Hour of Sharing. Because of your giving, projects like these and thousands more around the world are changing lives. Transforming communities. And spreading God's light. Be the Light. Give to One Great Hour of Sharing.



Four members of our congregation are involved with Rutland Neighbors, a welcoming space for the those who are homeless or live in poverty. Mary True and Jacki Becker serve food there a couple times a week. Jacki, Jen Parent, and Cheryl Gasperetti will participate in the organization's first-ever Sleep Out on March 20. Jacki, Jen, and Cheryl will brave the elements and sleep outdoors to raise money for the organization. Years back, Jacki and Cheryl took part in a Sleep Out for Burlington's Spectrum Youth and Family Services. That organization raised \$265,000 that year. Jacki and Cheryl raised close to \$4,000, thanks in part to many members of the Dorset Church. With all the funding that's being cut for programs such as this, these ladies feel compelled to help. If you'd like to make a donation, see one of the participants or go to <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/rutlandneighborsincp2p/team/1021104/>. Their team's name is Merck Mommas.



## CHURCH DIRECTORY 2026

**PASTOR** ..... Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough\*  
**PASTORAL ASSISTANT** ..... Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson  
**PASTORAL COUNSELOR** ..... Rev. Steve Longley  
**OFFICE MANAGER** ..... Kimberly Perkins  
**BOOKKEEPER/MANAGER'S ASSISTANT** .... Leslie Mazzucco  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR** ..... Tom Salmon  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR** ..... Paula Mann Nassivera  
**CHRISTIAN ED DIRECTOR** ..... Gretchen Lima  
**SEXTONS** ..... Lynn and Pete Jennings  
**MODERATOR** ..... Al Lindsey\*  
**CLERK** ..... Elizabeth Karet\*  
**TREASURER** ..... Janet Chandler\*  
**MEMBER-AT-LARGE** ..... Lori Hong\*  
**CHURCH DELEGATES** ..... Derry Dickinson, Skip Dickinson, Dick Coss, Kris Harvey  
**MANSE LIAISON** ..... Gay and Roger Squire  
**TRUSTEES**

Phil Peterson\*(Co-Chairs), and Linda O'Leary\* (Co-Chairs), Linda Drunsic, Jack Gilbert, Sarah McClintock (Secretary), Nora Larsen, Ellen Leeds, Joel Ario, Al Lindsey (Assistant Treasurer)

### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Kit Wallace (Chair), Steve Holman, Bruce Welsh

### **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

Phil Peterson (Chair, &Trustee Rep.), Julie Citron (Secretary), Sarah McClintock, Martha Eyeman

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Joel Ario,\* (Trustee Rep.), Henry Chandler \* (A) Kit Wallace

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Karen Allen (Staff Rep.), Jack Gilbert (Trustee Rep.), Steve Holman, Henry Chandler

### **DIACONATE**

Susan Patch-Crandall, Cheryl Gasperetti,\* Robin Chandler, Sue Weston, Todd Jorn  
Mary True, Lindy Bowden, Lee Romano, Dick Coss, Lynne Welsh Ginger Foss, Barbara Bertrum

### **CHANCEL COMMITTEE** (Ad hoc committee of Deacons)

Robin Chandler, Lindy Bowden, Ginger Foss

### **MUSIC COMMITTEE**

Elizabeth Karet (A), Tom Salmon (ex officio), Roger Squire, Liz Schafer

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Paula Nassivera\* (ex officio) and Gretchen Lima\* (A) (Co- Chairs), Ann Honan, Ellen Wright, Kelly Gaotti,  
Emily Kohler

### **FELLOWSHIP**

Nora Larsen (Secretary), Betsy Olson (Treasurer), Robin Chandler (Vice President),\*  
Linda O'Leary\*(President)

### **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

Kris Harvey\* (Chair) Rose Watrous, Dotty Thompson, Sara McClintock, Maggie McDonough

### **MISSION COMMITTEE**

Sandi Hedman (Trustee Rep.), Michelle Emery, Lisa May, Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson\*

### **GREEN TEAM COMMITTEE** (Ad hoc committee of Mission Committee)

Ellen Maloney (Chair), Sandi Hedman, Nan Leach, Cindy Safier, Caroline Sargent,  
Skip Dickinson, Linda Drunsic, Ann Honan, Candace Parks, Nora Larsen

### **TRUTH AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE** (Ad hoc committee of Mission Committee)

Rich Urso (Chair), Ellen Leeds, Paula Nassivera, Patrick Honan

### **PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Dick Coss (Deacon Rep.), Lori Hong (Member-at-Large)

### **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Richard Grip\* (Chair), Linda O'Leary, Betsy Olson, Alex Gray, Colleen LaChac, Dick Coss, Sandi Hedman

### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Patrick Honan,\* Tracie Salmon

\*Member of the Cabinet      (A) Appointed