

## SILENT MEDITATION

### Fickle by Bonnie Thurston



In case you want to know,  
the Greek word is *metanoia*.  
Theologians call it “conversion”  
or some such big word  
for changing your mind.

Like:

the tax man who gave back  
what he had filched;  
the well woman who  
stopped arguing, started loving;  
the woman with osteoporosis  
who straightened up on command.

Not like:

the young man who  
couldn't give up his stuff,  
those feckless girls  
at the fancy wedding  
with no oil for their lamps.

Very Like:

the brothers with a fish business,  
the one in Capernaum,  
who threw down their nets,  
abandoned their old dad  
in favor of an itinerant loony  
from land-locked Nazareth

who just happened to be  
Christ the Lord who loves  
those who change their minds.



All people are welcome here

The United Church of Dorset & East Rupert  
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[www.dorsetchurch.org](http://www.dorsetchurch.org),

## ~ FEBRUARY 01, 2026 ~ FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY ~

### ~ 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** *Prelude Number One (in C Major)*

J. S. Bach

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

**ENTER THE FLAME & THE WORD**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN #683 *O For a World***

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Linda Drunsic

God of all generations, we pride ourselves on being self-made. But we wonder if that is always a good thing, and if we are as self-made as we think. Taking pride in our achievements and our freedom from all obligations, do we lose sight of what our ancestors did to make a better world for us and their expectation that we would also leave the world a better place? And as we take pleasure in the fruits of our labors, sure that we deserve our reward, do we lose sight of future generations and what we could and, indeed, should do for them?

God of all generations, forgive us when we are so self-focussed we lose sight of our connections to others: thanks for those who have come before, and stewardship for those who follow.

**MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Christ comes with healing light  
into our locked places and shadowy hurts,  
resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life.  
As God's own forgiven people,  
go to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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.  
And also with you.

## \*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.**

## \*RESPONSE *Gloria Patri* #36

### PRAYER OF PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson

**Our response:**  
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

## WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS *Micah 6:6-8; Matthew 5:1-12*

Caren McVicker

### SERMON *Reorienting*

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

### CHOIR OFFERTORY ANTHEM *In The Bleak Midwinter* ' Gustav Holst

Donald Moore, arr.

### DOXOLOGY HYMN #595 *Be Thou My Vision*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### \*COMMUNION HYMN #393 *One Bread, One Body (refrain only)*

Taize during distribution: 111, 296, 414, 523, 569



## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Use this QR

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 #459 *Lord, You Give the Great Commission***

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE *Fugue in C Major***

J. S. Bach

The flowers this morning are given by Nora Larsen,  
In loving memory of my mother, Doris Ibbotson.  
Our thanks to today's scripture reader, Caren McVicker;  
liturgist, Linda Drunsic;  
acolyte and beadle, Elli and Kelly Gaiotti;  
deacons and ushers, Mary True, Dick Coss, Sue Crandall and Marietta and Karl White;  
coffee hour hosts, Richard and Barbara Urso;  
and tech crew, Chris Lima, Patrick Honan, and Puck Bell.

**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; Sandy Carey; 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; Jen and Shawn Towsley; in the Dorset Church, for our Choir and Music Committee; in the Vermont Conference, for the Federated Church of East Arlington, and their pastor, Andris Berry; in the UCC, for the United Church of Christ and Kindland for their partnership in creating a more connected, compassionate country through the simple power of everyday acts of kindness.

**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; Sandra Hazelton Pratt, Amanda Williams.

**PLEASE REVIEW THE DRAFT DIRECTORY**, which will be located in the Vestry during coffee hour. We would like confirmation that your personal information is correct, prior to the final printing. Questions should be directed to Ruth Stewart, 802-362-1185.

**PLEASE SIGN UP FOR SEVEN LAST WORDS.** Call the church office at 802-867-2260, to volunteer and reserve your word, first come first serve.

## MEETINGS

All-church Annual Meeting, February 8 @ 11:30

PFLAG, February 8 from 2:00-4:00 monthly meeting

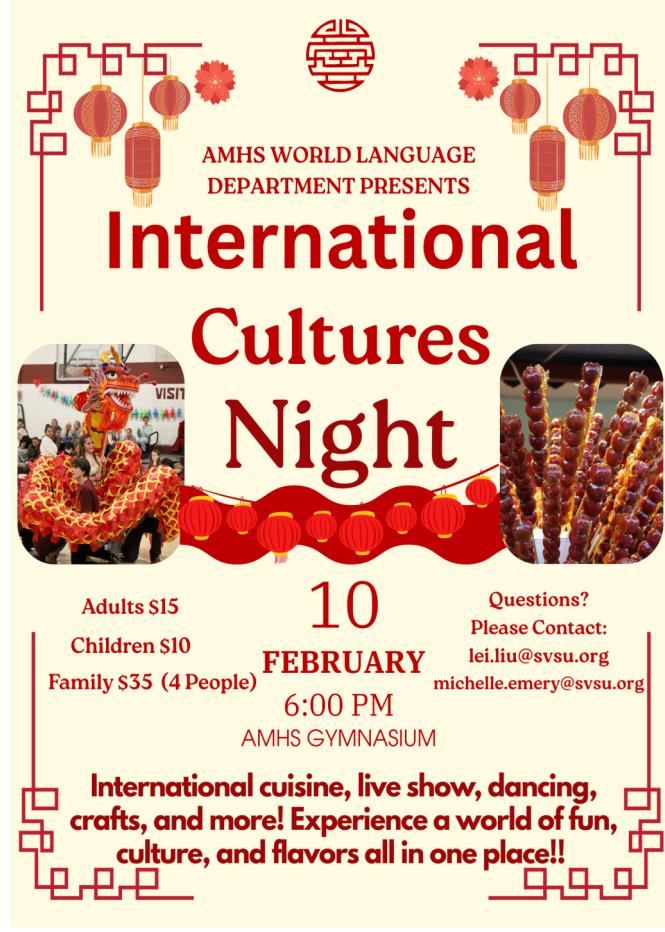
PFLAG, February 9 from 6:00-7:00 special viewing event

CABINET, February 15 @ 11:30

TRUSTEES, February 17 @ 3:30

HOSPITALITY, February 19 @ 10:00

MEETING  
ROOM



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers of **all ages** are invited to serve as Acolytes or Beadles. Children, adults, families, grandparents with grandchildren, and seniors are all welcome. This is a meaningful and manageable way to help lead worship, and support is always provided.

### Dates needed:

February 15, 22; March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29;

April 5, 12, 19, 26; May 3, 17, 24

If you feel called to serve or would like more information, please contact **Gretchen Lima** at [gretchenlima@aol.com](mailto:gretchenlima@aol.com), (973) 900-1485 (cell), (802)362-5548 and cc **Kimberly** in the church office so names can be included in the bulletin.

Thank you for helping lead worship in our church community!

## YOUTH MINISTRY AT THE DORSET CHURCH

### F.I.R.E. Youth Group (Ages 11+)

A regional youth group with Dorset Church and neighboring congregations.

**Sundays, 2:00–3:30 p.m.** at First Congregational Church, Manchester.

Upcoming dates: February 8 & 22, March 8 & 22.

**Please Contact Gretchen Lima**, Text: (973) 900-1485;  
Email: [gretchenlima@aol.com](mailto:gretchenlima@aol.com) ;Church: (802) 362-5548.



## An Irish Celebration

The Northshire Seniors are taking reservations for a bus trip on Tuesday, March 10. We will be attending the Log Cabin Theater for a St. Patrick's Day Show with Dee Reilly & Irish Step Dancers. Menu is Corned beef & scrod. Cost is \$89/person. We leave from the Catholic Church parking lot in Manchester at 9:15am. Contact Linda O'Leary for further information or to sign up at 802-779-1314. 

## **Men's Breakfast**

Our next breakfast is on Saturday, February 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) to let him know you're coming. We look forward to seeing you on February 7!



BREAKFAST TIME!

How can you help make  
our  
chancel beautiful in  
2026?

Sign up to donate an  
arrangement of flowers.  
The sign-up sheet is in  
the vestry on the bulletin  
board.



## February Wish List Community Food Cupboard

Will you be our Valentine? February can be pretty cold and bleak around here so Valentine's Day is a great opportunity to brighten up the winter with a warming gift from the heart and a bright splash of red or pink! (802.362.0057)

- Canned Salmon or Tuna
- Ketchup
- Strawberry Jelly & Peanut Butter
- Marinara Sauce & Pasta
- Tomato Soup
- Instant Oatmeal
- Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate
- Shampoo, Soap, Body Wash

XOXO  
CFC

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

# WARNING

The members of the United Church of Dorset and East Rupert are hereby warned to meet on Sunday, February 8, 2026, at approximately 11:30AM to transact the following business:

- \*Act on the annual reports of the officers and committees of the church as presented.
- \*Act on the proposed operating budget for 2026 as submitted by the trustees.
- \*Elect church officers and committee members for 2026.
- \*Consider any other business which may properly come before the body.

A ZOOM LINK FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT ATTEND WILL BE SENT OUT VIA EMAIL.

*Please watch our service live on YouTube.com*

<https://www.youtube.com@dorsetchurchvermont3401streams>

## 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, Kris Harvey, Steve Longley

**MANSE LIAISON** ..... Gay and Roger Squire

### TRUSTEES

Joel Ario,\* and Linda O'Leary\* (Co-Chairs), Linda Drunsic, Jack Gilbert, Sandi Hedman, Nora Larsen, Ellen Leeds, Chris Lima, Phil Peterson

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Kit Wallace (Chair), Steve Holman, Bruce Welsh

### INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Phil Peterson (Chair, &Trustee Rep.), Julie Citron (Secretary), Janet Chandler (Treasurer), Ellen Maloney,

Scott Stewart

### STEWARDSHIP

Joel Ario,\* (Trustee Rep.), Nora Larsen (Secretary), Henry Chandler

Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson,\* (A) Kit Wallace

### PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

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

### DIACONATE

Susan Patch-Crandall, Cheryl Gasperetti, Annabelle Liu, Keith Michl,\* Liz Schafer, Pengju Sui, Sid Staunton, Mary True, Lindy Bowden, Lee Romano, Dick Coss, Lynne Welsh

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

Robin Chandler, Lindy Bowden, Ginger Foss

### MUSIC COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Karet (A), Nan Leach, Tom Salmon (ex officio), Pengju Sui (A), Roger Squire, Lynne Welsh

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Paula Nassivera\* (ex officio) and Gretchen Lima\* (A) (Co- Chairs), Don Hiller-Dupont, Ann Honan, Ellen Leeds

### FELLOWSHIP

Ginny Longacre (Secretary), Betsy Olson (Treasurer), Derry Dickinson,\* Linda O'Leary\*

### HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Kris Harvey\* (Chair), Betty Hazelton (Secretary), Caroline Sargent (A) (Funeral Coordinator), Candace Parks (Treasurer), Gail Brodie (A), Barbara Urso, Richard Urso (A), Sunny Velie, Rose Watrous, Dotty Thompson, Sara McClintock, Judy Kernodle, Judy Dunn (A), Nan Leach (A)

### MISSION COMMITTEE

Richard Urso\* (Chair), Sandi Hedman (Trustee Rep.), Janet Chandler (A), 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, Chris Lima,\* Tracie Salmon, Sandi Hedman (A), Sue Westin (A), Richard Urso (A)

\*Member of the Cabinet (A) Appointed