

## **Mutual Ministry at the First Church in Jaffrey**

Central to our congregational vision of faith and spirit is the idea that God is most richly reflected in the fullness of community. This means specifically that the ministry of the First Church in Jaffrey is a shared effort – everyone has a part to play whether you are a long-time member or a new friend. Our mutual ministry consists not only of the tasks we share, but in the spirit of love and care we bring to every moment of our time together.

## **Be Involved at First Church**

### **Calendar this week:**

Weds, November 22, 8:00 pm – AA meeting

Thurs, November 23, Thanksgiving Day

Sun, November 26, 4:00 pm – Hanging of the Greens

### **Dates to Remember:**

November 29/30 – AARP Smart Driver Course

December 2 – Choir practice for Christmas Eve

December 2 – UCJ Christmas Fair and Singalong

December 3 – New Member Orientation

December 3 – JCVIS Tree-lighting on the Common

December 10 – New Member reception in worship

December 17 – Project Shakespeare “Christmas Carol”

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service (5:00 pm)

### Hanging of the Greens

We will kick off the holiday season with a Hanging of the Greens celebration at our church. Join us on Sunday, November 26 at 4:00 pm to decorate the church and share a glass of holiday cheer.

### JVCIS Carol Sing

The Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society will celebrate the beginning of the Christmas Holiday Season with the annual Carol Sing around the tree on the Meetinghouse Common. Everyone is welcome. Sunset on December 3 will be at 4:16. Come earlier to enjoy refreshment and stay to light candles at dusk and sing familiar songs of the seasons.

## New Members

During Advent, we will create a time of welcome for anyone interested in becoming members or associate members of First Church. On Sunday morning, December 3, 2023, immediately following worship, we will host a membership orientation to answer questions, offer possibility, explore rights and responsibilities, and explain the different categories of connection (member, associate member, friend)! Then on Sunday morning, December 10, 2023, we will have a ceremony during our morning worship to welcome folks into the life of our church. If you are interested in membership in any category or have questions about the process, please talk with Steve or our moderator, Sam Greene or simply join us at the membership orientation.

## AARP Smart Drivers Course

On November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, from 1 to 4 PM each day, Lee DeBell will present AARP’s Smart Driver Course at First Church in Jaffrey. Lee has been teaching this six-hour course as a volunteer since 2014 and continues to do so because it has made a difference in how he now approaches driving and he wants to share what he has learned with others. The course presents strategies to help drivers keep driving safely for as long as possible. It addresses the many changes that have occurred since we started driving, including changes in our bodies as well as changes in our cars, roadways, and laws. The course also provides information to help each individual determine if there is a need to consider limiting or stopping driving, and things that can be done to make it easier if either of those actions become appropriate. After taking this course, participants may qualify for a multi-year discount on car. AARP requires a fee to attend this course (\$20 for AARP members, \$25 for all others), which can be paid at time of attendance by check made payable to AARP or cash. To reserve a place to attend this course, call Lee at 603-491-6349 or email him at [leedebell@comcast.net](mailto:leedebell@comcast.net).