

### **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:**

Monday, April 29, 6:30 pm – Scout Troop 33

Tuesday April 30, 9:00 am Clergy retreat in Hookset, NH

Wednesday, May 1, 9:30 pm – PRC Circle meeting on zoom

Wednesday, May 1, 4:00 pm – Worship Circle

Wednesday, May 1, 8:00 pm – AA meeting

#### **Dates to Remember**

Monday, May 20 – Troop 33 Court of Honor

Wednesday, May 22 – Summer Faith Study Series begins

Thursday, May 23 – First Church serves Community Meal

Saturday, May 25 – Nancy Taylor Memorial

#### Community Meal

On the fourth Thursday of each month the United Church of Jaffrey hosts a free community supper at the Mildred Cutter Parish Hall. All are welcome, with families especially invited. Next month, on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, First Church has volunteered to prepare and serve a traditional New England ham and bean supper. Here is how you could help: you could sign up to prepare, serve or clean up; you could come and enjoy the meal and meet some new friends in our community, you could donate to the cost of our meal. (Any extra funds will be donated to our local food pantry.) Steve Miller and Tim Gordon are heading up our team, talk to either if you would like more information.

### Summer Faith Study Series: The Spirit of Creation

This summer, Steve will be sharing a 6-week study series around the theme, “The Spirit of Creation.” These gatherings will explore the sacredness of nature from a variety of perspectives. We will explore the theological tension present in our Christian history – is creation a good sacred home for us or is the material world inherently wild and flawed and an enemy in need of our submission? We will examine indigenous and other earth-based spiritualities – can their ancient wisdom help us better find an understanding of our relationship to our universe. And finally, we will enlist the aid of modern science to discover our most recent learnings to root all our reflections in our best and most up-to-date thinking. It will be a fruitful study!!

We will try a new pattern for our classes this summer. Although we will still meet at 4:00 pm on Wednesdays in the Parish House, we will spread our gatherings out over the months of May, June, and July, meeting the last two weeks of each month (May 22, 29, June 19, 26, July 24, 31) As always, the course will be available on zoom. That link will be created and shared the week before our first meeting in May. Please let Steve know if you have any questions.