

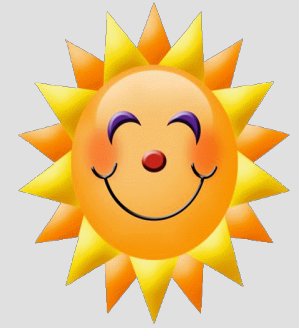


# THE MEETINGHOUSE

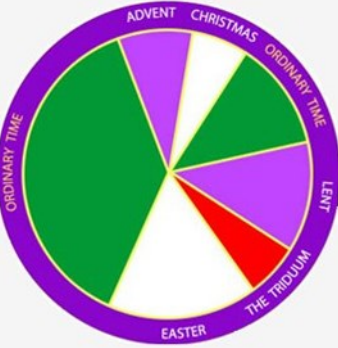
Nelson Congregational Church  
830 Nelson Rd.  
Nelson, NH 03457

JUNE, JULY, AUG 2023

Volume 40 Issue 5



THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR  
By Rev. Eliot Fay



This wheel is a common representation of the liturgical calendar and the progression of seasons within the church year. It will come as no surprise that the two points of greatest celebration in the church year are the preparations and festivities of the Christmas season and the observances of Easter. However, you'll also notice that there are two green seasons identified as "ordinary time" that separate the two high seasons of Christmas and Easter. It seems to me that ebb and flow of our church year is an accurate representation of the ebb and flow of our life of faith.

There are those times on the path of faith where we richly experience the presence of God in our lives. These times are often described as being on the mountain top – where recognizing the goodness and the graciousness of God comes easy; when we more keenly sense the love of God for us. These are the high seasons of faith when the grace and faithfulness and compassion of God are most visible.

But much of our lives are lived in the seasons between these high moments. In this "ordinary time," the goodness and care and love of God is in no way less real or present, but it may not be as easy to see and it may not be as fully felt. As a result, this is often where our faith and trust in God is tried and consequently matured. In the midst of life's struggles or hardships, faith calls us to persevere in trusting that God has not changed and is still good and merciful and present with us. Though we may not feel as though God is hearing our prayers, we nevertheless trust that God is faithful in extending care and love to us.

May God give us strength to walk the path of faith as it leads us into the valleys just as when it takes us to the mountaintops - so that we can say with the apostle Paul, "I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want...I can do all this through him who gives me strength." *Philippians 4:12-23*



## TUESDAY TEA

Join us Tuesday June 6 at 10 at Betsey Church's home on Log Cabin Rd. All welcome. Coffee and Tea are provided. Bring something small and simple to share. The July Tuesday Tea will be hosted by Judy Walton on July 11!! Note the date change because of the holiday on July 4, we move it a week later.

## COUNCIL

**Minutes:** March minutes accepted as distributed, no mtg in April. Action items reviewed.

### REPORTS

**Minister:** Been really busy the last few weeks. Fun to have the coffee house here. Easter went fine. Had first Open and Affirming (ONA) meeting, organizationally keeping it under Council, not within one of the three committees. Next mtg is May 24. Would like some funds to buy resources to share, bring in a couple of speakers, maybe give them an honorarium. Will bring it up at Operations.

**Treasurer:** Operations will look at past years to see how they compare to this year.

**Operations:** Solar panels research and quoting process continuing, looking like 30 panels on the carriage shed roof and maybe 10 on the main building roof. Kitchen cleanup and organizing project almost done. Quickbooks transfer to online version is more difficult than expected, moving slowly.

**Congregational Life:** Maundy Thursday and Easter – did a debrief with

ideas for the future. Adult Ed has started. June to December deacons schedule set. End of Life series has started.

**Community Care:** Met last week. Maypole was a nice celebration. Easter offering was about \$399 plus PayPal. Will go to replenish COA. Next event is June 24, Artisan Fair. July 16 is first Ice Cream Social. Old Home Day is Aug 12. Second Ice Cream Social is Sunday of Labor Day weekend. Really need to restock Food Pantry, really good to see it so used. List in Narthex and in Friday News. Mobile Food Pantry from Community Kitchen coming to Nelson is also being scheduled. Coordinating with Nelson School (will be in parking lot) and School Board. Church s icoordinating with CK.

**Historian:** No report.

**UCC Conference Rep:** No report

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

June 29 – July 6. Eliot going to Synod in the Midwest.

**New Governance Structure:** Good meeting today, lots to update each other on and share.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Moved, seconded, accepted. **Meeting Adjourned:** 11:18 am

**Next Meeting:** June 11, 11:00 am

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Street

## CALENDAR

All Services are in-person and zoom. Committee Meetings other than Council are all zoom until further notice.

**JUNE 4** Worship 9:30  
Communion

**JUNE 7** final End of Life discussion group 5:30pm

**JUNE 11** Worship 9:30  
Council

**JUNE 18** Worship 9:30  
Father's Day

**JUNE 19** Congregational Life meeting 7pm via zoom

**JUNE 24** Artisan Fair

**JUNE 25** Worship

**JULY 2** Communion

**JULY 9** Council  
Ice Cream Social 4pm

**JULY 16** Ice Cream Social and NTB Concert 4pm

**JULY 23/30** Worship 9:30  
**AUGUST 6** Old Home Sunday service 9:30

**AUGUST 12** Old Home Day Chicken BBQ Noon

**AUGUST 13** Worship/Council

**AUGUST 20/27** Worship 9:30

**SEPT 3**  
Ice Cream Social and NTB Concert 3pm

## OPERATIONS

It was a good meeting. After a year it feels like we are settling into our new organizational structure. The past few weeks have been busy ones with Easter, the coffeehouse, the Maypole, starting the Open and Affirming (ONA) process, and launching the End of Life Series.

In Operations, solar panels research continues. We are considering 30 panels on the carriage shed roof and maybe some more on the church itself. The big kitchen cleanup and overall project is almost done. Moving our accounting from the desktop to the online Quickbooks transfer is more difficult than expected, moving slowly.

Congregational Life debriefed Maundy Thursday and Easter and noted ideas for next year. The End of Life discussion series has started. Deacons are all scheduled through December.

Community Care was pleased with the Maypole celebration. The next event is June 24, the Artisan Fair. July 16 is the first Ice Cream Social and the second one will be the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. The Food Pantry is getting steady use and needs regular restocking. It is good to see it used. The list of desired contributions is in the church narthex (fancy church word for the main entry hallway) and also in the Friday News email. A mobile Food Pantry from Community Kitchen will be coming to Nelson, a coordinated effort between them, us, the school, and the school board. We are nearing the minimum num-

ber of copies that allows us to keep the permit for mailing the Meetinghouse at a discounted rate. We may ask some friends and neighbors to switch back to mail delivery from email.

We looked at the budget and figured out how to fund expenses for the Open and Affirming Committee. We also made the decision to do just one community giving campaign so that we do not over ask our supporters.

We approved a request from Nelson in Common to use the fellowship hall for a "Bob Ross" style painting class, open to anyone. The class is a 3-hour event, and the organizer provides all supplies, etc.

After looking into the government information in regard to reimbursement for solar panels, we think the church does qualify.

Now that the kitchen cleanup and reorganization is almost done, we will next tackle the storeroom near the child care area as well as the maintenance storage area next to the downstairs bathroom.

## CLEANUP CONTINUATION

Brian has started on the storeroom area and has several items on the table outside the Pastor's office for the taking. If you would like to help Brian complete this project let him know!! He's asking committee folk to take a look at items in the storeroom to determine if they must be kept or can be recycled, or just plain junked. Thanks so much Brian you have been amazing on these projects



**JUN 2 Don Carlisle**  
**JUN 6 Jeff Enright**  
**JUN 7 Whitney French**  
**JUN 14 David Bower**  
Deanna Zilske  
**JUN 15 Bob West**  
**JUN 26 David Beauregard**

**JUL 2 Megan French**  
**JUL 7 Pat Putnam**  
**JUL 8 Daniel Bower**  
Fallon Smith  
**JUL 9 Bill Coughlin**  
**JUL 10 Tim McEachern**  
**JUL 22 Bob Jones**  
**JUL 28 Judy Waterston**  
**JUL 29 Mark Waterston**

**AUG 6 Sydney Carlisle**  
**AUG 10 Marisol Zilske**  
**AUG 12 Nat Zilske**  
**AUG 22 Dale Carlisle**  
**AUG 23 Jonathan Bower**  
Sally Coughlin  
**AUG 30 Mike Oldershaw**



**JUN 14 Rick & Hope**  
Lothrop  
21 Susan & Gordon  
Peery  
**JUL 3 Tom & Judy**  
Walton  
**JUL 21 Dale & Carol**  
Carlisle  
**JUL 30 Steve Cady &**  
Deanna Zilske  
**AUG 1 Ron & Sandy**  
Ferguson  
**AUG 10 Brian & Edie**  
Putnam  
**AUG 16 Jeff Enright &**  
Beth Smith  
Mike & Nancy  
Oldershaw  
**AUG 17 Matt & Becky**  
Snow  
**AUG 23 Jane & Peter**  
Beauregard





**ARTISAN FAIR**  
 9a.m.—3p.m.  
 June 24  
 Nelson Town Common

Volunteers needed-  
 Set up 7-9 assisting vendors to unload their vehicles, set up tents etc  
 Break down 2-4 assist vendors to pack up, take down tents 3-4 -many hands make light work.

Silent Auction Table- collect silent auction items from vendors, set up table to display wares. 9-11 1-2 people

Food Booth -  
 3-4 folks to run the food booth, 7:30 - 3:00 (shifts are welcomed)  
 Tents needed to borrow as vendors rent them for the day 3-4 total

Food Donations forthcoming. Use [signup.com](http://signup.com) to volunteer and donate food items.

If you are interested in exhibiting, or helping out, please contact  
 Mike Blaudschun  
[blaudschuns@gmail.com](mailto:blaudschuns@gmail.com)  
 or  
 Joy Birdsey  
[pjbirdsmith@gmail.com](mailto:pjbirdsmith@gmail.com)



**ICE CREAM SOCIALS**  
 JULY 16, 4PM  
 NELSON TOWN BAND

**SEPTEMBER 3PM**  
 NELSON TOWN BAND

Be sure and mark your calendars for these two stellar socials and concerts. Lots of fun and great music as well. Bring your chairs, blankets and sit out on the church lawn for a great time and wonderful ice cream!!



**OLD HOME DAY**  
**CHICKEN BBQ**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 12**  
**NOON**

Nelson Town Band will be playing

Watch the Nelson Church website <https://www.nelsonchurch.org> and Friday News emails for more details as the date gets closer.



**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

The food pantry shelves in the town hall entryway are available during library hours as well as other times when the town hall or library are open.

The Library hours are: Monday/Thursday, 1-6pm, Tuesday/Saturday, 10-noon and Wednesday, 3-6pm.

Donations are accepted during open hours at the church or call Martha at 603.313.3455 to make arrangements for pick -up or drop off.

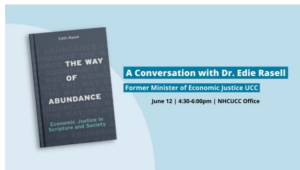
Popular items include: Mac & cheese, lunch box size raisins, pasta, tuna, granola bars, seltzer, pasta sauce & canned soup.



# UCC NEWS



JUNE 10 10-12 allows gun owners to dispose of unwanted weapons to be turned into garden tools.



JUNE 12 4:30-6PM AT UCC CONFERENCE ECONOMIC JUSTICE REGISTER <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-way-of-abundance-economic-justice-in-scripture-and-society-tickets-634119387157>



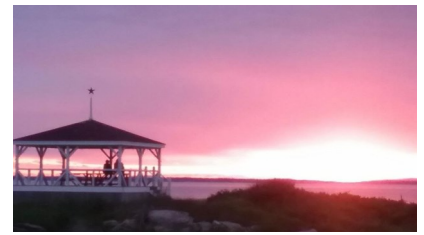
HORTON CENTER ALUMNI GATHERING JUNE 17 9AM REGISTRATION: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeNPKSVvYnTQxpbljehzQGOBOWBDgCUAnK\\_GH--3f\\_QZMDFLg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeNPKSVvYnTQxpbljehzQGOBOWBDgCUAnK_GH--3f_QZMDFLg/viewform)



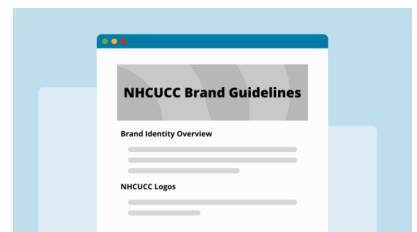
JOIN IN A SUMMER CAMP EVENT More info: <https://www.newsweek.com/rankings/americas-best-summer-camps-2023?fbclid=IwAR1CHyXn87zn3h-o4wRSoqw39L6xLNn2ff02ZZzwG0d3XK61sUGnmB9wh4>



Join the All Church Read, Join the Antiracism Journey, Join the Movement! 20 years ago, at General Synod 24, the UCC adopted a resolution calling for the UCC to be an antiracist church and we have been working toward that end ever since. Recent events too numerous to name show us that racialized violence, harm, and inequities persist and continue to grow, making God's dream of a just and loving world seem far from our lived realities. We have work to do if we are to become an antiracist church and build an antiracist world. To equip us on this journey toward racial justice, we at Join the Movement are calling on the whole church to engage in an all-church read of Ibram X. Kendi's book, How to Be an Antiracist. Check out the resources available on Frontline Faith to assist you, including a Facilitator's Guide, Discussion Guides, historical and cultural context videos from Dr. Renee K. Harrison, prayers, scripture readings, discussion forums, and more! Form a book group at your church or partner with another church to host discussions. Have your church council read the book together. Host an after-church adult formation class. Have a conference-wide zoom discussion group. Engage your youth in intergenerational conversations. Read the book with a friend and conversation partner. Process the ideas individually by reading and journaling. There are so many ways to participate. We hope you'll find one that works for you. As Kendi says in his introduction, "This book is ultimately about the basic struggle we're all in, the struggle to be fully human and to see that others are fully human." As people of faith, we know that this kind of loving regard is an essential part of our discipleship. We hope you'll join together with so many others in exploring how this book and these antiracist practices can move us toward racial justice!



STAR ISLAND CONFERENCES JULY 30-AUGUST 30. If you haven't been to Star Island this is a wonderful opportunity go here for more info: <https://starisland.org/>



The New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ, NHCUCU, prides itself on its mission to help lift their Churches and Congregations and give them important tools to succeed. By showing a consistent brand NHCUCU can be clearer, efficient, and protect its reputation, allowing NHCUCU to spend less time focusing on how outsiders may perceive the conference. The following Brand Guide will set the standards for NHCUCU's beliefs, logos, typeface, and color pallets as approved by the Conference Board of Directors. To read the guide follow this link: <https://nhucc.org/brandguidelines>



# PRAYER REQUESTS

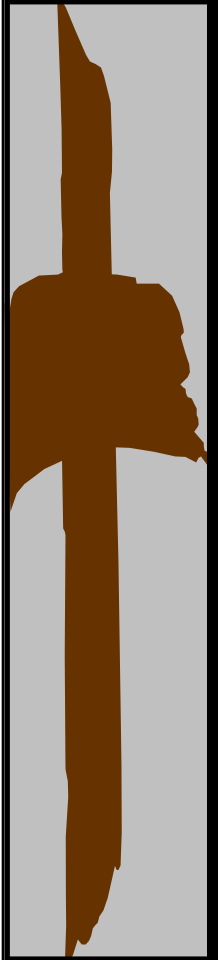
We hold in our prayers: Kate and friends grieving the sudden loss of a life-long friend; Sharon Beaty's nephew Scott in hospice; Hope's cousin recovering and Hope & Rick; Pat Steeves

We also pray for families and friends seeking to heal divisions, those in our community struggling with addiction and mental health, our service men and women, and front-line workers.

(All requests will remain on the prayer list for 2 months. Please email or call the Church Office to be added to removed from or remain on our Prayer List.)

## *Meetinghouse*

Generated Monthly  
Article deadline: 20th of the month  
Editor: Hope Lothrop  
email: [ncuccnews3@gmail.com](mailto:ncuccnews3@gmail.com)  
phone: 603-847-9045  
Pastor: Rev. Eliot Fay  
email: [nelsonchurchucc@gmail.com](mailto:nelsonchurchucc@gmail.com)  
phone: 603-847-3280 c978-473-2577  
Worship: 9:30 AM  
Sunday School/Nursery care 9:45 AM  
Website: <https://www.nelsonchurch.org>  
Church Office: [nelsonchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:nelsonchurchoffice@gmail.com)



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Nelson, NH 03457  
Permit No. 101

NELSON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
830 NELSON ROAD  
NELSON NH 03457  
Change Service Requested

