

SILENT MEDITATION
Auto-Correcting gGod

A typo can flip the script:
Theist → Atheist.
Just like that—
God? Gone.

Agnostic?
Lose the “a,”
suddenly
you *know* everything.

Moral?
Oops—
Now you’re *amoral*.

A tap too quick,
A tiny space misplaced,
and the whole cosmos misfires.

So maybe—
read and
tread
more carefully.

Live as if
each letter,
each small silence,
is ~~scared~~
sacred.

By Tom Montgomery Fate

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



~ WORSHIP SERVICE ~ JULY 19 , 2026 ~ EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

NURSERY CARE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

Babies and children are invited, welcomed, and encouraged in our worship services. Worship bags filled with activities are available in the narthex for use during the service, and a rocker is located at the back of the sanctuary for parents with babies and toddlers. A small nursery area downstairs in the Vestry, with a livestream of the service, is also available for parents who wish to stay with their children. Children in Pre-K through grade 7 are invited to join us downstairs for church school following the children's message.

PRELUDE *Gather Us In*

John A. Behnke, arr.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lord, open our lips,

People: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Leader: Come, let us sing to the Lord,

People: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Leader: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving,

People: and raise a loud shout to the Lord our God.

Leader: For the Lord is a great God,

People: and a great sovereign above all gods.

Leader: The Lord holds the caverns of the earth,

People: and sustains the heights of the hills.

Leader: The sea belongs to God who made it, whose hands have molded the dry land.

People: Let us hearken to God's voice.

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

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Richard Grip

God of light, and love, and truth, you create and call us to see and reflect your light. But so often we live in darkness, swallowed by the shadows of greed, fear, resentment, and jealousy.

Sometimes we prefer the darkness, thinking it will hide our guilt.

Forgive us, loving God. Shine the light of your truth and life and dispel all the darkness in us and in our world. For we would live as people of light.

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. Receive and rejoice in the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and being made new.

People: 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 #36 *Gloria Patri

PRAYER OF PASTORAL CARE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson

Our response:
God of mercy, **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 #284 *Gather Us In*

Use this QR code
to donate

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 6:5-9; Luke 9:23-25

Elizabeth Karet

SERMON The Paradox of God's Blessing

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Wilha Hutson, arr.

DOXOLOGY #46

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #67 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

POSTLUDE *St. Anne*

George Th. Miles

The flowers this morning are given by Andy and Ginny Longacre.
Our thanks to today's scripture reader, Elizabeth Karet;
liturgist, Richard Grip;
deacons and ushers, Jacki Becker, Cheryl Gasperetti, and
Marietta and Karl White;
coffee hour hosts, Dotty Thompson and Judy Kernodle;
tech crew, Chris Lima, Patrick Honan, Eliza Olrich, 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: Staff Sargent Houston Wood and family; Stephen Cummins; Betty Hazelton; Kurt Silberschmidt; Gretchen Lima; Peter Salmon; Master SGT Ryan Bowles; Scott Wallace; Luella Parks; Ellen Maloney; Jonathan Dickinson; Sarah Faith Dickinson; Oliver Fox Buckner; Angel May Kalenquin; Ann Troumbley; Meghan Gill; Barbara Gill; Eric Perry; Cathy Condon; Emma Ingison; Mark Cassidy; Jimmy Weiss; Jeff Duel; Robin Hoag; Larry Cochran; Damon Wilder; Howard Day; Pete Ianacone; Donna Harris; Marianne Bacon; Robby Littlewood; Tom Drunsic; Linda Bushee; Mason; Jim Goodwin; Donna Tonic; in the Dorset Church, for our Discovery Camp participants; in the Vermont Conference, for the Grace Congregational Church (Rutland), and their pastor, Rev. Terry Hanley; in the UCC, for the aid and recovery efforts in the country of Venezuela after a devastating earthquake ravaged the country.

The Tech Crew is currently looking to recruit two additional people to be trained for set-up and use of our technology for Sunday service, weddings, and funerals.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be interested, please contact Patrick Honan, 802-379-0044.

Hello From Sunday School!

Since Summer Sunday School is only in its second year, we're trying out a short monthly post to keep our congregation up to date on "just what are our children doing in church school this summer?" Well, the answer is plenty!

Our classroom has been full of activity with our summer theme "Seeing God in Nature." We are truly blessed to have so much expertise among us. Longtime congregation member and artist John Pitcher led us in a two week Nature Journaling workshop. He brought in several of his amazing field journals and nature paintings to show us how he captures the details of wildflowers and leaves. Then we passed out journals and colored pencils to the kids for exploring and drawing their own. We found hosta leaves, a six-legged spider and red impatiens (hmmm, guess where?).

For these midsummer weeks in July, our environmental expert and SS assistant Ann Honan is leading a workshop on birds in the Bible and birds around us. Come check out our classroom, which is full of sticks and grass, birch bark, horsehair, vines, and moss for our bird nest building activity. We continue to be amazed at how quickly the birds build them and how each nest is such an intricate and sturdy home for their eggs to safely hatch. What a beautiful world God has given us!

"Praise the Lord from the Earth" - Psalm 148:7

UPCOMING FUNERALS

Sherrie Baker - Saturday, August 1

@ 12:00

Arthur Ward Gilbert - Monday, August 3

@ 10:00

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Trustees, July 21 @ 3:30

Hospitality, August 25 @ 10:00

No Cabinet Meetings July & August

No Deacons Meeting July & August

Take the Dorset Housing Survey!

Scan the QR code below or visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YJ2XZ7L>

Survey is open until July 29th

Paper surveys available at the Town Offices



If you would like to receive a daily devotional, please go to <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>

Our Vote is our Voice!
The ***Truth and Justice Committee*** invites you to join us as we continue our Midterm postcard writing campaign on Thursday, July 30 at 5 pm. Midterms are fast approaching and this is our best opportunity to make meaningful change! Meet us at church to personalize and send postcards supporting candidates who stand for our values for Senate and House races. All are welcome to write with us or take postcards to send from home. We're also accepting donations for postage!



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

All are welcome.



Aldi's Bus Trip
Friday, July 31, 2026
Meet at the Dorset Church
at 9:00 a.m.
Call 867-2260
to reserve your spot!



COMMUNITY FOOD CUPBOARD

JULY WISH LIST

Canned Tuna / Chicken

Pasta / Pasta Sauce

Crackers

Coffee

Sunscreen / Bug Spray

Shampoo / Conditioner

Soap / Dish Soap

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

Call 802.733.8119



United Church of Dorset & East Rupert

Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Wednesday August 5th from 5:30 to 7:00

Menu

Roast turkey

Mashed potatoes

Stuffing

Gravy

Glazed carrots

Spring green peas

Cranberry sauce

Assorted desserts

Gluten-free available

All are welcome for a **free** dinner.

Bring your family and friends.

This is community dinner; we hope to see you there!

143 Church Street, Dorset

Call for reservations: **802-867-2260**

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 Tommy Salmon
SUNDAY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR Paula Mann Nassivera
SEXTONS Lynn and Pete Jennings
MODERATOR Al Lindsey*
CLERK Elizabeth Karet*
TREASURER..... Janet Chandler*
ASSISTANT TREASURER Al Lindsey
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, Nora Larsen, Ellen Leeds, Joel Ario, Julie Citron

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Kit Wallace (Chair), Steve Holman, David McAneny, Scott Welsh, Scott Russell, Eric Emery

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

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

STEWARDSHIP

Joel Ario*, Nora Larsen (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 Westin, Todd Jorn
Mary True (co-chair), Lindy Bowden, Lee Romano, Dick Coss, Lynne Welsh (co-chair), Ginger Foss, Barbara Bertram

CHANCEL COMMITTEE (Ad hoc committee of Deacons)

Robin Chandler, Lindy Bowden, Ginger Foss

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Karet, Tommy Salmon (ex officio), Roger Squire, Lynne Welsh (A)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Paula Nassivera* (ex officio), Ann Honan, Ruth Stewart, Kelly Gaiotti, 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, Michelle Emery, Rev. Jordan (Skip) Dickinson*, Janet Chandler, Richard Urso (Chair)

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, Sue Westin

*Member of the Cabinet (A) Appointed