

SILENT MEDITATION

Cliffs of Fall

Bonnie Thurston

*"O the . . . mind has mountains . . .
Hold them cheap; / May who ne'er hung there."
—Gerard Manley Hopkins*

Sometimes wilderness
is not on a mountain
or in the desert,
but internal, storms
in mind, heart, soul
where there is no shelter
nothing to which to cling
when darkness descends.

What was secure and
steady, is no longer.
Interior life becomes
like trees in a hurricane:
a wild waving of limbs
one cannot fix or stop
or make go away, must
wait for it to blow over.

So it might be wise
to carry within one's self
a small stub of candle
and at least one match.

The United Church of Dorset & East Rupert
143 Church Street, Dorset, VT 05251
PO Box 263
802-867-2260
dorsetchurch@gmail.com,
www.dorsetchurch.org,
Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 8-4,
Friday 8-12

All people are welcome here



~ WORSHIP SERVICE ~ OCTOBER 18, 2026 ~ TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES DURING THE SERVICE

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 *Mi Shebeirach*

Debbie Friedman

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough

ENTER THE FLAME & THE WORD

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is our dwelling place,

People: a home of peace and plenty.

Leader: The Lord is our dwelling place,

People: a refuge when trouble is near.

Leader: The Lord is our dwelling place,

People: a temple that will stand forever.

***HYMN #501** *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David Chandler

Lord Jesus Christ, you know our sin.

**We want you to do whatever we ask of you,
but we are unwilling to do what you ask of us.**

**We want to sit beside you in your glory,
but we fail to stand beside you in your suffering.**

**We want to be first in your great kingdom,
but we are among the last to serve the least.**

**Forgive us. Pour out your mercy upon us,
and wash us clean in your saving grace.**

All this we ask in your holy name. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice! Let the sea roar with laughter, the fields shout in celebration, and the forests sing with joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

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.

***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 #35 *Gloria Patri

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

CHOIR ANTHEM *Amazing Grace*

John Coates, arr.
Cherokee translation by Charlie McVicker

PRAYER OF PASTORAL CARE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our response:

God of justice and compassion, **hear our prayer.**

HYMN #506 *Healer of Our Ev'ry Ill

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 32:22-30

Ruth Stewart

SERMON On Second Thought

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Plowshare Prayer*

Spencer La Joye

***DOXOLOGY #46**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

HEALING SERVICE



Use this QR
code to do-

If you wish to receive anointing with oil, please come to the front of the sanctuary via the side aisle and return to your seat via the center aisle.

Music during Healing: Selections from the Koln Concert, January 24, 1975 Kieth Jarrett

***CLOSING HYMN #503** *O Christ, the Healer*

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: May the grace of God lift you up; may the love of God hold you close; may the blessing of God be yours forever.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE *Koln*, January 24, 1975 Part IIc

Kieth Jarrett

The flowers this morning were given by Widgie Pierpont.
Our thanks to today's coffee hour hosts, Maggie McDonough,
Jackie Wilson and Linda Drunsic;
scripture reader, Ruth Stewart;
liturgist, David Chandler;

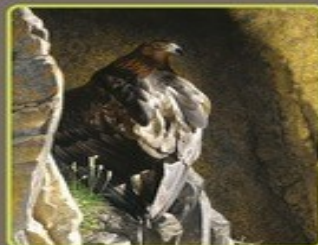
deacons and ushers, Robin Chandler, Ginger Foss and Marietta and Karl White;
tech crew, Chris Lima, Patrick Honan, Puck Bell, and Jade Lilith-Streeter.

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: Linelle Pike; Bill Auperlee; Joe McVicker; Fran Wilwol; Andy Longacre; Alice Leary; Tim Velie; Flora Gallup; Marian Perkins; Joe and Norma Will; Tommy and Tracie Salmon; Sylvie; Katherine Buchmayr; Betsy Olson; Jennifer Salmon; Cindy O'Leary; Stephen and Maria Cummins; Gretchen Lima; Oliver Fox Buckner; Ann Troumbley; Cathy Condon; Mark Cassidy; Jimmy Weiss; Jeff Duel; Robin Hoag; Damon Wilder; Howard Day; Robby Littlewood; Tom Drunsic; Jim Goodwin; Donna Tonic; in the Dorset Church, for our Second Hour program; in the Vermont Conference, for the Federated Church of East Arlington and their pastor, Andris Berry.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS: Staff Sargent Houston Wood and family; Larry Cochran; Marianne Bacon; Jonathan Dickinson; Sarah Faith Dickinson; George Bush; Norma O., Craig, Jaxson, and Jacob Smith; Diane; Millie Holland; Michael Chambers; Patrick Denis; Dody Marcotte; Eric Parks; Kris; Kay Kwasniewski; Elizabeth LaBerge; Dottie Hinkle; Chip Wilson; Hazel Prouty; James Jankowski; Jameson Gray Pelton; Evelyn Tobin; Shelby Baughn; Cassia Duran; Rich; George Smith; Jack; Judy Dunn; Alan Wiegand; Steve and Val Smith.

The Art of Sue Westin & John C. Pitcher



Kindred Spirits

Gallery Opening
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD
5-7 PM

There will be a short talk and a power point presentation at the public opening reception.



THANK YOU CHURCH FAMILY!

What an amazing **Dorset Church Rummage Sale and Christian Education Café!**

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, baked, cooked, served, cleaned up, and supported this wonderful weekend. **Many hands truly do make light work!**

The **C.E. Café raised \$2,050**. Your generosity helps support local, national, and international missions, as well as special Christian Education projects.

This year we have already supported organizations, including **Kids' Summer Lunch, Manchester Community Food Cupboard, Neighbor to Neighbor, Rupert Food Cupboard, Dorset Fire Department, The Kinder Way Animal & Farm Rescue, Kenyan Drylands, and Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Njoro, Kenya**. Another \$2,000 will be donated in December!

Thank you for helping Dorset Church make a difference near and far!

Gretchen Lima, Paula Nassivera, Ann Honan, and the Christian Education Committee

Hello from Sunday School

October is such a beautiful month here in Vermont. Our SS program has been taking full advantage with lessons on God's supreme artistry in nature.

Many thanks to Ann and Pada for leading a full (13 student!) class last week on the many varieties and importance of trees mentioned in the Bible. Ann reports there was lots of sharing about animals that live in trees or rely on them for food, nesting, and escaping predators.

This week we have artists John Pitcher and Sue Westin joining us to talk about their upcoming art show and do some nature journaling with the class.

How many are your works, Lord!

In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 24:104

Thank you

Last week this congregation (this community) brought me to tears. What I wanted to say then and will say here is that the generosity and energy of this community to volunteer in support of good work is HUMBLING (and you do humble me in the best sense of the word).

The support and love that I experienced was overwhelming. Just one week after another magnificent Rummage Sale, the way many people came out to volunteer to execute and support the Breaking Bread Heritage Festival was amazing. Congratulations to us all. Dozens of people showed up to move 24 tables, 100 chairs, 5 tents, and assorted other items from 2 area churches to Adams Park and set everything up to stage a first - ever festival in record time when many people were not sure what to expect. It was humbling. Ten months ago, many people were not sure it could be done. But a nucleus from this church and volunteers from the Greater Manchester community formed a 10-person Steering Committee who collectively did a great job!

The impetus for the festival was to build and foster acceptance and good will among people who are not the same but have very similar values. I think in a small but big way we made a first step, and there seems to be a growing group interested in building on it.

Experiencing the multicultural acceptance and joy of seeing people breaking bread and sharing at the Breaking Bread Heritage Festival, which grew from the values of Truth & Justice Vermont, which in turn, grew from the values of the Dorset Church Mission Committee made me realize that our next objective is to **get out and VOTE TO KEEP AMERICA GREAT**. If we are to get back to the values of respect and acceptance that we have cherished in our evolving American history. So, speak to your friends about spreading the word to vote early, where possible, to avoid the threats of chaos and misinformation that seek to erode and jeopardize our faith in the American right to vote and preserve our freedoms.
Respectfully, Richard Urso

Thank you so much to everyone in the church for accepting me into your congregation. Being a part of the church has been amazing. It was my pleasure to chair the Hospitality Committee. You will never know how much I appreciate everything you did for me, and I will miss you greatly.

Kris Harvey

34605 Hiveley St

Westland, Michigan 48186

All-church Memorial Service will be on November 1, 2026

Please call the office to submit a name to or remove a name from our memorial list prior to that date. Cards are also available, so please see one of our deacons.

Update on Paving

As announced in church, paving of the church driveway and parking lot was supposed to take place this week. Unfortunately, weather has prevented that work from proceeding on schedule. The paving work will now take place the week of October 26, weather permitting. We appreciate everyone's patience during the next few weeks.

SECOND HOUR BEGINS TODAY

A series of four Second Hours will be presented on **Life Transition Planning (LTP)** over the next few months. These LTP sessions will present an opportunity for everyone in our church to understand how to plan for changes in our lives, no matter where on life's path we are. The Second Hours will begin today with Reverend Mark introducing us to the importance of having a plan that includes health, legal, and financial considerations, and why it's important to include loved ones in the planning process. The **November 28** session will focus on health/medical care planning. Future sessions in January and March 2027 will focus on legal planning and financial organization. There will be time in each Second Hour for questions and discussion.

On Monday, October 26, the Northshire Seniors will attend lunch at noon at the Eagles in Manchester. Salad and a choice of two soups made by Willoughby's Depot Eatery, along with bread and dessert, will be served. Call Sally McManus at 802-375-9780 to sign up. There is no charge for this luncheon. Seating is limited.

Lunch will be followed by our annual meeting. Please feel free to stay and share your thoughts as we review our last year and begin planning for next year's events and trips. We will have a book exchange table. Bring a friend. All people 55 and over living in the broader Northshire area are invited to participate.

INQUIRERS CLASS

Rev. Mark is offering two classes for those who would like to join the church, and those who may not want to commit to becoming a member but want to learn more about the beliefs and ministries of the Dorset church. The first class, held October 4, was designed to answer your questions about the history, beliefs, vision, and organizational structure of a Congregational church, and how it is similar to or different from other denominations.

The second class will be **October 25** after worship and will feature several leaders of the church from the Cabinet, Deacons, and Trustees, who will speak about the many ministries of the church and help you find a place to participate. Do you like to sing? We can get you started with the choir. Want to learn more about Kid's Summer Lunch? We can connect you with the leaders of that ministry. Want to help offer hospitality for funeral lunches? We can get you signed up with our Hospitality Committee. Looking for a book study to help deepen your faith? We'll get you on the list for the next study.

If you would like to participate in the October 25 class, please contact the church office (802) 867-2260 or email officemanager@dorsetchurch.org.

News of the Larger Church

Election Day is just around the corner and much is at stake! Remind neighbors, friends, and colleagues of the importance of exercising our right to vote. "Vote with Love"

WARNING!

SOUTHWEST ASSOCIATION FALL MEETING

Pastors and Clerks, please warn and announce this meeting on Sundays, October 11, 18, and 25.

Please join us and encourage your members to come

We'd love to see 3 delegates from each congregation.

Sunday, October 25, 2:30-4:00pm

(registration with fellowship & food starts at 2:00)

🍏 **Apple picking (for your food pantry)**

at local orchard 4:15 (to be confirmed) 🍏

**First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC
3 N Park Pl Fork, Fair Haven, VT 05743**

Theme:

☐ 🍀 **Churches Grow when the People in them Grow** ❤️ 🌱

aka "It's all about discipleship."

We'll also

~vote on the budget,

~discuss use of donated funds,

~hear about our new database,

~and take a Conference Skills Inventory

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Trustees, October 20 @ 3:30

Hospitality, October 22 @ 10:00

Christian Ed, October 25 @ 11:30

Deacons, November 1 @ 11:30

PFLAG, November 8 from 2-4

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2026

PASTOR Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough*

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), Dotty Thompson, Sara McClintock, Maggie McDonough, Judy Dunn, Betty Hazelton, Nora Larsen, Judy Kernodle; Nan Leach, Caroline Sargent, Gail Brodie, Candace Parks, Rich Urso, Barbara Urso, Sunny Velie

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