

Canterbury Community Newsletter

Published for the community by the Canterbury United Community Church ~ January 2023

An evening of wedding mystery ~ with a silent auction ~ awaits you

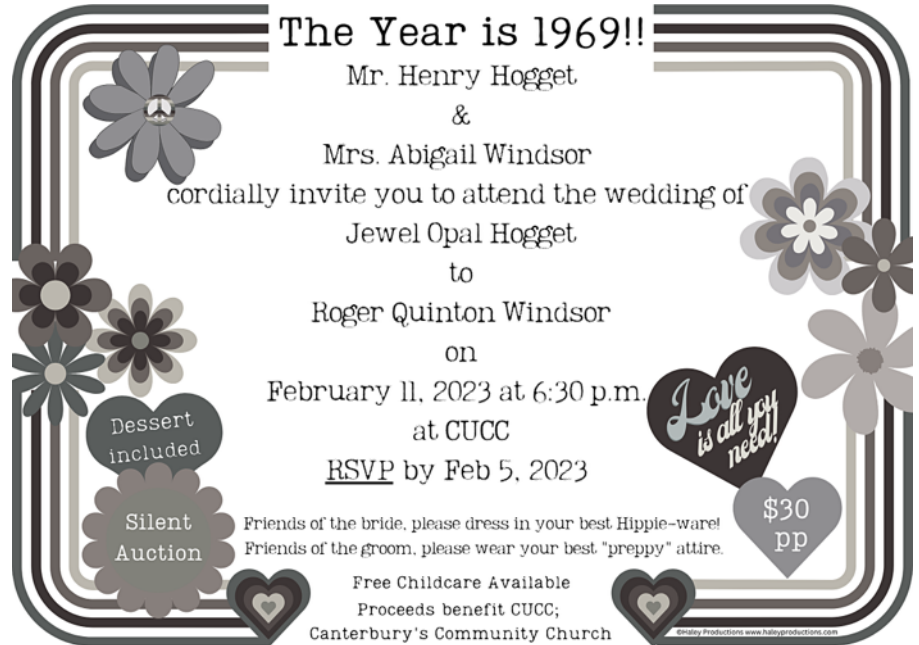
Join us Saturday, Feb. 11, at 6:30 pm for the hippie/aristocratic wedding of Jewel and Roger. They are committed to getting married ... or will die trying. This Masterpiece Mystery Theater will be a humorous and active community "theater" event cast with your neighbors and friends. Enjoy cake, beverages, and music with fellow "detectives" as we sift through motive, opportunity and the physical evidence of deeds done all the while bidding on the would-be-wedding gifts during the silent auction!

Tickets will go on sale Jan. 11 and seating is limited! Come dressed as a hippie or aristocrat, as a single, a couple, or book a table of eight. All proceeds will benefit CUCC, Canterbury's community church, and its service to the town. Watch for more information on the town email and social media. You won't want to miss it!

If you would like to support the event by offering a "wedding gift" that will be part of the silent auction, please send an email to mindy.beltramo@gmail.com.

Please also save the dates for these fun free community events:

Saturday, Jan. 21: Animal tracking at the Canterbury Shaker Village at 1 pm. Take a careful look at animal tracks with experts from NH Fish and Game and find out what might live in "your" backyard.



Saturday, Feb. 4: Ice fishing class on a local pond. Hosted by CUCC and led by experienced fishing volunteers through the NH Fish and Game Let's Go Fishing Program. You will learn how to drill your hole, set up your equipment and maybe go home with dinner! No NH fishing license is required for this one-day event.

Watch the town email, facebook, and notices at the library and store for more information.
~ Mindy Beltramo

A cry for leadership help from the Canterbury Fair

The Canterbury Fair is in dire need of a new generation of leadership. We had a triumphant return last summer after a two-year Covid hiatus but are desperately in need of new blood—the old mainstays are, in fact, quite old. Bob and Rick are intent on the 2023 fair being our last as fair managers; the Book Sale team is, ahem, a bit long in the tooth; the What-Not team needs an infusion of fresh legs and backs; our Crafts/Vendor manager position needs filling immediately to make sure we can line up the craftspeople who are such a huge attraction for the fair.

Our first meetings will start in March but we need to hear from people willing to step up long before that. The fair has a long tradition in Canterbury but if people don't step up and volunteer to help it continue, it won't.

Please help by contacting Bob Drew at 603-848-8303 or Rick Crockford at 603-496-2255 if you want the Last Saturday in July to continue as a cherished memory for their kids and grandkids. Please help!

~ Bob and Rick

Inside

Closed for a week: Elkins Library will close the week of Jan. 16 to rearrange itself. *Page 6.*

The Community Power Committee's second public hearing is Jan. 12. *Page 5.*

The Shaker District budget hearing is Jan. 11 in Canterbury and the 12th in Belmont. *Page 4.*

The filing period for town offices begins Jan. 25. *Page 7.*

Snowshoe racing! *Page 5.*

Local Folks, Here to Serve You ...

CANTERBURY COUNTRY STORE: Wishing everyone well for the coming year! We're open regular hours except New Year's Day (check sign on door). You'll find great local foods and locally made products (and your Canterbury neighbors), as well as a variety of convenience store items. Open Monday-Saturday, 6:30 – 6; Sunday, 8-5. Call us at 783-9933 if you'd like items bagged for pickup.

JOEL'S OIL: Our goal is to keep you warm at an affordable price! Compare and save at newenglandoil.com. Current price is \$4.00 per gallon. Call or text 603-892-5505.

CLOUGH TAVERN FARM sells registered Teeswater Sheep and wool products - fleece, knitted items and rugs. Dried garlic based blends-seasonings, dip, rub are always available. cloughavernfarm.com. 603-731-5574/783-4287


COLD GARDEN SPIRITS: Please join us Saturdays from 1 to 4:30, by chance, or by appointment. For online orders: coldgardenspirits.com. Tastings, sales and a cocktail if you're lucky. Our Pommeau is available at NH Liquor Stores in Concord, Hooksett and Tilton! Email info@coldgardenspirits.com.

GULF BROOK RENOVATIONS: "When Ordinary Just Won't Do." Bathrooms, kitchens, additions, decks and more. Jaime Higgins. 603-496-2414. gulfbrookrenovations.com

CANTERBURY WHOLE CHILD CENTER is accepting waitlist applications for children 3-12 yrs to nature/art based preschool & before/after school care. 603-783-4370 or CanterburyWholeChildCenter@gmail.com for more information.

BROOKFORD FARM: Our farm store is open daily from 7 am to 7 pm. Pre-order for pickup Tuesday through Sunday. CSA subscriptions and bulk meat orders available too. Organic vegetables, krauts, aged meats, 100 percent grass-fed beef and dairy, pastured chicken, eggs, pork and lamb. Find out more at our website: brookfordfarm.com.

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DEWEY SCHOOL: The Dewey School welcomes children ages 3-5 to nature based early learning at the historic Canterbury Shaker Village. Deweyschool.net.

KDD PAINTING, LLC: Reliable experienced Paint Contractor specializing in commercial and residential painting, interior and exterior, and Pressure Washing. Fully insured and EPA Lead Certified. Keith and Craig D'Alessandro. 603-451-1260. Kddpainting.com.

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May the Stars Light Your Way in the Darkness

Dear Friends,

I've been thinking about light—and darkness—in the past weeks. And Robert Frost, who gave us so many images of New England snow and night and stillness. *O Star—the fairest one in sight*, Frost wrote, back in 1916, *the dark is what brings out your light*. This is our time of darkness—and light. The daylight is remarkably short (the sun sets at 4:12 as I write this!), and the night stretches further and further past our first cup of coffee. So we practice our both-and thinking, holding in tension the challenges and gifts of darkness and light. We both wish the days were longer, and we love looking up at winter stars. We



Pastor Becky

both grieve our losses, and we feel grateful for our living. We wish life would go back to the way it was, and we hope to be transformed: to be kinder and wiser than we were last year. It doesn't do much good to curse the darkness, so we light candles and put up strings of lights, and build bonfires. We vent our fear and frustration, and we count our blessings. It helps to recognize that all these are all our authentic responses, and then head outside to check out the stars: Orion is rolling up off the horizon now, and the Ursids meteor shower will peak just about as you read this. The Quadrantids will peak the first week of January. In the darkness, it's easy to find ourselves looking up in wonder.

In so many traditions, this is a season of patience: we light candles, reflect on the eternal, and look ahead. Just as darkness grows most profound, we humans resist with lighted Christmas trees, Advent wreaths, Hanukkah menorahs, Kwanzaa kinaras, Diwali lights (in November), solstice bonfires, and fireworks on New Year's Eve. And even as we strike a match, we realize we can't go completely wild: we're older; we want to conserve electricity, and to keep ourselves and others safe. But we share our lights and let them lift our spirits until the January daylight gains on the night. We can wait a little longer, knowing that change is coming. Life will transform us—we pray for good. Meanwhile, starlight realigns our perspective; it reminds us that we can make it through this, but we'll have to be patient and remember others. In darkness, Robert Frost's steadfast star asks a little of us. It asks of



Is this a friend of yours? She was found in the Center, on the church green. She's safe and warm, living in the church for now! Swing by the church office (in the Parish House) to bring her back to her loving home!

Please join us at CUCC!

Wednesdays, 7-8 in the sanctuary: Stillness in the Center, candlelight interfaith meditation and contemplative prayer. Come for a few minutes or for the hour, as you wish.

Jan. 1, Sunday, 10 am: New Year's Morning: Breakfast potluck and hymn sing in the Parish House. Families welcome! Come as you are—jammies welcome! All are invited to share Communion.

Jan. 15, Sunday, 10 am: Sunday Worship: We remember Martin Luther King and freedom workers. Child care available!

us a certain height. So that when at times the mob is swayed to carry praise or blame too far, we may choose something like a star, to find our way.

Blessing and Peace to you in darkness and light,
Becky

In November, Loudon Food Pantry provided for 10,000 meals for the hungry

In November, the Loudon Food Pantry gave out enough food to 342 individuals for them to prepare 9,956 meals. Of these people, 167 were age 60 and older (49 percent), 65 were age 18 or under (19 percent), and 110 were between those ages (32 percent).

Thanksgiving Boxes: We handed out 60 Thanksgiving Boxes this year. That was 20 more than the previous year.

Closed and Unavailable: Loudon Food Pantry will be closed and unavailable for the holiday and then inventory from Dec. 17 through



Jan. 2. We will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

Do you need food? Call Sue at (603) 724-9731 to see if you qualify. The process is simple and if you have all your paperwork, you'll receive food the same day as your appointment!

We are located in Huckleberry Business Park, Unit D, 30 Chichester Road in Loudon. You can contact us at the phone number listed above, on Facebook at Loudon FP, or on our website: loudonfoodpantry.org.

~ Sue Hough

Before and After School, CES Clubs Are Hopping!

Happy New Year! Canterbury Elementary School students and staff are gearing up for a fantastic 2023!

Our many before- and after-school clubs have been keeping busy. Members of the computer club have been introduced to educational coding programs and are becoming quite proficient! Student Council members sponsored the annual Thanksgiving Luncheon as well as a bake sale to fundraise for I Love to Read Month reading awards. The yearbook club has been working diligently to design our yearbook, including focusing on the design of each class page. Our basketball players have been working on developing and improving their dribbling and shooting skills. We had nearly 30 third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders sign up! Thank you to our volunteer assistant coaches, **Nathan Allard** and **Charlie Krautmann**. We truly appreciate all of your help!

Garden club members worked hard to beautify the front entrance and school grounds this past fall and the members of the newsletter club have been busy interviewing students and staff and creating great content for each issue! CES also has a running club. Runners meet weekly and strengthen their running skills through games, drills and good old-fashioned running. The members of the School Store club have done a great job ordering stock, setting prices and managing sales. Lastly, we also have a homework club. Students attend twice a week and work on their short-term and long-term assignments and projects with a teacher advisor to support them.

The CES PTO has also been quite busy organizing events and activities for the learners at CES. They recently hosted their



Well, that's definitely Santa. Could those be two elves?

School budget hearings coming in January!

The public hearings for the 2023-2024 school budget will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 6 pm at Canterbury Elementary School and on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 6 pm at Belmont Middle School. A deliberative session will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at Belmont High School beginning at 6 pm.

annual Holiday Family Fun Night with a very special guest, Santa! Students enjoyed the opportunity to decorate cookies and make crafts with their families at this special annual event. Thank you to the PTO!

Have a wonderful month ahead!

~ Mrs. Chubb, Principal

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North Country HVAC, LLC, whose ad is above, was founded by James and Mickey Chandler, longtime residents of Canterbury!

All Around Our Busy, Chilly, Wintery Town!

Community Power plan hearing is Jan. 12!

Have you been paying half-attention to the talk around town about Community Power, but not enough to focus on how it may affect you? Well, the Winter Solstice has come and gone, the holidays are all but over, and we've all had a good look at our most recent electric bills—which have virtually doubled for most of us.



The Canterbury Community Power Committee's (CCPC's) first public hearing on the town's draft "Electric Aggregation Plan," on Dec. 15, drew some 20 residents, several of whom

were PV solar owners curious about how Community Power would affect net metering, but virtually all of whom had questions or comments that will inform the last phase of drafting on a plan that will affect virtually every Canterbury resident.

If you're past the holiday rush and ready to focus on your own long-term financial interests as well as Canterbury's near-term economic and environmental prospects, please mark your calendars and join us at 7 pm on Thursday evening, Jan. 12, on the second floor of the Parish House, for CCPC's second and final public hearing on the draft Electric Aggregation Plan.

We will:

- Briefly recap the basics and most important features of Community Power;
- Announce the results of the Canterbury Community Power Survey (deadline Jan. 6);
- Explain changes in the Plan based on feedback from the first hearing and the Survey;
- Ask for final public input on the draft Plan; and
- Review final steps before the Plan is put to a majority vote at Town Meeting on March 10.

In the meantime, if you haven't visited our web page on the Town website, please check it out at canterbury-nh.org/canterbury-community-power-committee. You can click on a link to take the Survey (or fill out a paper copy at the Country Store or the Library), review the slide presentation from our Dec. 15 public hearing, scroll through the draft Electric Aggregation Plan in its current form (subject to further revision after the Jan. 12 hearing), and follow our CCPC meetings, all of which are open to the public.

Thanks for your interest, and we hope to see you on Jan. 12!

~ Howard Moffett, on behalf of
the Canterbury Community Power Committee
howard.m.moffett@gmail.com



Delta Dental Snow or No We Go Trail Series

Saturday, Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and Feb. 18 at 10 am

Snowshoeing is back this winter at Canterbury Shaker Village! This exciting series offers snowshoers the opportunity to hike, jog, or run through the beautiful trails at the village. Registration for each race is \$25. To preregister, visit <https://shakers.org/winterraces>.

Two great programs now available online!

Hugh Fifield's "Recollections of a Country Road Agent," produced and filmed by Frank Tupper, was presented in the town hall as a retrospective program sponsored jointly by the Canterbury Historical Society and Elkins Library in late November. It was attended by a record-breaking crowd of more than 100 people. The historical society has posted it to our website. Just go to canterburyhistory.org and you will be able to view it, as well as Mark Steven's recent program, "The Town is Burning," the story about the tragic 1943 town center fire.

Planning session: The Board of Trustees will discuss their plans for the year in January. Items include program selection, transcription and documentation of our archive materials, online access to our archives collection, reevaluation of our oral histories initiative, space utilization and volunteer opportunities, among others. Stay tuned!
~ Bob Scarponi, President



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Mark Your Calendar for the 2023 Speaker Series!

We will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2, for the New Year holiday.

Exciting Changes at Elkins Public Library: We will be closed from Monday, Jan. 16, until Monday, Jan. 23, for inventory and interior changes. Highlights include a new teen section, new adult fiction area, improved work areas and a new art display space. We are very excited! The staff has been working towards this redesign for months and it's time for us to close the doors, change into our jeans and get it done.

The next Board of Elkins Public Library Board of Trustees is on Monday, Jan. 23, at 6 pm.

As winter approaches, remember that we follow the Shaker Regional School District schedule. If there is no school, we are closed. On days when there is a two-hour delay, we will make it to the library as safely as we can for our regular hours. But it's always a great idea to call ahead.

Programs

The Old Man Boring Book Club will meet again on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 6 pm. Bring reviews of a book that you have read that may interest the group.

Sweet Grass Group: Our next Sweet Grass meeting is on Thursday, Jan. 26, at 5:30 pm. Meetings are on the third Thursday each month in the Meeting Room.

Evening Book Group: Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 6 pm. We will be discussing the book *The Light of Luna Park* by Addison Armstrong. Copies are available at the Circulation Desk.

Murder, Mayhem and Misadventure will meet Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 2 pm. We will start the year with a discussion of the latest books we have read and profiling an older author and a newer one. Also we will lay out what's coming up in the next few months. Please put us on your calendar and come see what we are all about—it's quite a mystery.

On Pins and Needles: We meet by the fireplace every Wednesday afternoon at 2 pm. All levels of crafters are welcome! Come have a cup of something warm and enjoy your visit.

Elkins Café: We will meet on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 2 pm for puzzles. Let's talk together while we put together a puzzle or two together.

Story Time: Join us Tuesdays at 10 for stories, songs and a craft. This program is perfect for children birth through Kindergarten. Come to the library and meet your children's future classmates while fostering a love of reading.

What an exciting year we have ahead at your favorite library. In addition to our regular daily/weekly and monthly programs, Elkins Public Library Speaker Series continues!

Join us in the Town Hall for these exciting programs:

- **Wild Backyard Medicinal Herbs** with Maria Noel Groves. Thursday, Feb. 23, 6 pm.
- **Moved and Seconded** with Rebecca Rule. Thursday, March 9, 6 pm.
- **Becoming Wolf – Eastern Coyotes** with Chris Schadler. Thursday, April 13, 6 pm.
- **Digging into Native History in NH** with Robert Goodby. Thursday, May 11, 6 pm.
- **Summer Reading Programming!** June, July, August. The theme is "All Together Now."
- **Mark Stevens**, historian. Program and date to be announced. September.
- **The Forgotten Forest Primeval – Rediscovering Mt. Sunapee's Old Growth** with Steve Russell. Thursday, Oct. 19, 6 pm.
- **New Hampshire on Skis** with E. John B. Allen. Thursday, Nov. 9, 6 pm.

Our co-hosted programs with the Canterbury Historical Society will be announced shortly.

New in 2023 The Elkins Public Library was recently selected to be a project partner for the Children's Museum of NH's Play-Based Learning for All program. As a partner, we received a Play-Based Learning Kit to be used during our children's programs. Starting in the new year, Elkins Public Library will have an open PBL time on the 5th Tuesday of the month in place of a typical story time. Join us Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 10 am for PBL Story Time to see what it's all about!

Tunes, Tales and Tumbles: Join us Thursdays at 10 am for songs, stretching, stories and more! This program is perfect for our youngest patrons ages birth through preschool. Come enjoy this active and music-filled program and help your children nurture their love for the library, books and their community.

Save the date: Saturday, Feb. 4, is Take Your Child to the Library Day! Come see what the library has planned for this year.

Free tech help! Thursdays from 5 to 7 pm in half-hour time slots, Katie McKay offers free tech support at the library. Please schedule an appointment and give a brief description of the nature of the issue. Katie's appointments fill up quickly so be sure to sign up.

Phone: 603-783-4386 **Website:** elkinspubliclibrary.org
Email: mrsbaker@elkinspubliclibrary.org

Town offices and organizations

EMERGENCY? Dial 911

Police Department: Call 783-0433 for non-emergencies. Concord police dispatch: 228-1010 for non-emergencies.

Fire Department: Call 783-4798 for non-emergencies. Email chief at canterburyfire@canterburynh.gov

Town website:
canterbury-nh.org

Transfer Station: Wed., 4 to 6:45 pm; Sat., 8 am to 5:45 pm. Call 783-9980 or email transferstation@canterburynh.gov

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: 783-0153. Mon. and Wed., 9 to 3; Tue. and Thur. 12 to 7. Email: spapps@canterburynh.gov

Selectmen's Office, Town Administrator, and Assessor's Office: 783-9955. Mon. and Wed., 9 to 1; Thur. 10 to 2. Emails: selectmen@canterburynh.gov, assessing@canterburynh.gov, kfolsom@canterburynh.gov

Building Inspector: 783-9033 buildinginspector@canterburynh.gov

Highway Dept: 783-4123 canterburyhighway@canterburynh.gov

Planning Board: 848-2059 planningboard@canterburynh.gov

Monthly Meetings (Check town website for details.)
- **Planning Board:** 2nd Tue., 7 pm; 4th Tue. as needed
- **Conservation Commission:** 2nd Thurs., 7 pm
- **Historic District Commission:** 3rd Wed., 7 pm
- **Selectmen:** 1st and 3rd Mon., 6 pm
- **Solid Waste Committee:** Monthly on 4th Thursday, 3:30 pm, Library, or as needed.
- **Zoning Board:** As needed.
- **Energy Committee:** 1st Tues., 6 pm

Time to think town budget and running for office!

The regular selectmen's meetings will be on Monday, Jan. 9, and the 23rd at 5 pm. The Budget Committee and department heads will join the selectmen on the 23rd to discuss the 2023 budget. There will be a public hearing on the budget in February. We will post the date and time on the town website, www.canterbury-nh.org.

The Town Office and Town Clerk's Office will be closed on Monday, Jan. 2. Monday, Jan. 16, is a federal holiday. The Town Office will be open but the Town Clerk's Office will be closed.

The filing period for anyone who wishes to run for an elected town official's position is Wednesday, Jan. 25, through Friday, Feb. 3. The Town Clerk's Office will be open on Feb. 3 from 3 to 5 pm.

The new baler for the Transfer Station has been ordered. We are waiting for parts for the electrical upgrade for the installation. The baler will allow us to bale large, commercial-size bales of cardboard, paper, plastic, aluminum and steel cans. The large bales are more likely to be sold to a recycler. Currently we are paying for the loose cardboard, paper and plastic to be recycled.

We had to stop accepting waste oil at the Transfer Station because the oil in the large outside tank was contaminated. The flashpoint was too low for the regular vendor to accept. Apparently, some gas or other fuel was mixed in. The contaminated oil has been removed by a remediation company and we are now accepting waste oil again. We ask that ONLY waste motor vehicle oil be brought to the Transfer Station. There is a significant cost to disposal of contaminated oil. ~ Ken Folsom, Town Administrator

Hike Canterbury: Let's keep it simple

I'm sure most of us would like to live simpler lives. Life is becoming increasingly more complicated. We devise various ways to escape constant consideration of the complications. The ways we do this are too numerous to mention. But it almost seems like our brains have a built-in tendency to head off into forests of complications.

We hunger for simpler solutions to the confusion, often grasping at straws that are illusions of solutions, sometimes holding on to nonsensical thoughts with a firmness that defies understanding. But it's just our desperate brains seeking succor.

All right, this is getting depressing. Help!

Of course song can be a solace. I think my favorite hymn is Amazing Grace. But my mind being what it is, it asks, "What is Grace?" I suppose you know it if you feel it. I think emptying your mind can help it fill with grace. Easier said than done. Trying to meditate and relax I endeavor to empty my mind. I can't do it for long.

But I can simplify what's going on between my ears. Here's a quote from Emerson Pugh that I stumbled on in my recent reading: "If the human brain was so simple that we

could understand it, we would be so simple that we couldn't."

Yet we can tell what makes us feel good. When I was carpentering for a living I'd occasionally have the proverbial eureka moment when I'd realize I was overthinking a construction problem, and a simpler solution would become obvious. Often it was my original idea for the best method. "Keep it simple (stupid)!" I'd think.

Solving carpentry problems requires visual thinking. But you don't have to be a carpenter to do it. It does require imagination, though. You'd have to cultivate a garden of places where your brain likes to go to feel better. And get habituated into going there. The simpler the better.

Amazing Grace.

~ Dave Emerson, 603-783-4403

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Canterbury's Rascals 4-H club is alive and kicking!

Parents, guardians and grandparents with Canterbury kids—if you were at the recent Community Open House for the Canterbury Rascals 4-H club, you and your kids saw cool examples of members' hard work on craft projects, public speaking, media arts, leadership skills, and cooking (yummy grilled cheese sandwiches!) The meeting was well attended by current and prospective new members and families.

The next club meeting will be on Monday, Jan. 9, at 6:30 pm at the Parish House in the town center. There is usually a snack available. If you were not able to make it to the December meeting, no problem. Come check us out and let your kids decide if 4-H is as much fun as we think it is. There is no cost to join, and being a member opens the door to summer camp and college scholarships!

The agenda for Jan. 9 includes:

— Introduction of Club Officers (4-H is run by kids, with help

from trained adult leaders)

— Nomination/election of officers (vice president, secretary, reporter)

— Signups for winter workshops (fun and practical skill-building, which kids can later turn into county-level presentations to their peers)

— Discussion of ideas for new club projects and outings for 2023!

— A fun craft or game towards the end of the meeting

We know kids are busy these days, but if yours are not involved (and having a blast) in 4-H, they're missing out. Our club meets once a month during the school year—your kids don't have to give up sports, band, etc. But adding 4-H to their lives will enhance their self-esteem, independence, helpfulness and future potential. Questions? Contact Kim Scamman at kimscamman@hotmail.com.

Please support the Canterbury United Community Church in its service to the town!

If you feel like the presence of this church in your community would be on your list of the regular elements of your day-to-day that you're thankful for, **please consider participating with us**, and/or offering a financial contribution to the church this fall so

that we can continue to be a vital part of the fabric of this community. If you like, you can designate your gift to help support a specific aspect of our work for which you are especially thankful.

~ Pastor Becky Josephson

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Thank you. We are grateful!