

ANNOUNCEMENTS — March 18, 2012

Welcome to this service of worship. We are glad you have chosen to be with us. Please sign the friendship register when it is passed. If you are a visitor and would like to know more about our church, speak with the pastor or a deacon following the service or call the church office weekday mornings at 465-7797.

Cell Phone Request: During our worship service, please turn your cell phone off or set to vibrate mode. Thank you!

Activities for the week

Sunday, Mar 18	One Great Hour of Sharing special offering	
	Worship	9:00 a.m.
	Worship and Sunday School	10:30 a.m.
	Rainbow Ringers	11:45 a.m.
	Naomi Circle	2:00 p.m.
	Eat at Shorty's Mission Trip Fundraiser	All Day
Monday	Men's Breakfast at Denny's	7:15 a.m.
	Trustees meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Staff meeting	9:00 a.m.
	Church Council meeting	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Adult Study class #11 – final class	10:00 a.m.
	Lenten Soup and Study Program (program begins at 7:00 p.m.)	6:15 p.m.
Thursday	Senior Choir	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Experience the Labyrinth – Hardy Hall	10am-4pm
Sunday, Mar 25	Worship	9:00 a.m.
	Worship and Sunday School	10:30 a.m.
	Confirmands pack Easter food baskets at Brookdale	11:45 a.m.



One Great Hour of Sharing

Special offering taken **TODAY, March 18**

When you make a gift to OGHS, you are actively participating in tending to God's flock throughout the world. Your gift brings shelter, food, water, and medical supplies to disaster survivors. You

help refugees find safe shelter and begin to build new lives. You aid impoverished communities in securing dependable sources of food and clean water. And you help provide medical care and education that strengthen bodies and minds and create brighter futures. *Sharing brings Joy. Use the special envelope in today's bulletin.*



As you may have noticed, our **Lenten Giving Tree** is filling with leaves. Many of the nearly 50 leaves on the tree today signify a Lenten sacrifice made by individuals and families, members and friends of our church family. Some of us have forgone cherished food items (wine, Oreos, ice cream), and some a favorite activity (skiing, a round of golf). Each leaf also signifies a financial contribution to the operation of our church. Our shared sacrifices and special offerings have sanctified (made sacred) these gifts, which will help us to continue our service to neighbors in need. It is not too late to participate. Additional leaves are in the pews or you can pick one up in the church office.

The Naomi Circle will meet **today**, Sunday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m. in Emerson Chapel. Our special guest speaker will be Kathy Olmsted of the New England UCC Women. She will tell us about the New England Women's Celebration event which reaches out to women in the pews to involve them in learning and sharing their faith beyond the local church and Conference setting. All women are invited to come.

Adult Crossings Study Class concludes at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21 with the final session *Run the Race*.

Lenten Soup & Study programs are scheduled for **Wednesday, March 21; and Monday, March 26**. A simple Lenten fellowship meal will be served at **6:15**, featuring a choice of 2 homemade soups, bread and dessert. The video presentation will begin not earlier than but as close to **7:00** as possible. If you cannot join us for the meal, please feel free to arrive at 7:00 for the video presentation followed by discussion. **Those who intend to be present for the meal are asked to make a reservation** no later than the Sunday before each of the programs by signing the sheet posted on the bulletin board or by calling the church office.



Wednesday, March 21 – What Good Is Prayer? This presentation comes from the *Questions of Faith* DVD series in which a number of Protestant, Jewish, and Roman Catholic participants respond to various questions of faith. The responders range from priests to psychotherapists, Old Testament scholars to evangelists, and preachers to sociologists and provide a wealth of insights.



Our Christian Ed Board would like to extend an invitation to the entire church community to experience the practice of meditation and prayer by **walking a labyrinth**. We will open the church, **Saturday, March 24th, from 10:00 until 4:00** for anyone interested in walking the labyrinth. Hardy Hall will be transformed into a space for meditation and sacred journey. Won't you come walk the walk during this Season of Lent? You need only come with an open heart and mind. Guidelines for the walk will be available at the entrance to the labyrinth.

Third Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held **Palm Sunday, April 1**, directly following the 10:30 worship service. Parents, bring your children to Little Nichols field (next to the library) immediately after church and enjoy a traditional Easter egg hunt. This is an outdoor rain-or-shine activity so dress for the weather! And don't forget your camera to record those precious memories.



The March-April issue of *The Upper Room* is available in regular and large print in the narthex and on the shelf outside the church office.

The 2012 Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board outside Rev. Smith's office. Please consider signing up to sponsor the flowers at Sunday worship. Just write your name and telephone number beside your chosen date; then take a reminder/instruction notice with you.

These weekly announcements, the calendar of church activities, and March *Chimes* newsletter are all **available on our website** at www.hollischurch.org. Check it out!



Our 2012 Buffalo, NY Workcampers invite you to our "Fair Share" event **TODAY** at...

Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse
at the Nashua Mall (Route 3, exit 6)

Sunday, March 18, 2012
ALL DAY! Lunch, Dinner, or Take-Out!

Mission Item of the Month: Powdered Laundry Detergent

for the Corpus Christi Food Pantry. Please place all items in the shopping cart outside the church office. Thank you in advance for your generous support!



Financial Update

In order to better communicate information about church finances, we are going to put information in the weekly bulletin and *Chimes* on a regular basis. This is a work in progress, as we need to figure out what information would be most useful in a limited amount of space.

	<u>Giving through 3/14/12</u>	<u>2012 Goal</u>
2012 Pledges	\$ 51,158	\$ 231,658.
Loose Offering	\$ 5,784	\$ 17,000.
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 62,007	\$ 299,446

In Our Community...

The Hollis Town Band invites you to a **Pops Concert** and dessert buffet at Alpine Grove on Sunday, March 25. Come enjoy a lively mix of music including a solo piece sung by church choir member Suellen Davidson. For more information see the flyer posted on the bulletin board.

Stagecoach Productions presents **Lazarus**, based on the gospel of John, at Daniel Webster College Collings Auditorium on March 23, 24, and 25. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.



Easter Flowers

You may place flowers in the church on Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of loved ones. Fill out the form below to place your order. Call Wendy Longland at 465-3466 with any questions.

I would like to order _____ **tulips** and/or _____ **lilies** (please indicate quantity & flower choice) to be placed in church on Easter Sunday.

_____ Total cash/check enclosed at **\$7.50 per plant**. Checks should be made payable to: **The Congregational Church of Hollis** with *Easter flowers* on the memo line.

This plant is given _____ **in loving memory** OR _____ **in honor** of:
(PLEASE PRINT NAMES AS THEY SHOULD BE LISTED)

Your Name: _____
(PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME EXACTLY AS IT SHOULD APPEAR)

Telephone: _____

- I wish my plant **TO BE DELIVERED** to friends or members of our church family in hospitals or nursing homes.
- I WILL PICK UP** my plant(s) *after the last service* on Easter Sunday, April 8, 2012.

Please return form to: The Congregational Church of Hollis
 3 Monument Square
 Hollis, NH 03049

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING:
Monday, March 26, 2012