

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

The Congregational Church of Hollis (UCC)  
3 Monument Square Hollis, NH 03049

November 2013

Volume LI, No.9



The  
Congregational  
Church of Hollis  
(UCC)

Interim Minister

**Rev. Bob Macfarlane**

Pastor@HollisChurch.org

Christian Education Director

**Amy Zapp**

AmyCE@HollisChurch.org

Christian Education Assistant

**Michelle Gehan**

MichelleCE@HollisChurch.org

Church Administrator

**Eileen Widner**

ChurchOffice@HollisChurch.org

Music Staff

Organist

**Edward Scibilia**

Senior Choir Director

**M. Sylvia Eggleston**

Handbell Choir Director

**Janet Sterritt**

**Contact us:**

Office: 603-465-7797

603-465-7099

Visit our website at:

www.HollisChurch.org

The Chimes is published monthly September to May. One edition is published for the summer months. All submissions for the newsletter are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.

## A Message from the Settled Pastor Search Committee

Starting in August, when our committee was formed, we began an effort to better understand the role of Rev. Schulte and the Conference staff during the search process. The Conference will, with our assistance, produce an announcement of the position that will go to all UCC State conferences throughout the United States. We hope this process will begin within the next sixty to ninety days. BUT, prior sending out such an announcement, a great deal of effort must be invested in producing material that describes the nature and size of our church, technical details such as the financial condition of the church, attendance at services, the Christian Education program along with a description of this part of New Hampshire, the Town of Hollis, and our Church Building. All of these facts become parts of two documents; the **Local Church Profile** describes our church and our congregation while the **Brochure** describes Hollis and the local region of New Hampshire. Both the **Local Church Profile** and the **Brochure** will be sent to all applicants.

Our Committee wants to stress that we must represent the wishes of our congregation as we prepare the **Local Church Profile** and the **Brochure**. Consequently, it is essential that we collectively understand the congregation's views. The best way, historically, to accomplish this is for each member of the congregation to complete a **Questionnaire** that asks you to reflect on who and what we, as a church, are.

The more responses to the **Questionnaires** we have, the more accurate the picture becomes. The **Questionnaires** are available at the Sunday services as you come into the church. Completed **Questionnaires** may be placed in a box with a blue folder after each service. The **Questionnaire** is also available at the church office and can be viewed and printed at the church website [www.hollischurch.org](http://www.hollischurch.org). Completed questionnaires may also be returned directly to the church office or via the US Mail.

Finally, we want to remind everyone that our **deadline for completed Questionnaires is Sunday, November 10.**

For the Committee,  
James W. Squires



# From the Christian Education Office

## Confirmation News

### Confirmation Calendar

**November 6** (Wednesday) – class,  
5:00-6:15

**November 15-16** (Friday-Saturday) –  
Overnight retreat at Barbara C.  
Harris Conference Center in  
Greenfield, NH – Leave church at  
4pm; return Saturday ~ 12pm

**November 20** (Wednesday) – class,  
5:00-6:15

**November 24** (Sunday) – Pack  
Thanksgiving food baskets at  
Brookdale. Meet at the Brookdale  
Packing Plant (across the street  
from the store) after the 10:30  
church service.

### **Confirmation Class 2013-2014**

We welcome five students to our confirmation class and thank the mentors who have agreed to spend the year working with them!

<b>Confirmand</b>	<b>Mentor</b>
Megan Cramton	Robbin Dunn
Sam Daigle	Rick Guay
Chaz Rodgers	Sylvia Eggleston
Emily Spooner	Kristen Berry
Julia Stam	Valerie Guay

### **Confirmation Retreat**

The confirmation class will be traveling to the Barbara Harris Center on November 15 and 16, for an overnight retreat with Pastor Bob, Carol Birch, Rick and Valerie Guay. This is a favorite activity for our yearly confirmation classes. They'll have fun, learn more about their faith, each other, and themselves. Please lift up this class in prayer as they begin their confirmation journey.

## The Feather Food Turkey is back!



Our friendly Feather Food Turkey will be visiting each Sunday school classroom on November 10. Once again this year, the children will pull a “feather” from her tail to discover which food item they should bring for our Thanksgiving celebration. On November 24, the children will bring the item they selected to Sunday school for a procession and dedication of the feather food in church. Our confirmation class will include all the feather food donations in the Thanksgiving food baskets they will be packing later that day!

## Children's Offering Envelopes

The Sunday school children have decided to dedicate their offering to the *Live and Let Live Farm* this year. The farm provides a safe environment for rehabilitating horses and people to interact. Throughout the program year, the children will learn about how they are helping some of God's precious creatures.

Good stewardship is also about how we give of our time and talent every day. Parents, please talk to your children about their personal gifts, and encourage them to fill out their envelopes with the care that they share every day of their lives.

## Just a reminder about our church school schedule...

Children in grades Pre-K – 7<sup>th</sup> will usually begin in the meeting house (sanctuary) on the second Sunday of the month. They will be present for a children's message before leaving for their classrooms. We will post a sign each Sunday at the side entrance to remind families of where their children will begin the morning.

## Mission Trip News

Thank you so much for attending our annual Mission Trip Service on October 27<sup>th</sup>. This service not only celebrates the work that our campers do every summer, but also celebrates the amazing Church Family that helps us to get there!

We thank all of you for your continued support and we continue to be grateful that we are able to serve those in need.

We look forward to sharing this coming summer's camp in Shamokin, PA with all of you next fall!

## Youth Group Update

Our Youth Groups are off to a terrific start! For our kickoff gatherings we welcomed 17 Junior Youth Group members and 19 Senior Youth Group members. We shared time together getting to know each other, planning activities, preparing and eating a meal, and playing interactive games.



## Youth Groups

The Youth Groups have also completed a few service projects and kicked started others. Our Senior Youth Group spent a Sunday afternoon cleaning the windows in the Meeting House.

Members of both Youth Groups participated in the Big Day of Serving by traveling to Bridgeport, CT in an effort to improve the community. In November, the Senior Youth Group will prepare a dinner for 30 people at the Ash Street Shelter. And lastly the Youth Groups have started a project to create new crèche figures for the nativity scene.

The Junior Youth Group will gather on November 3 at the Andres Institute of Art for a guided tour and attend a holiday themed gathering at the church in Hardy Hall on December 1. The Senior Youth Group will have an overnight retreat at Beaver Brook on November 1 and 2 and will also gather in Hardy Hall on December 1. Please see the church website for contacts and more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Our Church Records

### Memorial Gifts

*In loving memory of Eva Hutchins and Ruth Coleman by: Susan and William Gorham*

### From the Church Office

The October issue of *The Chimes* arrived in your mailbox thanks to the collating, sorting, and labeling efforts of Nancy Bell, Brenda Gibson, Marsha Joyce, Freddi Olson, Thelma Pollard, Doris Rafferty, Lydia Schellenberg, and Joyce Toli. Thank you to all!



**Daylight Savings Time ends** at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 3. Remember to turn your clocks back!

## Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle will meet in Emerson Chapel on Sunday afternoon, November 17, at 2:00 p.m.

### *Coming in December...*

#### Ladies Society-Naomi Circle

On Tuesday, December 3, the Ladies Society and Naomi Circle members will package cookies for friends and shut-ins at 10:00 a.m.

On December 14, our Ladies Society and the Hollis Town Band will present a holiday concert. Non-perishable food for our church's holiday baskets is collected as "admission." And the ladies sell goodies at intermission, raising funds to purchase perishable items.

#### *Everyone Can Help!*

- Bake and donate a few goodies.
- Join the Christmas Chorus! *No auditions – if you can climb the stairs at the Town Hall, you're in!* All voices needed! Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 pm upstairs in the Town Hall (no rehearsal on November 27). Come when you can!
- Come to the concert. Bring your non-perishable food items to donate and buy some sweets at intermission.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Volunteers Who Count!

The Stewardship Board is looking for a few good counters to count up the offering after church once or twice a quarter. You do not have to join the stewardship committee to count! You'll never be asked to count by yourself, and you'll always have a more experienced counter with you at the beginning. The instructions are posted in the counting room, too. If you think you'd like to learn to count, talk to Darrell Stam, Karen Marino or any member of the Stewardship Board.



# November 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Can you guess who will visit Sunday School classrooms on November 10<sup>th</sup>?</p>	<p><b>Mission Items of the Month:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disposable Diapers in size 3 and 4</li> <li>• Shampoo</li> </ul> <p>For <i>Bridges</i>, an agency that helps victims of domestic and sexual abuse</p>				<p>Senior Youth Group Overnight Retreat at Beaver Brook Friday 4:15 pm – Saturday 12:00 pm</p>	
<p><i>Did you remember to set your clocks back?</i></p> <p>9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – Rainbow Ringers Jr Youth Group meets at Andres Art Institute</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 7pm – CE Board meeting</p>	<p>7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting</p>	<p>5-6:15 pm – Confirmation class</p>	<p>10:00 am – Knitting Group 7 pm – Senior Choir</p>	<p><b>Our Youth Group volunteers</b> provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter</p>	
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – Rainbow Ringers</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting</p>	<p>7 pm – Mission &amp; Action Board meeting</p>	<p>5 pm – Facilities Committee 7pm – Search Committee</p>	<p>7 pm – Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting</p>	<p>December <i>Chimes</i> deadline <b>Confirmation</b> Leave church @ 4pm</p>	<p><b>Retreat</b> Leave Greenfield @ 11 am</p>
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 2:00 pm – Naomi Circle meeting</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 7 pm – Trustees meeting</p>	<p>7 pm – Church Council meeting</p>		<p>10:00 am – Knitting Group 7 pm – Choir</p>	<p>Bring pies to church for Thanksgiving food baskets today or Sunday</p>	
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School <b>Feather Food Sunday</b> 11:30 am – Rainbow Ringers 11:30 – <i>When Pigs Fly</i> bread order pick-up 11:45 am – Confirmands pack Thanksgiving baskets at Brookdale <b>Christmas Giving Trees in Emerson Chapel and Hardy Hall</b></p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s</p>			<p><b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>  Church office closed</p>	<p>Church office closed</p>	



*Save the date...*  
**Saturday,  
 December 7<sup>th</sup>**

Our Christmas Fair is within our sights! We need your help to make this the best fair ever. Here is what we need:

<u>NEED</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
Baking Dog & Cat Treats and a Pet Treat Coordinator	Email scadams@charter.net to sign up and for recipes (if needed)
Bake Sale/Cookie Walk	Sign-up sheet outside church office
Christmas Ornaments, Decorations, Bows and Ribbon	Drop box outside church office
Book, CDs, DVD Donations	Drop outside Pastor's Office
Craft Items to donate	Contact Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt at therry@charter.net or Susan Adams at scadams@charter.net
Gift Baskets for Raffle	If interested in donating a basket or gift certificate for baskets, contact Susan scadams@charter.net or Therry at therry@charter.net
Greens Decorating	Sign-up sheet outside church office
Set up/clean-up/ volunteer on the day of the fair	Sign-up sheet outside church office

Proceeds will benefit the infrastructure of the church, to make it ready for our new settled pastor.

We look forward to working together to make this a successful and fun Christmas Fair for all.

Therry Neilsen-Steinhardt  
 Susan Adams



## **Musicians Wanted for the Christmas Fair**

If you love Christmas music, why not come and serenade us during the lunch served at the Christmas fair on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>? We are looking for vocalists (solo or small groups) and instrumentalists who would love a chance to express the Christmas spirit through music. This would be for ½ hour intervals. If interested, contact Dee Wagner at 465-2562



## **Angel Loft**

We are looking for donations for the Christmas Fair Angel Loft. The Angel Loft is a room where the children can shop for Christmas gifts for their family.

We would appreciate any donations of gifts or trinkets that the children can purchase for their family members. (Some examples, new or gently used items, candles, jewelry, toys, items for dads, cooking supplies etc...)

Donations can be left in the church office. Thank you.



## **November Ringing**

### **Rainbow Ringers:**

Practice: in the Parkhurst Room at 11:30 am  
 Sundays - November 3, 10

Play: at the 10:30 Service on November 17; meet at 10 AM



## Words of Deep Appreciation!

Dear Friends,

Laurie and I are gradually feeling more and more at home in our new house in Mont Vernon and adjusting (somewhat) to a new routine. But we think of all of you often and with much joy and thanksgiving.

Our final two days in Hollis were overwhelming – in a powerfully good way – and unforgettable. I am afraid my words will not be adequate to express to you how grateful Laurie and I are because of all that you did to make us and our family feel special and appreciated.

The Saturday evening potluck dinner and program at the Lawrence Barn was a superb event that gave us the opportunity to relish once more the warm and genuine fellowship that we have enjoyed with you. It was indeed a festival of gastronomical and musical delights capped off by a video presentation that was produced by Carol Birch, that was such a happy and nostalgic celebration of our five years together, and by the hosting of emcee Thom Davies and his “not quite a roast” approach to guiding the evening along to perfection. Besides to Carol and Thom, Laurie and I also want to express our thanks to so many others who helped with the planning and setting up and taking down, who brought food (never had we seen a spread like that) and graced our evening with music and song, including the Monument Square Brass, Dee and Eileen, Sylvia and John O. and Ann and Maddie. Some very nice presents were given to us as well. Among them were a collection of marvelous soup recipes, a mixer, beautiful photos of the town as well as a couple of original paintings of the church by Marilene Sawaf, tickets to one of the final Red Sox games – they won that night and clinched a play-off berth, and a generous check. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Then the next morning came, and many of you were back in the pews and joined by a host of others as well – our 9:00 and 10:30 Sunday morning church families. For your pastor and pastor’s wife, that was a day of hard, last good-byes – at least the end of a relationship between a minister and a congregation that few are privileged to know.

Now another page is turning and you, along with The Rev. Robert Macfarlane and his wife, Diana, are about to write some new chapters in that on-going story of the Congregational Church of Hollis and its mission in the community and beyond. From what I have read in the *Chimes* about Bob and Diana, the church is about to benefit from some outstanding pastoral leadership and care. I am confident all will go very, very well for all of you in this interim period, and that Bob and Diana will know your great support.

Laurie joins me in saying, be well, good friends, and may God’s love and favor continue to bless your lives in countless small and great ways.

Affectionately,  
Rev. Larry W. Smith

## The Church Wants You

The Nominating Committee has been contacting members to fill board and committee positions.

*Please consider volunteering.* We want

to give everyone a chance to serve the church. One strength of our church is the involvement of our members. There are several different types of jobs to fill. For more information and questions contact nominating committee chair, Carolyn Gargas, 465-7463 or [cgargas@cs.com](mailto:cgargas@cs.com).



## World Community Day

Nashua Area Church Women United invites you to celebrate World Community Day Friday, November 1 at Nashua Presbyterian Church with fellowship and refreshments at 9:30 and the service at 10:15.

Sarah Jane Knoy will address the theme, *Walking Through Doors of Opportunity*, and her work with community groups in Romania, Hungary and Slovakia, helping to build grassroots democracy in minority communities.

For information call Bobbie Knickerbocker, 579-0603.

## Hollis Old Home Days

**Needs YOU!** The town of Hollis is looking for a volunteer to chair the 2014 Old Home Days celebration. The role of the chairperson is to manage the overall event. Without a volunteer to oversee Old Home Days, the town will be forced to cancel the event in 2014. For info, contact [info@HollisOldHomeDays.org](mailto:info@HollisOldHomeDays.org) or Carolyn Madden 566-5955.

# Mission & Action News



## Annual Giving Tree Program:

The Mission and Action Board is sponsoring the **Christmas Giving Tree** for needy families in our area. The Christmas tree will be in Emerson Chapel and Hardy Hall **beginning Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**. It will be decorated with ornament tags — TWO on each string.

1. Choose a tag (or more than one!) from the tree.
2. Pull the *second* tag off the string, write your name and telephone number on it, and put it in the basket provided.
3. Keep the top tag. It has the information about the gift recipient.
4. Go shopping! Use the information and suggestions on the tag as a guide. It is not necessary to purchase every item listed on the tag.
5. *Please wrap gifts individually.* This is so the children will have multiple things to open on Christmas morning, and it's a lot more fun to open wrapped gifts!
6. Attach the tag containing the gift request information to your gift.
7. The gifts will need to be **back at the church by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** to give us time to deliver them.

## November Item of the Month:

During the month of November the M & A committee will be collecting supplies for Bridges, a non-profit agency that is dedicated to helping victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. They have expressed a need for **size 3 and 4 diapers and shampoo**. All donations should be placed in the shopping cart outside the church office.

## Recap of Recent M&A Work:

**October Item of the Month:** Freshman care package items will be packed for delivery to students after church services on November 3. Surplus Halloween candy is welcome.

**September Item of the month:** The coat/sweater drive was more than successful! Many bags of coats and sweaters were delivered to Davis Funeral Home.

**The September Blood Drive** collected 10 - 15 pints. Student volunteers will be recruited from the confirmation class and the high school youth group to work the day of the next blood drive.

Shamokin, PA 2014 Mission Trip Crew invites you to order ...



## "When Pigs Fly" Breads

- ~All Natural, Organic, Specialty breads
- ~No Preservatives, Freeze well, Great for the Holidays
- ~Breads delivered FRESH for pick-up on Sunday, Nov 24<sup>th</sup> — just in time for Thanksgiving!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Classic Holiday Breads @ \$6.50/loaf:

\_\_\_\_\_ Harvest Bread (apples, raisins, walnuts, seeds)

\_\_\_\_\_ Six Grain & Pumpkin Seed (organic grains, pumpkin seeds, flavored with honey)

\_\_\_\_\_ Cinnamon Raisin (great for French toast!)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Total Classic Loaves @ \$6.50/loaf = \$\_\_\_\_\_

### Specialty Artisan Breads @ \$7.00/loaf:

\_\_\_\_\_ Orange, Toasted Walnut, & Cranberry

\_\_\_\_\_ Chocolate (taste of rich brownies ~ great for ice cream sandwiches & French toast!)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sub-Total Artisan Loaves @ \$7/loaf = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Loaves ordered

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ Due with order

Please make checks payable to:  
The Congregational Church of Hollis

**Orders due by Wednesday, November 13th!**

The Congregational Church of Hollis  
(United Church of Christ)  
3 Monument Square  
Hollis NH 03049

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 1  
Hollis, NH 03049

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## Thanksgiving food baskets are an “all-church” effort...

**Our children** bring Feather Food of fresh veggies and other Thanksgiving dinner items...

**Our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders** make pumpkin pies...

**Our Confirmands** pack the food into boxes for delivery...

**Our Deacons** deliver the baskets...

Thanksgiving  
Food Baskets



## But you can help, too!



We need **volunteers to bake Thanksgiving pies** – pumpkin, apple, whatever you like! - for the baskets. Please deliver the pies to the church office on the morning of Friday, November 22, or to Hardy Hall kitchen on Sunday morning, November 24.

**Let’s work together to make it a Happy Thanksgiving for all!**