

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

October 2015

[www.HollisChurch.org](http://www.HollisChurch.org)

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**The  
Congregational  
Church of Hollis  
(UCC)**

Senior Pastor

**Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen**

Pastor@HollisChurch.org

Christian Education Co-Directors

**Michelle Gehan**

MichelleCE@HollisChurch.org

**Wendy Wright**

WendyCE@HollisChurch.org

Church Office

**Eileen Widner**, Administrator

ChurchOffice@HollisChurch.org

**Susan Adams**

Sue @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

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*"Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there'..."*

(1 Kings 8:22)



Dear Friends,

What is it that makes a house (or dwelling place) a "home" for you?

For most of us, a house begins to feel like home when we add objects to it (everything from furniture to photographs) that remind us of particular moments in time that were shared with people we love.

In time, the place feels more and more like home because we make memories in particular spaces — meals are shared; important conversations take place; tender exchanges; laughter and tears; anger and joy; moments of strength, vulnerability, misunderstanding, forgiveness and reconciliation ... all these life-making moments happen in our dwelling places, making them our homes.

King Solomon, in his prayer of blessing over the first great Temple in Jerusalem, asked that God's watchful eye might always be attentive to that house of prayer, and to those who gathered there. He prayed for God's own Spirit to reside there, and bless those who came to worship and pray in that space. It was a powerful prayer, full of heart, soul, passion, and recognition of the human need for God and for one another in order to experience wholeness in life.

Hopefully, our homes are places of safety and nurture — sanctuaries where we are truly at ease, feeling loved and accepted despite our obvious flaws. Certainly, that is what we want our church home to be! Such a home environment entails hard work, though, and faithful commitment of many resources over time.

October is traditionally the month when this congregation is asked to reflect on its commitments to the strong stewardship of our mutual ministry. Along with the Stewardship Board, I invite you to think about what will make this house of worship and fellowship more truly a "home" for you — and what might help to make it a life-giving home for others, as well.

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

Tanya

*(see page 3 for the hymn accompanying this letter)*

# From the Christian Education Office

## Confirmation Calendar

- October 7 (Wednesday) – Our first class session at the church from 5:00 to 6:15 PM.
- October 12 (Monday) – Columbus Day trip to Plymouth Plantation.
- October 16 (Friday, Saturday) – Overnight retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Center.
- October 21 (Wednesday) – Our second class session from 5:00 to 6:15 PM.

## Youth Group News!

The Youth Group overnights at Beaver Brook are coming!



**Friday, 10/23, for Junior YG (grades 5, 6 & 7)**

**Friday, 10/30, for Senior YG (grades 8 - 12)**

Space is limited and **advance sign-up is required!** (\$15 per youth/\$25 for two siblings)  
We'll meet at the Brown Lane barn Friday afternoon and return for pick-up Saturday morning. Register by sending email to [youthgroup@hollischurch.org](mailto:youthgroup@hollischurch.org).

## Acolytes Wanted

If your 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> grader is interested in serving as an acolyte during worship and you did not indicate it on your Sunday School registration form, please call the CE office so we can add your child's name to the list. The Deacons will create the schedule and teach the children everything they need to know about wearing the robe, lighting the candles at the beginning of the service, and extinguishing them at the end. This is a wonderful way for our children to actively participate in worship.



## Welcome Back

Rally Day was filled with excitement as we welcomed our new Pastor, Rev. Tanya Rasmussen, and started our new program year. Thank you to all the Boards who stepped up and helped make the picnic such a memorable experience. The children really enjoyed the games, face painting, music, and the chimes with Janet.

## Bible Sunday

On September 20<sup>th</sup> our third graders received their very own Bible from the church. The children received the Spark Bible (NRSV) with a personalized dedication bookplate. We are especially excited by the engaging nature of this particular Bible. The children are encouraged to think about how to apply Biblical lessons to their own lives, and challenged to live a faith-centered life. Removable stickers at the back of the Spark Bible make it all fun and friendly.



## Communion

The 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will receive communion in Emerson Chapel during the 10:30 service on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Fire Drill

During the **10:30 service** on Sunday, **October 11<sup>th</sup>**, we will have our annual fire drill. The alarm will sound and everyone will follow instructions to exit the building safely. Children will be escorted to pre-assigned areas outdoors with their classes. PARENTS SHOULD NOT LOOK FOR THEIR CHILDREN. The children will remain together with their classmates and will be escorted by their teachers back into the building after the all-clear has been sounded.





## Work Camp

## Mission Trip News!

Our week of service in Charlotte, NY in July was truly an inspirational experience for our

campers. Thirty of us traveled by van for about 7 hours to arrive at a local high school...where we set up camp in classrooms, dined together in the school cafeteria and worshipped with over 300 other youth and adult leaders. The week that followed was full of music, service, tears of joy, laughter and for some a renewed faith in God and in others, too. It was a joyful week...and it could not happen without the amazing support that the campers receive from our church family. Thank you again!

You can join us in celebrating our week of service at the Annual Mission Trip Service on **October 25, 2015**. Our youth will lead the service and we will present our famous slide show...which has been created by one of our campers!

### What's next?

Our planning for next year's work camp has already started. We have selected a senior high mission trip (age 14 and above) in Woonsocket, Rhode Island for the week of July 24th thru July 30th, 2016.

We are not yet taking deposits on the trip but will be soon.

## New Church Directory



### Church Photo Directory

The Directory Committee is preparing to complete the new church directory and we need your assistance. If you've not done so already, please submit your completed profile sheet and photo.

Forms and information are available at [www.hollischurch.org/resources/directory-info/](http://www.hollischurch.org/resources/directory-info/). Printed directories will be available for \$10 each or you will be able to print your own at home. If you need a photo taken, have questions, or want to order a directory, please send email to [directory@hollischurch.org](mailto:directory@hollischurch.org) or contact Carol or Nancy Birch at 465-7622.

## Pastor's Letter (continued from p. 1)

Tanya's message to the congregation was accompanied by these hymn lyrics:

### All Are Welcome

a hymn by Marty Haugen ©1994

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and  
all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how  
hearts learn to forgive.*

*Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of  
faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions: all  
are welcome,  
all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Ending Homelessness

David Gilmour encourages you mark your calendars to attend a **forum on Homelessness**, the evening of Thursday, Nov. 12, 5:30 until 7:00 PM at Harbor Homes, 45 High Street, Nashua. This will be the first of a series of forums on Homelessness -- why we have it, how we can end it, how we can prevent it, and who are our homeless? The topic of the first forum is "**Housing First**," a method which is bringing great success in reducing homelessness across our country. As we get closer to the date, you will hear more about the forum.

Harbor Homes and the Ending Homelessness Fund, which work with the homeless in Greater Nashua are about to announce that all homeless veterans in our area have homes. Even with this success, we still there have much to learn and much to do.

### Daylight Savings

Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 1. Set your clocks back one hour on Halloween night!



# October 2015



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mission Items of the Month: College Care Package items</b> Fun, useful or tasty items like... small toys and games, non-perishable snacks, cocoa mix, Silly Putty, Nerf balls, bubbles, paper clips in fancy colors, post-its, flash drives...				10 am – Knitting Group 7 pm - Choir  1		
<b>World Communion Sunday</b> 9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship and Sunday School 11:45 am – Rainbow Ringers 2-4 pm – Apple Festival on town common 4	7pm - CE Board meeting  5	7pm – Stewardship Board meeting  6	10 am – Staff meeting 5:00 – 6:15 pm - Confirmation class  7	7 pm - Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board  8	Our volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter  9	
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School Fire Drill during 10:30 worship 11:45 am – Rainbow Ringers  11	Columbus Day (church office closed) Confirmation Trip to Plimoth Plantation 7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s  12	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting  13	5 pm – Facilities Committee meeting  14	10 am – Knitting Group 7 pm - Choir November Chimes deadline  15	<b>Overnight Confirmation Retreat</b> at Barbara Harris Conference Center  16	 17
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:45 am – Rainbow Ringers 2:00 pm – Naomi Circle  18	7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s 7 pm – Trustees meeting 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting - date changed! 19	7 pm – Church Council meeting  20	10 am – Staff meeting 5:00 – 6:15 pm - Confirmation class  21	7 pm - Choir  22	Junior Youth Group overnight at Beaver Brook  23	NH Conference UCC Annual Meeting  24
<b>Mission Trip Sunday</b> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School  25	7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner  26				Senior Youth Group overnight at Beaver Brook  30	 31

## Naomi Circle

The Naomi Circle will meet in the Parkhurst Room at church on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. We will be working on projects for the November 21<sup>st</sup> Christmas Fair.



## Our Church Records

### Deaths

August 29, 2015

Inez Dorothy Morrison

### Memorial Gifts

*In loving memory of Jean Burns by:*

Judy and Don McCoy

*In loving memory of Inez Morrison by:*

Larry Morrison

Thelma Pollard

Lydia Schellenberg

Judy and Don McCoy

Betty Gondola and family

Christine Trow

## From the Church Office

A BIG Thank You goes to Nancy Bell, Brenda Gibson, Freddi Olson, Thelma Pollard, and Doris Rafferty, for sorting, labeling, and collating the September *Chimes* for delivery to your mailbox.

## Parking for Church

When the church parking lot and spaces around Monument Square are filled, **additional parking** is available in the **church-owned field** across the street. Access the field from the driveway, **but please pull down into the field** to the right (west) of the driveway. Do not park on or along the edge of the driveway. The driveway is shared with Valicenti Organico. Their trucks and vans use the driveway, even on Sunday mornings, and we cannot block or impede their access.



## Music Notes

### Come Ring with Us!

October:

Rainbow Ringers ~ everyone through 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Practice: Sundays, October 4, 11, and 18

11:45 to 12:30, Parkhurst Room

Play: Sunday, October 25

November:

Devotion Chimes ~ 8<sup>th</sup> grade through adult

Practice: working out times, each weekend in November

Play: Sunday, November 29, at both services

### 9:00 Musicians Needed!

The Music Board is looking for people to **sign up for “Special Music” for our 9:00 service** and grace the service with your musical talent. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the pastor’s office, or you can contact Dee Wagner at 603-465-8109, or via e-mail billdee.wagner159@gmail.com.

## Do You Like to Sing?

Each December our Ladies Society (now Naomi Circle & friends) and the Hollis Town Band present a holiday concert, collecting non-perishable food for our church’s holiday baskets as “admission.” A community chorus will perform with the band at the December 12<sup>th</sup> concert.



**Come join the Community Chorus!** This is a short-term 8-week commitment for anyone who loves to sing. *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. **First rehearsal is Wednesday, October 21**, but you can still join even if you can’t make it on the 21st — just come when you can!



# Mission and Action News

## October Item of the Month: Freshman Care Package Items!

Please join us this month in donating items for our college freshmen! Appropriate items include microwavable packages of popcorn, mac and cheese, tea bags and single serving packages of hot chocolate, snack foods such as granola bars. Other fun goodies such as playing cards, fun sticky notes or paper clips are most welcome. This is a great annual tradition and so appreciated by the students. Thank you as always for your generous support!

**Is there a college student in your family?** Please provide us with **freshmen names and addresses** for newsletters and our freshman care package project. **Update college addresses of upperclassmen** so we can send them our monthly newsletters, too. Contact the church office ([churchoffice@hollischurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@hollischurch.org) or 465-7797) with the information.



## Ash Street Shelter

A big **Thank You** to those who have signed up to prepare dinners! Please check for openings in future months. The sign-up sheet is on the M & A bulletin board in the hallway.



Winter is on its way! Do you know of anyone needing assistance in paying for heating oil? (This means oil for heating hot water as well as oil for heating the home). If so, please ask them to contact Coleen Brady at 603-598-8049 or [cbrady27@comcast.net](mailto:cbrady27@comcast.net). Oil is generously donated by our partnering oil supplier, and we purchase additional oil with our Christmas Eve offering.

## September Item of the Month Update

Your generous donations of warm clothing will be distributed by Davis Funeral Home to help individuals and families in need face winter more comfortably. Thank you!

## CROP Hunger Walk



The Nashua CROP Hunger walk takes place on November 1, beginning and ending at Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond Street in Nashua. Registration is from 12 to 1 with opening ceremonies at 1 and stepping out at 1:30. This year's walk features the new route that we began last year with new information and rest stops along the way.

The Greater Nashua Area CROP Hunger Walk has raised over one million dollars in its previous 30 years. Money raised fights hunger around the world through Church World Service and locally through four agencies—Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter, Salvation Army, St. John Neumann Food Pantry, and Corpus Christi Food Pantry. The Nashua Area Interfaith Council sponsors the event.

More information is available at <http://nashuacropwalk.blogspot.com> “We walk because they walk.” And you can even like us on Facebook!

To sign up, see your recruiter (TBD – see M&A members for update) to make sure that you have all the tools you need to be a CROP walker! You can also walk on the web. Just go to the blogspot site above and click on the CROP stop sign and select the right team! If you can't walk, be sure to sponsor a walker, or make a team donation. Watch for CROP Walk week at the used book sales in Hannaford Supermarkets in Nashua and Hudson.

If you can't walk, plan to sponsor a walker. Confirmation class members will be seeking your sponsorship soon!

## **Recent Donations by M&A**

**Church World Service** distributes health kits to areas affected by natural disasters, violence or grinding poverty. Our donation to Church World Service will be matched so that we can prepare twice as many health kits. Various groups in the church will take part in preparing the kits.

We also made donations to **Andover Newton Theological School's** scholarship fund and to **Bridges**, a non-profit organization that provides free and confidential service to victims and survivors of domestic violence.

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## **NH Conference Annual Meeting 9 AM – 4 PM on Saturday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at the Grappone Center in Concord**

Did you know that visitors are welcome to attend the NH Conference Annual Meeting? Our church sends delegates who can vote, but even if you're not a delegate, you can still go! To register, go to [www.nhcucc.org](http://www.nhcucc.org) and click on Annual Meeting 'quick link'.

This year's Annual Meeting will be a day for **Breaking Down Walls, and Building Peace**. We live in restless times. As our neighbors in Missouri, Illinois, Maryland, New York, and across the country push back against the prejudice and bigotry inherent in our culture, we find ourselves on the edge of the conversation. As God's beloved children, we too must rise to meet the challenges of addressing racial injustice, and examining our own viewpoints and prejudices.

The 214th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Conference will be an opportunity for meaningful conversation and **Breaking Down Walls, and Building Peace**. Celebrating our oneness, and examining the needless walls that divide us.

Our keynote speaker will be our General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, Elect, the Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer. Formerly the Conference Minister of the Southwest Conference, Rev. Dorhauer has a D. Min. from United Theological Seminary, where he studied *White Privilege* and its effects on the church.

In addition to the fellowship, educational offerings, exhibits and essential business, this Annual Meeting promises to be a significant moment for **Breaking Down Walls, and Building Peace** as the United Church of Christ.

Let us begin to build peace, together!

## **Christmas Fair News**

The 2015 Christmas Fair will be the Saturday before Thanksgiving, **November 21, 2015...** and we will need your help! Current needs are:



- Someone to take charge of **coordinating** and organizing the baskets for the very popular **basket raffle**.
- Aromatic **whole cooking spices** (e.g. cinnamon sticks, whole cloves, allspice)
- Large pieces (1 yd. minimum) of Christmas/juvenile/novelty **print fabrics and quilted fabrics**



### **• Angel Loft Items**

We will have the much-loved Angel Loft where we turn the Parkhurst Room into a magical place for children to come and shop for small gifts for their parents, and siblings. **Donations of small trinkets, jewelry, family games, and things for Dad** welcome. Items can be **new or gently used**.

- **Gently used books**
- **NEW This Year... Ladies Fashion Boutique**, Featuring some vintage and high end clothing along with Ladies purses and fashion accessories. Volunteers will be needed to act as **Boutique attendants**.

Please keep us in mind as you do your fall clean out. **Items may be dropped off at the church office beginning October 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Look for signup sheets outside the Church office to volunteer to help make this year's Christmas Fair a huge success.

Please contact Susan Adams at 673-3212, [scadams@charter.net](mailto:scadams@charter.net) or Dee Wagner at 465-8109, [billdee.wagner159@gmail.com](mailto:billdee.wagner159@gmail.com) for more information or to donate items.

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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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Hollis, NH 03049

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**The Need is Constant...  
The Gratification is Instant  
Give Blood**

**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**Saturday, October 17**  
**Hardy Hall, 10 am - 3 pm**



Most people are eligible to give blood, and **everyone** is eligible to volunteer!

It is easy to meet donor requirements – at least 17 years old and weigh a minimum of 110 pounds. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

**Volunteers are needed to help with the drive!** No medical training is necessary. If you can volunteer for a morning or afternoon shift, please contact Barbara Amos at [bamos\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:bamos_99@yahoo.com) or 603-864-9728.