

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

March 2016

www.HollisChurch.org

Volume LIV, No. 3



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

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Handbell Choir Director

**Janet Sterritt**

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*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.

*God help us to live slowly: to move simply: to  
look softly: to allow emptiness:  
to let the heart create for us. Amen*

~ Michael Leunig



Dear Friends,

Over the years, and across several cultures, I've noticed over the years that there are Christians who deeply appreciate the season of Lent, and those who just want to skip to the end and get right to Easter. Those who would prefer to stay above the grittiness of penitence and the complicated moments of Jesus' Passion experience (including ownership of how we reenact the behaviors of the disciples still today), and those who have a penchant for wallowing in it along with their own deep sense of shame and responsibility. It's interesting — and, perhaps, instructive.

I think that, in order to nurture personal spiritual development in a well-rounded way, we need to engage the seasons of the Church as fully as we can: the seasons of circumspection and disciplined self-reflection, as well as the seasons of celebration, jubilation, of playful frivolity. Like physical fitness, spiritual health requires balance lest some "muscle groups" become far more developed than others, which arguably compromises overall well-being.

If you're one of those who regularly tends to take penitence to the extent of self-flagellation, then perhaps you need to exercise the important spiritual muscle of grace and forgiveness: after all, that was the ultimate point of Jesus' Passion experience!

On the other hand, if you're one who shies away from reflecting too deeply on the ways in which you reject, or abandon, or betray Christ in your discipleship journey with him, then I suspect you'd discover some meaningful growth by engaging that practice for a season.

Giving regular time and attention to spiritual matters is essential to growth. Just as a budding musician or athlete will not develop their abilities to any great degree by practicing once a week, or a couple times a month, neither can we hope that our own spiritual development will thrive if we don't give it disciplined time and attention. (Though what that time, attention, and practice looks like for each of us will obviously vary!)

*(Pastor's message continued on page 3)*

# From the Christian Education Office

## Confirmation News

March will be a very busy month for our Confirmation students! They will visit Temple Beth Abraham, have two class meetings plus an Easter planning meeting with their parents, pack food boxes, attend Maundy Thursday service, lead the Easter Sunrise service, and host the Easter breakfast in Hardy Hall immediately following the sunrise service.



The Lenten season has begun, and we hope you enjoy this time with your family and friends. Lent is a time for self-inspection and offers us an intentional opportunity to be mindful that we are called to faithful living. Lent lasts six weeks, and includes our Palm Sunday service on March 20th, our Maundy Thursday service on March 24th, and ends gloriously on Easter Sunday. In our Sunday School classrooms, we change the color of the altar to purple to signify this period of faithful waiting and change. Our 4<sup>th</sup> grade class will begin their Communion unit on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Lenten Celebrations for the Family

This year's **Palm Sunday** service will include a dramatic reading of the Passion story by both children of the church and adults. Although all are more than welcome, please be aware that this dramatic reading could be intense for young children.

Our **Maundy Thursday** service will be a silent service and the 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be participating in Communion.

Families are invited to worship together on **Easter Sunday** as there is no Sunday School. However, there will be an activity planned for children up to and including 2<sup>nd</sup> grade during the 10:30 worship, and the nursery will also be open.

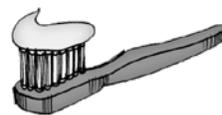
Finally, our annual **Easter egg hunt** will be held on Easter Sunday this year. See details on page 3.

## Children in Service to Others...

For their Lenten service project, the 5th grade class has selected to support the Church World Service's **Hygiene Kits** program. They will be collecting specific items to assemble into kits which are sent to locations impacted by natural disasters, poverty, and violence. The class requests your help to bring in...



- One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no bath towels)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper



- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging)
- Six standard size Band-Aids®

Drop boxes are available in Hardy Hall until Sunday March 20. Tens of thousands of Hygiene Kits are shipped around the world each year and they can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families. Your generous support of their project is greatly appreciated so that we can all make a difference in the lives of others.



### Our Easter Sunrise Service is at **6:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 27.**

The service takes place on the hill at the corner of Route

122 and North Pepperell Road, just south of Phyllis King's Triple Knoll Farm (in the meetinghouse if it's rainy). After Sunrise Worship, the Confirmands invite everyone to Hardy Hall for **Easter breakfast!**

### Confirmation Calendar

**March 2** (Wed) - Class 5-6:15 pm

**March 4** (Fri) – 7pm visit Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond St, Nashua

**March 9** (Wed) – 5-6:15 pm - Easter planning meeting for Confirmands *and parents*

**March 16** (Wed) - Class 5-6:15 pm

**March 20** (Sun) – 11:45 am – pack Easter food boxes at Brookdale

**March 24 (Thursday)** – attend Maundy Thursday service at 7:30 pm

**March 26** (Sat) – Easter breakfast prep

**Easter Sunday, March 27** – lead Sunrise Service at 6:30 am and host breakfast in Hardy Hall after the service

**The Easter Egg Hunt** is scheduled for **Easter Sunday,**



**March 27,** this year. It will begin directly following the 10:30 service. Bring your children to Little Nichols field immediately after church to enjoy our traditional Easter egg hunt. Please make sure children are dressed appropriately as this is an outdoor event, rain or shine.

**Youth Lock-In!**



Mark your calendars! **All kids in grades 5 thru 7** are invited to participate in the SYG-

sponsored overnight **Youth Lock-in** at the church on **Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm** through Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 8 am. Come join the fun with games, activities, snacks and even a pancake breakfast! Sign up with a YG leader or via email to [youthgroup@hollischurch.org](mailto:youthgroup@hollischurch.org).

**Youth Group News!**

All **Junior Youth Group** members are invited to the **Youth Lock-in** on **Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.** (See above) Donations of treats (candy, healthy snacks, small toys/games, books etc.) to fill Easter baskets for needy kids are welcome.

**Senior Youth Group** members are asked to assist with the March 11th



Youth Lock-in; come serve and join the fun! Then, on **Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>,** the **Senior Youth Group** will venture out for a **ten-pin bowling and pizza outing.** Meet at the church parking lot at 4:30 pm with \$20 per person. Sign-ups requested!

**From the Pastor** — cont'd from p. 1

As we wind our way through the month of March, rhetorically and spiritually travelling with Jesus toward the cross, we may be tempted to focus primarily on the moments of triumph and acclamation: a jubilant entrance into Jerusalem, a glorious resurrection. And we definitely *should* embrace these whole-heartedly: without them, we wouldn't have a story to tell!

But we should also sit in attentive awareness of our personal and collective brokenness, our participation in the sin of the world, and our profound need for a Savior. Because only then, will we fully appreciate the hope, the power, the healing of Christ's resurrection — and the resurrection that is promised for us!

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

*Tanya*

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**Mission Trip News**

Our Annual **Spaghetti Supper** is scheduled for **Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>** this year. Please join us at our 5pm or 6:30 seating. During the supper, one lucky person will be chosen as the winner of the Civil War period style **raffle quilt**, too. If you haven't purchased your supper and quilt raffle tickets yet, the order forms are available on page 7. We continue to be grateful for our Church Family's ongoing support of our endeavor.

We will also be holding **a few more fundraisers** before we head out to Woonsocket, RI. We are holding a **Dough Raising Event at UNOs** on Amherst Street on March 31st. Please head over to enjoy an eat-in or take-out meal. A portion of your bill will be donated to the Mission Trip. Just be sure to present the coupon on page 8 of *The Chimes*.

And for those of you attending the Mission Trip in July, we have an extremely important meeting scheduled for April 10th at 6pm in Hardy Hall. We will be reviewing forms and safety at this meeting. Prior to that meeting, you will be receiving instructions for the online registration format.

We are all looking forward to more fundraising and more events leading up to our amazing week of service in July!

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**Ending Homelessness Discussion**

Harbor Homes invites all to a discussion on ending homelessness in our communities, and the behavioral health factors that often lead to homelessness. The event takes place on Wednesday, March 16, 5:30 – 7 pm at Harbor Homes, 45 High St., Nashua.

Hear from the behavioral health care professionals about **Housing First**, and how you can help steer our most vulnerable neighbors toward a home of their own and a fulfilled life. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call David Gilmour 465-2336.

# March 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mission Items of the Month</b>  <b>Medical &amp; Dental Supplies</b> Multivitamins (for children & adults)  <b>Toothbrushes</b> Travel size → <b>Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Toothpaste</b> to support Global Brigades		7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting	10 am – Staff meeting 5-6:15 pm – Confirmation class	7 pm – Choir 7pm – Strategic Planning Task Force	7:00 pm – Confirmation class visit to Temple Beth Abraham	5 pm – Bates College A Cappella Choir Concert
<b>Girl Scout Sunday</b> 9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship/Sunday School 11:45 am – Rainbow Ringers 3:00 pm – Devotion Chimes <b>Mission Trip Spaghetti Supper</b> Seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 p.m.	7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner 7pm – CE Board meeting	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting	9:30 am -Basic Bible for Beginners 5 pm – Confirmation Easter breakfast planning 5 pm – Facilities Committee 7 pm -Basic Bible for Beginners	7 pm – Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting	7pm - Youth Overnight Lock-In  Our volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter	 Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 am
<b>One Great Hour of Sharing offering</b> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:45 am – Rainbow Ringers 11:45 am – Christmas Fair planning meeting	7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting <b>Easter flower orders due</b>	April Chimes deadline	9:30 am -Basic Bible for Beginners 5-6:15 pm – Confirmation class 7 pm -Basic Bible for Beginners	7pm – Strategic Planning Task Force 7 pm – Choir		 10am-3pm
<b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – Confirmands pack Easter food boxes at Brookdale 2:00 pm – Naomi Circle	7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner 7 pm – Trustees meeting	7 pm – Church Council meeting		<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:30 pm – Communion Service Confirmands attend		
<b>Easter Sunday</b> 6:30 am – Sunrise Service — Breakfast in Hardy Hall following the service 9:00 am – Family Worship with Senior Choir 10:30 am – Family Worship with Senior Choir 11:30 am – Easter Egg Hunt	7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner	7 pm - HBHS Tri-M Chamber Music Concert		7 pm – Choir  <b>Eat at Uno’s</b> Mission Trip fundraiser		



## **Mission & Action News**

### **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Sunday, March 13**

One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, severe economic hardship and for those who serve them through gifts of money or time. One Great Hour of Sharing funds make possible refugee assistance, development aid and more. Additional information can be found at [www.onegreathourofsharing.org](http://www.onegreathourofsharing.org)

We ask for your help by donating in the offering on Sunday, March 13. Use the special envelope inserted in your bulletin. Checks payable to the church with OGHS on the memo line.

### **March Item of the Month**

#### **Medical and Dental Supplies for Global Brigades**

Mandy Kabel is a freshman at the University of New Hampshire, and at the end of May she will be traveling to Honduras with a program called Global Brigades. Global Brigades is a 501c3 non-profit organization with the goal of helping communities become self-sustaining in areas such as medical, dental, and public health, clean water, human rights, and many other areas. Mandy will be going on a medical/dental brigade and will need to bring all of her own supplies. We are asking the congregation to help provide these supplies:



- **multivitamins**
- **children's multivitamins**
- **travel size body wash, shampoos & conditioners**
- **travel size toothbrushes and travel size toothpaste.**



Thank you for responding to this need!

### **Heating Fuel Assistance**

Do you know of someone needing financial assistance with home heating or even just hot water heating? Oil certificates are donated by our partnering oil supplier and additional certificates are purchased with the Christmas Eve offering. **We can now also assist those who use propane or kerosene for heating.** Please contact Coleen Brady at 603-598-8049 or [cbrady27@comcast.net](mailto:cbrady27@comcast.net).

### **Actions by Mission and Action**

- A donation to Hudson Community Church whose building was severely damaged recently when an SUV ran into their building
- A donation toward the 5th grade project of preparing health kits to be distributed by Church World Service for victims of disasters

## **Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Saturday, March 19th  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
in Hardy Hall**

**You Can Save Lives!!**

Every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood!

At least 41,000 donations are needed every day! **We need blood donors, and also volunteers to check people in.** (No medical experience needed.)

Can you help? Please call Addie Saunders at 465-2613, or email [roger-saunders@hotmail.com](mailto:roger-saunders@hotmail.com).

Thank you, from children and teens and adults who need help!



### **February Items of the Month**

The nonperishable food items you donated in February to the Corpus Christi Food Pantry of Nashua were gratefully received and distributed to those in need in the community.

Thank you!

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### **Our Church Records**

**New Members ~ January 31, 2016**

Amy Brosnan

Keith Hamer

Pat Harris

Marybeth Keyes

Kristina and Craig Newbold

Cheri and Jason Vanderpool

**Deaths ~ February 3, 2016**

Helen K. Robinson

### **Memorial Gifts**

*In loving memory of Helen Robinson by:*

Don and Ginny Brooks

Eileen and Paul Widner

### **From the Church Office**

Grateful thanks go to Nancy Bell, Brenda Gibson, Freddi Olson, Thelma Pollard, Doris Rafferty, Debbe Shipman, and Joyce Toli for preparing your February *Chimes* for delivery to your mailbox.

## Get Acquainted with Your Bible



**Basic Bible for Beginners** is a two-session class to be offered on **Wednesdays, March 9 and March 16**, in both the morning and the evening: 9:30-11 am and 7:00-8:30 pm. Pat Harris, retired UCC Commissioned Minister of Christian Education, will teach the introductory class as a fun and accessible means of helping adults become better acquainted with the Bible.

Classes are open to adults, as well as to youth in grade 8 and over. Bring your own Bible or borrow one from the church. Sign up for either the morning or evening sessions. **Sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board or contact the church office to register for the class:** churchoffice@hollischurch.org or 465-7797. Let us know us your name, number of participants, and your preference for morning or evening sessions.

## Christmas Fair News

### 2016 Fair Planning Meeting

There will be a Christmas Fair planning & brainstorming session in Emerson Chapel on **Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** following the 10:30 a.m. service. Please come share any thoughts, ideas or feedback that you have for the 2016 fair. We are looking to grow our fair and want everyone's input. By attending this meeting you are not committing to being on a committee (but if you would like to we would love to have you!); we are just looking for your thoughts and ideas. Many of you have already shared some of your ideas with us and we would love to hear more.



### 2015 Fair Proceeds Update

The 2015 Christmas Fair has funded the purchase of a new rug runner in the back hallway to the counting room, a new rug in the counting room and a new stage curtain for Hardy Hall. The remaining balance of approximately \$4,500.00 will be given to Trustees to be put toward the purchase of a storage shed.

## Come & Enjoy Two Free Concerts!



The Bates College Crosstones, a co-ed a cappella group that includes our own **Kelsey Berry**, will present a concert in our meetinghouse on **Saturday, March 5, at 5:00 pm**. The Crosstones are known for their down-to-earth nature, humor, energy, and their quirky performances. They perform songs from all genres, ranging from Motown to pop to classic rock. No admission, but donations gratefully accepted.

HBHS Tri-M Music Honor Society will offer a **Chamber Music Concert** in our meetinghouse at **6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29**. Everyone is invited to come and listen to these very talented high school musicians!

## Ringling Keeps You Warm!

### Devotion Chimes

Practice: 3-4 pm on Sundays, Feb 28 & March 6  
Play: both services on Sunday, March 13



### Rainbow Ringers ~

Practice: 11:45 – 12:15 in the Parkhurst Room on Sundays, March 6, Mar 13, April 3, 10, 17  
Play: Sunday, April 24 ~ 10:30 am service

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### Palm Sunday ~ March 20

**9:00 and 10:30 services** in the meetinghouse  
*Procession of Palms* at 10:30 service

### Maundy Thursday Worship ~ March 24

**Communion Worship at 7:30 p.m.**

### Easter Worship Services ~ March 27

**6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service** on the hill at junction Rt. 122 and North Pepperell Road

**Easter Breakfast** in Hardy Hall after the sunrise service hosted by the Confirmation Class.

**9:00 and 10:30 Family Worship Services** in the meetinghouse with the Senior Choir singing at both services

# Mission Trip Spaghetti Supper & Quilt Raffle

Join us in Hardy Hall on **Sunday, March 6**, for our annual spaghetti supper to raise funds for our summer 2016 Mission Trip to Woonsocket, RI. Supper will be served family style (spaghetti, bread, salad, and dessert) with two seatings — 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm. Tickets for Take-Out orders are also available. Order your supper tickets and quilt raffle tickets now!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Spaghetti Supper Tickets

Seating time: \_\_\_ 5:00 p.m. \_\_\_ 6:30 p.m. \_\_\_ No preference

OR \_\_\_ Take-Out Order

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Adult tickets at \$8.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Senior tickets at \$5.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Child tickets (ages 6-12) at \$4.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Children under 6 - FREE

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_ # tickets    **Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

YES, I would like my name included on the placemat as a supporter.  
Please accept my additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_ and list my name as:

**Deadline for ticket orders — Wednesday, March 2**  
**(Deadline for donor names on placemat is Sunday, Feb 28)**

## Quilt Ticket Orders

**Raffle Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.**

Total \_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets requested

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Please make checks payable to the *Congregational Church of Hollis* with **Spaghetti Supper** and/or **Mission Trip Quilt** on the memo line.

Mail form & payment to:  
Congregational Church of Hollis  
3 Monument Square  
Hollis, NH 03049

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## *Easter Flowers*

To place flowers in the church on Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of loved ones, complete & return this order form. Call Wendy Longland at 465-3466 with any questions.

My 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.

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING:**  
**Monday, March 14, 2016**

Given \_\_\_\_\_ in loving memory OR \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of:  
(PLEASE PRINT NAMES AS THEY SHOULD BE LISTED)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT YOUR NAME EXACTLY AS IT SHOULD APPEAR)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I wish my plant **TO BE DELIVERED** to friends or church family members in hospitals or nursing homes.

\_\_\_ **I WILL PICK UP** my plant(s) *after the last service* on Easter Sunday, March 27, 2016.

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**



Help the 2016 Mission Trip Crew get  
to Woonsocket, RI...

Join us for our  
“Dough-Raising” event at...

## Uno Chicago Grill

593 Amherst St (Route 101A), Nashua

on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

ALL DAY (11:30 a.m. until 1 a.m. close)

Dine-in or Take-out!

Give your server this coupon at the time of  
payment and the Mission Trip Crew will receive  
20% of your check's value.

**UNO**  
**EAT, DRINK & RAISE MONEY!**

Come support a DOUGH RAISER to benefit  
Congregational Church of Hollis  
2016 Mission Trip

UNO® WILL DONATE UP TO 20% OF  
YOUR CHECK TO THIS FUND

**Date:**  
Thursday, March 31, 2016

**Location:**  
569 Amherst Street  
Nashua, NH 03063

**DINE-IN  
or  
TAKEOUT!**

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have up to 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above. Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking area. Valid only for the date listed above.

[unodoughraisers.com](http://unodoughraisers.com)

Picture by Corvino ©2011 0297

Present this to your server