

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

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

May 2016

www.HollisChurch.org

Volume LIV, No. 5



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Congregational
Church of Hollis
(UCC)**

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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 15th of the month preceding publication.

“... God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young [people] shall see visions, and your old [folks] shall dream dreams.” (Acts 2:17)

Dear Friends,

What an exciting month May is going to be! God's lively Spirit is really moving among us, stirring us up, giving us much to celebrate and much to anticipate.

Our Strategic Planning Task Force was pleased with the useful feedback from the two discernment dialogue sessions we held in April—thanks to all who participated! We will use what we gathered to further sculpt the questionnaire we intend to circulate by the end of the month, with more specific questions related to our congregation's way forward. *Please do respond to the questionnaire when it arrives, because every voice matters!*

In addition to the many activities referenced throughout this *Chimes* issue, here's what you can look forward to on the **Sundays in May**:

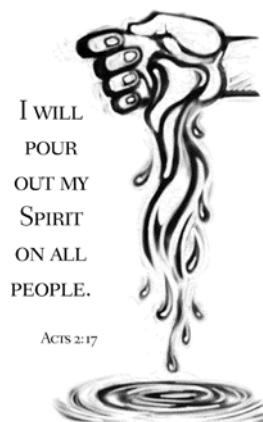
May 1: Communion Sunday, with reflection on *Visionary Living*.

May 8: Mother's Day. Our Sunday School children will be rehearsing for their upcoming Children's Sunday program (on May 22), but they may also find a way to honor their mothers! Also, we'll *hear a summary of the Strategic Planning discussions* that took place in April.

May 15: It's Music Sunday! We've got LOTS of wonderful music lined up, and the services this morning are going to be very special. It's also **Pentecost — the Birthday of the Church.** So, *wear flaming colors* — red, orange, or yellow — to celebrate!

Also, later in the day: if you were a Sunday School teacher or are interested in possibly becoming one for next year, please look for the blurb about the **Teacher Appreciation & Anticipation Party from 5-7 p.m.** — it'd be great to see you and your family there!

May 22: Children's Sunday! The kids and their teachers have been preparing to share the Bible story or lesson they loved learning most this past year, and how it's important today. After the 10:30 a.m. service, we'll all enjoy our year-end picnic. *(Pastor's message continued on page 3)*



From the Christian Education Office

Confirmation News



This month, our Confirmands have the final two classes in their yearlong journey toward full church membership.

Confirmation Calendar

May 11 (Wed) - Class 5-6:15 pm

May 25 (Wed) – Class 5-6:15 pm

Prep for Confirmation Sunday

June 5 - Confirmation Sunday

Worship Service at **9:00 a.m.**

Youth Group News!

The **Junior Youth Group** will be meeting on **Friday, 5/13, at 3:15 pm**, to prepare and cook the dinner for the Ash Street Shelter. Sign-up is required and space is limited.

On **Saturday, 5/21**, the **Senior Youth Group** will be volunteering at the Franklin Park Zoo followed by a visit to Patriot Place and 5-Wits--an interactive adventure experience. Advance sign-up is required.

Both Youth Groups and their families are encouraged to participate in the Roadside Clean-up efforts (with ice cream reward) on **Sunday, May 15th, 1:30-3:30 pm.**

Thank You!! to all who made it possible to have another wonderful Sunday School year. We truly appreciate the time and dedication you share with our church school and children. We are blessed with such wonderful volunteers!



May 22nd is our annual Children's Day celebration!

Our children's service is a wonderful opportunity for you to hear about all of the joy God blesses our children with. Come worship with us at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 22nd and share their joy and enthusiasm.

After worship, **everyone** is invited to stay for our traditional spring BBQ. This annual event is not just for families with children; it's an **All-Church event!** Please bring a salad or dessert. Hotdogs, hamburgers, and beverages will be provided. We hope to see you there!!

Calling All Teachers

It's that time of year again...the time of year when we both celebrate the end of our Sunday School program year, and start planning for next year. The success of our program is due to the dedication and leadership of our teachers and volunteers. Contact Michelle Etchells at metch0222@aol.com if you would like to volunteer to teach during our 2016-2017 Sunday School year.



Vacation Bible School

July 18-22 9:00-11:30am

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus is the theme for this summer's Vacation Bible School. Crafts, singing, worship and games are part of the fun planned for children.

Vacation Bible School will happen only if adults and teens volunteer to help with the activities. Sign up in the Narthex, Hardy Hall or email Pat Harris at patharris.hollis@gmail.com. Let's come together and provide this great opportunity for our youth.





Teacher Appreciation & Anticipation Party

Did you teach Sunday School this past year? Or, are you interested in potentially being a teacher next program year? If so, then please come (and bring your kids!) to a **Teacher Appreciation and Anticipation gathering** — there'll be food and drink, so let's go ahead and call it a **party!** — on

Sunday, May 15th, from 5-7 p.m. at the Rasmussens' new home at 16 Depot Road in Hollis.

Our hope is to hear from past teachers about what they especially enjoyed in their experience this past year, as well as tips for next year. We'd also like to show our genuine appreciation for all you've given across the past year!

And, we want to recruit NEW teachers—so there will be time to ask all the questions you can think of, to help you discern whether becoming a Sunday School teacher for a term might be right for you.

Furthermore, we'll have firm details about Teacher Training—there will be solid teacher training in the Fall for those who might be nervous—and some of our exciting new plans!

To add to the fun and forward planning, there will be **door prizes** and “**signing bonuses**” for anyone who signs up for next year’s program. As any good educator will attest, teaching always assists one’s own learning and growth—so teaching Sunday School is a wonderful, rewarding way to engage your own spiritual growth.

Please let us know if you’d like to attend, by emailing Megan Moffit at: megera1007@gmail.com.



**5 pm on Sunday, May 22nd
Keefe Auditorium,
Elm St. School in Nashua**

Amy Ryherd and **Peter Szczeszynski** have been invited to play three songs as the opening act of **Music Matters**, a charity fundraiser organized by New Hampshire State Senator Kevin Avard (District 12).

Tickets: Students - \$3 in advance / \$5 at the door
Adults - \$10 in advance / \$12 at the door

Proceeds will benefit the music programs and buy instruments for the students of Elm Street School and Nashua North High School. Please come listen to two of your favorite church youth musicians AND support a great cause! Hope to see you there!

From the Pastor — from p. 1

May 29: Happy Memorial Day Weekend—and please note that our **summer worship schedule starts at 9 a.m.** this week!

One final note, to look forward to for *next* month: we’re going to hold our **first annual outdoor service at Rocky Pond on Father’s Day June 19th**. I’m quite excited about this, and hope that many of you will be, too! The Deacons and I will be working on the logistics for parking, etc., and those will follow in next month’s newsletter, so keep your eyes peeled for the June *Chimes*!

Yours in faith, hope, and love,
Tanya

Join the All-Church Service Project!

All of the church family and their friends of all ages are invited to join the youth groups and their families in participating in a

Roadside Clean-up project concluding with an **ice cream dessert** on **Sunday, May 15, from 1:30-3:00 pm**. Meet at and return to the

church parking lot. Insect repellent and a water bottle suggested!

Children younger than 5th grade must be accompanied by a parent.



May 2016



All-Church Picnic ~ Sunday, May 22nd

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship/Sunday School 3 pm – Devotion Chimes | 7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8:00 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 7pm – CE Board meeting | 7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting | 10 am – Staff meeting | 7 pm – Choir 7 pm – Strategic Planning Task Force 7pm – Heroin-Opioid Panel Presentation | | Jonathan Gilmour Memorial Bike Ride & Walk Lawrence Barn Registration 8-10am |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 3 pm – Devotion Chimes | 7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8:00 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner | 7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting | 5 pm – Facilities Committee 5-6:15 pm – Confirmation class | 7 pm – Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting | 3:15 - Junior Youth Group cooks dinner for Ash St. Shelter | Mission Trip Yardwork Day |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Music Sunday and Pentecost Sunday Wear RED or ORANGE for Pentecost! | 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 | | 7 pm – Choir 7 pm – Strategic Planning Task Force | | Sr Youth Group – volunteer @ Franklin Park Zoo and trip to Patriot Place & 5 Wits immersive adventures |
| 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 2:00 pm – Naomi Circle 1:30 pm – All-church Roadside Clean-up with dessert to follow (sponsored by Youth Groups) 5-7 pm – Teacher Appreciation & Anticipation Party at the Rasmussens' home Summer Chimes deadline | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 21 |
| 9:00 am – Worship – Children's Day & All-Church Picnic 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – All-Church Picnic 3 pm – Devotion Chimes | 7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8:00 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting | | 5-6:15 pm – Confirmation class | 7 pm – Choir | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| Summer Worship schedule begins 9:00 am –Worship | 29 | memorial DAY | 30 | 31 | Mission Items of the Month: Toiletry Items (travel size or regular size) | |
| | | | | | ♦ Combs & Brushes ♦ Toothbrushes & Toothpaste ♦ Shampoo & Conditioner ♦ Body Wash ♦ Deodorant | |
| | | | | | for residents of Nashua Children's Home | |



2016 Woonsocket RI Mission Trip News

Canned Goods Collection:

We continue to collect canned goods to bring with us to Woonsocket, RI. Please leave any donations on the counter in the church office. Remember to check those expiration dates ... travel to Woonsocket isn't until late July. Thank you for your continued support.

Yard Clean-Ups

Thanks to all who called early to schedule our Mission Trip Workcampers to come and help with spring clean-up projects on **May 14th**. The Mission Trip Campers are providing **yard cleanup on Saturday, May 14th**, to anybody who is interested (first come, first served.) Campers will be working two shifts that day: 9:00am-11:30am, and 1:00pm-3:30pm. We will rake, pick up, and haul yard debris for you. If you have large tree limbs down, let us know and we will try to make sure the right people and tools are available for you. Reserve your slot early — they are filling up! Contact: Matt Kopser - matt@kopser.net - (603)-325-5746



Special Request Yard Services

If you would like to take advantage of the yardwork offered but are unable to host a crew on May 14th, please let us know if you'd like to set up a time on a different day, and we'll try to accommodate you. Also, we have access to trucks with trailers to haul brush and yard waste to the stump dump – or to take large items to the transfer station. If you have a pile (or if you'd like to create a pile) of yard debris and have it hauled off, let us know and we'll try to arrange a time that works for you. Contact: Matt Kopser - matt@kopser.net - (603)-325-5746

Parking Lot Paving

The paving of the parking lot behind the church and library is scheduled for the **week of May 2-May 5** (timing is weather dependent and subject to change). **The parking lot will be closed during the entire project.** Parking is available around the town common and in the church-owned parking field across the street. Those using the field are asked to drive onto the field; do NOT park on the driveway. The driveway must remain clear for use by Valicenti Organico trucks. Thank you for your cooperation.



Plan to attend this important community event...

Heroin-Opioid Panel Presentation

Thursday, May 5 at 7:00 PM Brookline Event Center
32 Proctor Hill Road, Route 130

Did you know that in 2015, 420 New Hampshire residents lost their lives to a drug overdose? This was more than the number of people killed in traffic accidents that year. In 2014, New Hampshire was one of the five states with the highest rates of death due to a drug overdose.

On Thursday, May 5, the Brookline-Mason and Hollis Republican Committees, in conjunction with the Hollis-Brookline Rotary Club, will present a panel discussion on the heroin and opioid problem affecting our communities and state. **THIS IS NOT A POLITICAL EVENT!**

The Panelists include:

Vahrij Manoukian – Hollis Pharmacist
William Quigley – Brookline Chief of Police
James Sartell – Hollis Chief of Police
Lee Duval – Brookline EMS Director
Sandy Bohling – Hollis EMS Director
Dennis Hogan – Hillsborough County District Attorney
Monica Gallant – Souhegan Valley Safe Teens Chair

Register by sending email to rsvp@brooklinegop.org
Please submit any questions that you would like to be answered by the panel to questions@brooklinegop.org

Mission & Action News

May Items of the Month: Toiletry Items

(travel size or full size) for the Nashua Children's Home which provides food, shelter and educational programs for area children ages 6 -18. They are asking for:



- ◆ combs and brushes
- ◆ toothbrushes and toothpaste
- ◆ shampoo and conditioner
- ◆ body wash
- ◆ deodorant

Thank you for your ongoing support!



April Item of the Month - Collection Continues

In April we collected canned goods and non-perishable items in our shopping cart. Our Mission Trip workcampers will take them to Woonsocket, Rhode Island in July to distribute to food pantries. We will continue to accept canned or non-perishable boxed goods from now until our trip in July. Please place items beside the shopping cart by the CE office. Thank you for supporting our mission trip campers!

April Donation by Mission and Action

We donated funds to the local Meals on Wheels Program and call your attention to the **Meals on Wheels Walkathon** being held at Southern NH University, Manchester on Saturday, May 21. For more information visit www.mealsonwheelswalkathon.com

For Future Support by Mission and Action

At our April Meeting we heard fascinating and informative presentations about two local efforts.

- Traci Weaver spoke about the **Southern Hillsborough County Adult Drug Court**. Did you know that NH has the third highest rate of drug addiction in the US and is 49th in available treatment programs? **Volunteers needed to connect participants with the community and to support them as they transition into honorable and self-sustaining people.** Financial assistance also is welcome to provide individual loans for housing, transportation, education, etc. Traci can be reached at 603-943-8337.
- The second presentation was by Cindy Ryherd about bringing the **Ending 68 Hours of Hunger Program** into the Hollis schools. Some children are signed up for a free lunch program during the school week but don't get enough to eat on the weekends. This program supplies such children with a backpack of food for the weekend.

Our Church Records

Baptism ~ April 17, 2016

Chloe Vaz Langfield, daughter of Geoff and Brandie Langfield and sister of Olivia and Paige

Memorial Gifts

*In memory of Helen Robinson by:
Drew Mason and Susan Lindeberg*

*In memory of Barbara Gilchrest by:
Thelma Pollard
Marty Lancourt
Karen Spinelli
Don and Ginny Brooks
Dunstable Grange #31*

*In memory of Gary Steven Birch by:
Don and Ginny Brooks*

A Note of Thanks

We would like to extend our thanks for all the heartfelt expressions of sympathy shown to us over the recent passing of our grandson/nephew, Gary. Our hopes are that this tragedy will bring about some good and save the lives of others.

Warmly,
Nancy, Dick and Carol Birch

P.S. On Thursday, May 5th, 7 pm at the **Brookline Event Center**, there is a panel discussion regarding the heroin & opioid epidemic that is affecting our communities and state. For more information see page 5 of *The Chimes* or the News and Information posting at www.hollisnh.org.

From the Church Office

Grateful Thanks to Nancy Bell, Brenda Gibson, Marsha Joyce, Thelma Pollard, and Debbe Shipman for preparing the April *Chimes* for delivery to your mailbox.

Last Ring of the Season

Devotion Chimes ~ for
experienced players

Practice: Sundays, May 1, 8, and 22 at 3pm
Play: Sunday, May 29 – one service at 9 am

Welcome to summer!



Summer Worship Schedule
begins Sunday, May 29, when we
change to a single worship service at 9 a.m.
for the summer months. Our two-service
schedule resumes in September.

Calling All Musicians!



Adults and young people, individuals and groups — all are encouraged to **sign up to provide music for summer worship services**. There are plenty of opportunities available on the sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Contact Kirsten Szczeszynski with questions: 465-2324 or kirsten@electriceng.com.

Please check our **Lost & Found items** on the shelves near the office and the coat racks outside Hardy Hall. **Any items not claimed by June 1 will be donated.**



Books – Junie B., Harry Potter, Disney,
beginner level clarinet
Headbands Earmuffs TMNT water bottle
Umbrella 2 pr gloves mittens (child JH)
Sunglasses baseball bat pillowcase
Fleece jackets – gray XL, black XS
Sweatshirts – gray, zip, child L
green, zip, adult M
gray Manchester CC, adult M
White cardigan sweater – child size 7/8
Navy & Gold zip jacket – child size 10

Christmas Fair News



ACTION NEEDED! We are starting early and need your help!! We need:

- Coordinator for Basket Raffle/Silent Auction
- Coordinator for the Ladies Fashion Boutique
- Donations for the boutique...high end or designer purses, accessories, and clothing
- Crafts and craft ideas
- Hosts for craft making/fellowship
- Clear plastic storage bins

A **sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside the pastor's office**. For more information, to offer suggestions, contact Susan Adams at scadams@charter.net, or Dee Wagner at billdee.wagner159@gmail.com, or stop in the church office.

In Our Community...

9th Annual Jonathan Gilmour Memorial Scholarship Fund Bike Ride & Walk

What: a fundraiser bike ride and walk that winds through the beautiful back roads of Hollis — cycle routes of 10, 25 & 50 miles or a 3-mile walking route

When: Saturday, May 7 - Registration 8-10 a.m.

Where: Lawrence Barn, Hollis

More info at www.jonathangilmourfund.org

Nashua Area Church Women United will celebrate **May Friendship Day, Friday, May 6, 2016** at St. Philip Greek Orthodox Church of Nashua. *Finding Grace at the Table* is the theme of the celebration. All women of the community are invited to attend. For more information, see the poster on our bulletin board or contact Bobbie Knickerbocker at 579-0603.

Hollis Hair & Beyond is hosting a **fundraising event** (a cut-a-thon) on **Saturday, June 4th** to raise money to **support Keystone Hall**, a wonderful non-profit substance use disorder treatment center located at 615 Amherst St. in Nashua. You can help by donating a gift certificate for a product or service to be raffled off or by making a monetary donation. Make checks payable to Keystone Hall. Hollis Hair & Beyond is located at 5 Village Market Place, 465-7021.

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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Everyone's invited to the...

Children's Day All Church Picnic

Sunday, May 22nd at 11:30

Come join us in the Church parking lot as our talented chefs grill burgers and hotdogs. We will supply the hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. Bring a salad, casserole, dessert or even a bag of chips to pass. The important thing is that you come and enjoy the fellowship of your church family and friends! *See you there!*

