

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

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

September 2016

www.HollisChurch.org

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The Congregational Church of Hollis (UCC)

Lead Pastor

Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen

Pastor@HollisChurch.org

Christian Education / Minister of
Christian Nurture

Kelsey Berry

KelseyCE@HollisChurch.org

Christian Education Advisor

Amy Zapp

AmyCE@HollisChurch.org

Church Office

Eileen Widner

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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published for the summer months.
All submissions for the newsletter are
due by the 15th of the month preced-
ing publication.

Dear Friends,

I hope you've indulged in the glorious, restorative gifts summer has to offer: a slower pace, opportunities to reconnect with family and friends in relaxed settings, abundant fresh fruits and veg, sunshine and water recreation, and plenty of time hiking, cycling, or digging in God's great playground. Certainly, my family and I have enjoyed all of the above and are immensely grateful for it!

And, I hope you're ready and eager (as I am!) to engage our autumnal routine, which starts with **Rally Day on Sunday, September 11th**. That's when we resume our two-service schedule: 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., with the latter service offering Sunday School for pre-K through 8th grade and nursery care.

We have lots of very exciting new things to introduce this fall, especially in our Christian Education program! We are immensely grateful for the gifts, guidance, and planning that Amy Zapp has been providing since May to our CE program. She has helped to ensure that our Sunday School program will get off to a strong and well-organized start in the fall, and that our teachers will feel prepared and confident to provide their important ministry to our youngest members.

Through the end of the year, Amy will continue to provide guidance, and will also act as a mentor to **Kelsey Berry** — whom the CE Board is very excited to introduce as our new **Minister of Christian Nurture!** Of course, Kelsey is not new to our church: she grew up as part of this congregation. But she recently graduated from Bates College with a degree in Psychology and Music, and we were all excited to discover God introducing Kelsey and this congregation to each other in new ways, with new possibilities. Kelsey has many wonderful gifts, not least of which are her vibrant spirit and interpersonal skills; her passion for service and working to make God's love real in others' lives; her understanding of, and dedication to, the importance of mental and spiritual well-being for all; and her irrepressible enthusiasm about Work Camp/mission trip — about helping others to discover the joy of giving. As part of her job, she will be enrolling in theological education classes, which she expressed an interest in but was not a focus of her undergraduate degree program. You can read more about Kelsey on page 2.

(continued on page 5)

From the Christian Education Office

New This Year ...

Pre-Confirmation Classes

Our Confirmation program is expanding! Our 7th- and 8th-graders will no longer be engaging in a traditional Sunday School curriculum. Instead they will be participating in a **Pre-Confirmation curriculum** to better prepare them for the Confirmation Year. **Confirmation will now take place in 9th grade** with 2017/2018 being the first year for 9th grade confirmands.

LIKE Sunday School, the Pre-Confirmation classes will be taught during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning hour and need to be registered on the same form that you register a younger child for Sunday School. Please contact Kelsey Berry at kelseyce@hollischurch.org or Reverend Tanya at Pastor@HollisChurch.org if you have any questions or need further information.



We need your help!

We have a few openings remaining for teachers, and we would love to have you join in on the fun. We have **opportunities for teachers** to join in on a teaching rotation, as assistants, or as substitute teachers.

We welcome men and women of all ages to join us! If interested, please contact Kelsey Berry at kelseyce@hollischurch.org for more information.

Teacher Training

All of our new and returning teachers are asked to attend one of the teacher training sessions being offered. There are two sessions to choose from, the first is on August 28th immediately following the 9:30 service and the second will be on Thursday September 1st at 7:00 PM. Please contact Kelsey Berry at kelseyce@hollischurch.org if you have any questions.

Exciting Changes in our Christian Education program!

The amazing, gracious and beloved Amy Zapp has been the Interim CE Advisor since May and will continue to provide guidance through the end of the year. We cannot thank her enough for stepping into this role while we were in search of someone permanent.

Welcome



We are very excited to announce that Amy is mentoring our **new Minister of Christian Nurture, Kelsey Berry!** We are thrilled to have Kelsey on board the C.E. train! We love her enthusiasm and excitement and know she will

bring a wonderful new perspective to all things C.E.! Please join us in welcoming Kelsey!

A Few Words from Kelsey...

This past May I graduated from Bates College with a BA in Psychology, and a minor in music. On Sundays I would usually call my mom, Kristen Berry, a little after 12 because she would just be wrapping up her time at Sunday School, and hear about her morning with her kids. Now, I am super-excited to be back and involved in the Church community once more! Over the years I've had the privilege to participate in and teach Sunday school, attend our mission trips, sing in church services, and make wonderful relationships within this community. Having been away at school, I am very excited to return to church and connect with the youth I was once part of through Sunday school, Junior and Senior Youth groups, and other opportunities along the way! I am looking forward to getting to know our church community in a new way through this role!

Rally Day is September 11th!!

Welcome back!! The new Sunday School program (ages 3 through 6th grade) and Pre-Confirmation Classes (7th and 8th grades) will begin soon. Please join us!

We have classes for each grade level, so come and meet new friends or reconnect with the ones you haven't seen all summer. On Rally Day, all children will begin in church with their parents to dedicate the teachers and have Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen inspire us all with her message for the new school year. Then children will be dismissed one grade at a time to their classrooms. We are really looking forward to an exciting Rally Day!!

Rally Day *(continued)*

You may complete the registration form inserted in *The Chimes* and bring it with you on Rally Day; additional forms will be available on Sept 11th if you forget! Following the 10:30 a.m. service, a church picnic will be held to further celebrate Rally Day!

Third Grade Bible Sunday

On September 18th we will celebrate the **3rd grade class** as they come forward to **receive their Bibles!** This is a special day for the class -- *please mark your calendars!*



Acolytes Needed - Calling all 3rd – 5th graders!

Would you like to serve as an **acolyte**? We would love to have you help out! Being an acolyte is a great way to get involved and experience the joy of being part of the worship service. Parents, if your child would like to participate as an acolyte please be sure to indicate this on the Sunday School registration form.



Fire Drill

Just a reminder that we will be conducting the annual fire drill **during the 10:30 worship hour on Sunday, September 11th.**

C.E. — It's NOT just for kids!

Back by VERY popular demand, Pat Harris will be offering an ***Introduction to the Bible*** class this October (exact dates TBD). In addition, Reverend Tanya will be leading a seven-session Adult Christian Education course called ***Living the Questions*** on **Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m., starting on September 14th.**

Epic Vacation Bible School!

“Epic” is the word one fourth-grader used to describe this summer’s Vacation Bible School experience. Anyone familiar with current youth vernacular knows that it doesn’t get any better than that!

Thirty children, from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade, joined 46 volunteer leaders for four warm July days of crafts, worship, singing, outdoor water games, drama, story-telling, mission projects and gourmet snacks. All ages participated in songs and skits based on the Parables of Jesus. Carol and Nancy Birch, ably assisted by Melinda Rolls, led groups in creating over-the-top snacks such as make-your-own ice cream, no-bake cookies, smoothies and rock candy, just to name a few. Janice Boutotte, Laurel Lang and Doreen and Lindsay Rolls helped children make creative crafts to take home, including unique table runners, backpack buddies and beautiful hot rocks. Kirsten Szczeszynski and Finny Rasmussen made sure everyone cooled off with water games. Kim Verrecchia, Wendy Wright and their crew decorated the Meeting House and hallways to resemble the Israel of Jesus’ time. These are but a few of the volunteers and the ways in which they contributed to providing a rewarding experience for the young participants. Vacation Bible School (VBS) is great fun for all ages, from pre-schoolers to teens to seniors. When the time comes to volunteer next year, be sure to sign up. You don’t want to miss this!

Youth Group Update:

Join us again this year for Youth Group! Kelsey Berry, our new Minister of Christian Nurture is looking forward to taking over both the Junior and Senior youth groups this year! Our **Junior Youth Group will welcome grades 5, 6, 7 and 8,** and our **Senior Youth Group will welcome grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.** Kelsey is hoping to hold youth group events on Saturday evenings/afternoons once a month, along with various service projects throughout the year. Events such as an overnight a Beaver Brook, Lock-in at the Church, Caroling during holiday months, volunteering at the Franklin Park Zoo, and many others are all in the works for the year ahead!

Of course, all of these events are made possible along with the help of **adult volunteers!** If at all interested in helping with the youth group this year in any way, **please contact Kelsey!** Any suggestions for activities, interest in the aid in planning, or overall participation is great! Kelsey would love to hear from you, and can be reached by her email: kelseyce@hollischurch.org, or by phone at (603)321-2225).

September 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Rally Day! Sunday, Sept 11 Sunday School for Pre-K thru 8th grade begins</p>	<p>Mission Items of the Month Sweaters, Coats, Jackets (new or clean, gently-used)</p> <p>To support the annual <i>Sweater Weather Recycling Campaign</i> sponsored by Davis Funeral Home</p>		 <p>COAT DRIVE</p>	<p>11 am – Staff meeting 7 pm – Teacher Training 7 pm - Choir</p>		
<p>9:30 am – Communion Worship End Summer Worship Schedule</p>	<p>Labor Day (church office closed)</p>	<p>7pm – Stewardship Board meeting</p>		<p>7 pm - Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board</p>	<p>Our volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter</p>	
<p>Rally Day Sunday 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship Sunday School begins ** FIRE DRILL during 10:30 worship** 11:30 am – Rally Day All-Church Picnic</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting</p>	<p>7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting</p>	<p>5 pm – Facilities Committee meeting 7-9 pm – <i>Living the Questions</i> adult study class (1 of 7)</p>	<p>7 pm - Choir October <i>Chimes</i> deadline</p>	<p>10am – Christmas Fair craft workshop</p>	<p>HOLLIS OLD HOME DAY</p>
<p>3rd Grade Bible Sunday 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 1:00 pm – Women’s Fellowship potluck luncheon at Doris Rafferty’s home</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner 7 pm – Trustees meeting</p>	<p>7 pm – Church Council meeting</p>	<p>7-9 pm – <i>Living the Questions</i> adult study class (2/7)</p>			
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – Enquirers’ Class for prospective new members (class #1 of 3)</p>	<p>7:15 am – Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8:00 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner</p>		<p>7-9 pm – <i>Living the Questions</i> adult study class (3/7)</p>	<p>7 pm - Choir</p>	<p>10am – Christmas Fair craft workshop</p>	

From the Pastor (cont. from p. 1)

Some of you have already experienced the delight of taking an ***Introduction to the Bible*** class with Pat Harris — it was so popular when she offered it in the spring, that she was asked to run it a second time shortly after the first. She's going to be offering it again this fall, starting in October.

I will be leading a seven-session Adult Christian Education course called ***Living the Questions*** on Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m., starting on September 14th; and, for those who are interested in joining our church (or just learning more about it!), we will hold three consecutive weeks of Enquirer's Classes following the 10:30 a.m. service on Sept. 25th, Oct. 2, and Oct. 9th. Prospective new members will join on Sunday, Oct. 23rd.

And, our Confirmation program is expanding! Our 7th- and 8th-graders will be enrolling in Sunday School's new Pre-Confirmation curriculum, which will better prepare them for the 9th grade Confirmation Year (beginning in 2017). Pre-Confirmation will be taught during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning hour. Please get in touch with Kelsey or me if you've got questions!

Finally, our Strategic Planning Task Force has continued to work across the summer, and are preparing to make a presentation to Church Council and to the congregation before the end of the year. We're excited about what's emerging, and looking forward to sharing what we've learned and discerned from all of our conversations and information-gathering—so, watch this space!

Looking forward to seeing you on September 11th...

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

Tanya

Our Church Records

Baptisms

May 29, 2016

Caroline Lynn D'Ambrosio,
daughter of Allison and Daniel
D'Ambrosio

New Members

June 5, 2016

by Rite of Confirmation

Chase Robert Adams
Blake Valentino Batson
Nicholas Zaven Bird
Austin Robert Etchells
Charlotte Rose Gehan
William Charles Morrissey
Lillian Da-Bin Ogren
Eli Emil Rasmussen

July 17, 2016

by Reaffirmation of Faith

Tanya Noelle Stormo Rasmussen
Joel David Stormo Rasmussen
Kristen Alan Stormo Rasmussen
William Phineas Stormo Rasmussen

Weddings

June 18, 2016

Christine Marie Turner and Jason
Langevin

Deaths

May 21, 2016

Sally Jean Cadman

May 30, 2016

Marie Therese (Terry) McKay

July 1, 2016

Lydia Lois Thomas Schellenberg

Memorial Gifts

In loving memory of

Lydia Schellenberg by:

Doris and Dick Rafferty
Frank and Eleanor Whittemore
Warren and Karen Coulter
Janet Anderson / Pitman family
David and Janine Cowell
Roger and Addie Saunders
Bob and Dayna Anderson
Susan and William Gorham
Charles and Cheryl Dancause

Jim Squires
Ann Tucker
Phyllis King
Chris Trow
Isabel Stepnik
Wendy Welninski
Michelle Giuffre
Linda Dwight
Kathleen Dellechiaie
Gloria Nelson Hopkins
Mary Auer
Daniel and Lois Newton
Genia and Brian Sanborn
Janet and Dan Griffin
Thelma Pollard
Cindy Ryherd
Eileen and Paul Widner
James Bernard
Donna Cormier
Len Martel
Robbin and Duane Dunn
John and Joyce Woodrow
Allen and Ginnie Brown
Walter Hemming
Karen Marino
Hilda Tolles
Marc and Jennifer Squires
Elizabeth Armstrong
Dot Hackett
Jim and Judy Seager
Don and Judy McCoy
Rev. Phil Mitchell
Marilyn Wehrle
Dot Pitman
Don and Ginny Brooks
Joan Cole

From the Church Office

A BIG Thank You to
Marsha Joyce, Freddi
Olson, Thelma Pollard,
Doris Rafferty, Debbe
Shipman, and Joyce Toli
for collating, sorting and
labelling your summer
Chimes for delivery to
your mailbox.



Christmas Fair News

The Fair Date is **Saturday, November 19**
(the weekend before Thanksgiving)

People Needed for...

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Ladies Fashion Boutique | Decorating |
| Publicity & Advertising | Raffle Baskets |
| Fair Day Setup | Fair Day Workers |
| Children's craft helpers | SANTA |

Items Needed...

- * **Goods (new) & Services - Silent Auction** (new this year!) if interested in donating, please let us know.
- * **High End Clothing, Purses and Fashion Accessories** for the successful Ladies Fashion Boutique
- * **Craft Items** - Do you have any craft/handmade items that you would like to donate, we would like to hear from you. Look for upcoming craft workshop dates in the weekly bulletin. If you would like to lead a work shop, please let us know.
- * **Angel Loft Items – Small trinkets, family games, jewelry, and things for Dad.** Items can be **new or gently used**. Think small tokens of appreciation. Please set aside for drop off later this fall
- * **Gently used Books puzzles and games** for the always popular book room.

Craft Workshops

Come and work on handcrafted items for our fair! Workshops will be held from 10am-12 noon on:

Friday, September 16	Friday, October 14
Friday, September 30	Friday, October 28

Do you have a craft you could lead a workshop on?
Contact Susan Adams at scadams@charter.net or 673-3212, and let us know!

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

Please contact Susan Adams at 673-3212, scadams@charter.net or Dee Wagner at 465-8109, billdee.wagner159@gmail.com.



Women's Fellowship

Our Women's Fellowship will meet for a Potluck Luncheon at the home of Doris Rafferty on Sunday, September 18, at 1:00 p.m. ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH are invited! Bring a casserole, salad, or dessert. We'll share a fellowship, good food, and discuss our plans for the upcoming year.

NHUCC Women's Fall Gathering

The Fall Gathering of the New Hampshire UCC Women will be in Pelham on Wednesday, October 19. *Children Are Important* will be our theme. There will be a discussion about Robert Putnam's book *American Dream in Crisis*. For more information, contact Dot Pitman at 465-7672.

Music Notes



Senior Choir

Senior Choir begins rehearsals on Thursday, September 1 at 7pm. We are always looking for new "voices". If you love to sing and would be interested in joining the choir, we would love to have you. Speak to either Sylvia Eggleston or any choir member.

9:00 Musicians Needed!

September is fast approaching and we will resume our schedule of two Sunday services. 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 Kirsten Szczeszynski at 465-2324 or Kirsten@electriceng.com.



Our two-service worship schedule resumes on Rally Day Sunday, September 11, 2016. Worship services will be at 9:00 am and 10:30 am. Sunday School will be offered during the 10:30 service for Pre-K through 8th grade.

Mission and Action News

September Mission Item of the Month: Sweaters, Coats and Jackets

Cold weather is just around the corner! Time to check your closets for unneeded sweaters, jackets and coats!



The Davis Funeral Home in Nashua is conducting its annual *Sweater Weather Recycling Campaign*, and your donations of new or gently used clean sweaters, coats and jackets of all sizes are greatly needed in support of their program. The items are collected and donated during the fall months to various agencies in the Nashua area, and will be distributed to individuals and families in need. Please show your support of this terrific program! Even though it's still warm outside...it's not too soon to look through those closets for a few cold-weather items. **The donation deadline is Sunday, September 25.** Please place your donated sweaters, jackets and coats in the cart outside the church office. Thank you, as always, for your annual support!

Ash Street Shelter Meals

Volunteers are needed to prepare the **September dinner** for Ash St. Shelter. This can be a rewarding activity for the whole family! If you are interested, sign up on the list on the hall bulletin board or contact Janet Griffin at hollisjanet@gmail.com or 465-3284.



Item of the Month Updates

Summer - Backpacks for School

School Supplies came in all summer! Because of your generosity many children K - 12 will be helped to get a good start to the school year. Thank you for all your donations!

April

A large collection of canned goods and non-perishables accumulated since April went along with our workcampers to Woonsocket RI to be distributed to food pantries in the area. Thank you for your contributions to this effort!

Red Cross Blood Drive

Saturday, October 22
10 am - 3 pm
Hardy Hall



In just an hour of your time you can help save up to 3 lives. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org. Volunteers will be needed to help with the drive. No medical training is necessary! If you can volunteer for a morning or afternoon shift, please contact Addie Saunders at roger-saunders@hotmail.com or 465-2613.

Support Bridges, a non-profit agency dedicated to helping victims of domestic and sexual abuse.

Join the Kelly Mann Memorial 5K and 3K Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at 9:00 am in Nashua.

Raffle tickets for sale for many wonderful prizes including gift certificates from local restaurants, jewelry, a day at the spa, gift baskets, and much more. Details for registration or sponsoring a runner or walker are at www.bridgesnh.org. Click on Kelly Mann Memorial 5K in the left column.

Nashua Area CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, October 30

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. Currently, well over 2,000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 1,000 CROP Hunger Walks each year. Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs such as seeds, tools, wells and water systems. You can gather together a team or walk as in individual!

For information and registration see this link: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/nashuanh/>

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

Non-Profit Organization
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Hollis, NH 03049

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Everyone's invited to the...

Rally Day All Church Picnic

Save your appetites for the All Church Rally Day Picnic.

Right after church, the grills will be filled with hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone! To make our picnic a fabulous smorgasbord, please bring your favorite summer dish to pass. Salads, casseroles, and desserts are appreciated. The church provides the hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. Bring your favorite dish, your appetite and if the weather is nice, a lawn chair and your baseball mitt or Frisbee so we can enjoy our picnic outside! We are usually done by 1:30 if you need to get to other Sunday activities.

See you at the picnic!

Sunday, September 11

