

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

April 2017

www.HollisChurch.org

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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 preced-  
ing publication.

*Dear Friends,*

The “Hymn of Promise” by Natalie A. Sleeth has been a favorite in several congregations I’ve served, and for good reason. Just take in the lyrical poem:



*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
There’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

This is an Easter hymn, if ever there was one. It’s a hymn about resurrection, the confident hope we embrace and live into as believers in Jesus Christ. At the writing of this letter, we’re less than a week from the official start of springtime, yet still recovering from a major snowstorm. Most of us — well, certainly *I* — would rather not be spreading salt and clearing snow at this point. And yet, as someone pointed out to me earlier today, “We can say, ‘Thank you, God, for the beautiful snow; it will melt to green grass and flowers.’” That, my friends, is resurrection thinking and the demonstration of a Christ-like spirit.

By the time this newsletter is published, it’s entirely possible that we’ll be welcoming daffodils and crocuses — maybe even seeing blossoms emerge on some of our trees; this is how quickly circumstances can change, how rapidly new life can emerge from cold, dark places!

*(continued on page 5)*



# From the Christian Education Office

## Sunday School Central

Our Sunday school kids will continue to meet for Junior Worship this month. We are continuing to learn how important courage is to our lives and how it connects us to God and the people we love. We are also getting excited for our Children's Day service happening in May!

### Here's what to look forward to in April!

Date	Pre-K – 2 <sup>nd</sup> grades (Worship Centers)	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> grades (SPARK)
April 2	Jesus Blesses the Children	John 11:1-45 Lazarus
April 9	Junior Worship	Junior Worship
April 16	Easter Sunday ~ No Sunday School	Easter Sunday ~ No Sunday School
April 23	Spring Break ~ No Sunday School	Spring Break ~ No Sunday School
April 30	Spring Break ~ No Sunday School	Spring Break ~ No Sunday School

### Pre-Confirmation Calendar

Pre-confirmation students are encouraged to attend the full Sunday service on Sundays when there is not a pre-confirmation class. They are also encouraged to be a Scripture Reader on those Sundays (see signup genius email)

- **April 2** –Preparation for Sunrise Service (begin class in Emerson Chapel at 10:30)
- **April 9** – Preparation for Sunrise Service *and* Pack Easter food boxes at Brookdale after class
- **April 16** – Lead the Easter Sunrise Service

### 2017-2018 Confirmation Informational Meeting

There will be a meeting for all students interested in participating in the 2017-18 confirmation class, along with their parents. All students entering ninth grade

and over are invited to join the class. The informational meeting for parents and students will be held in the Emerson Chapel after the 10:30 service on **Sunday, April 2.**

### Confirmation Class



### Children in Service to Others... Children Reaching Out to Children

Each year our 5th grade class selects and organizes a **Lenten service project** to encourage all of us to live in God's ways. This year, as a combined class our 5th and 6th graders have chosen to reach out to children displaced from their homes by danger and poverty. Their wish is to **help immigrant and refugee children** start their new lives knowing the love of God and community. During the month of March you heard from our fifth and sixth grade about ways you can support their very important mission to help those who cannot help themselves...immigrant and refugee children. Their theme **Welcome Kits** is intended to replace those items which had to be left behind by **filling backpacks with things that elementary school aged kids would enjoy.** For example they will collect backpacks; school supplies such as pencils, notebooks and crayons; new clothes for ages 6 to 12; books in Spanish if possible; and small toys, stuffed animals and games. Collection continues through **Sunday, April 9.** The **Welcome Kits** will be delivered to immigrant and refugee children to welcome them to their new homes.



### CE Board Welcomes New & Thanks Outgoing Members

The CE Board would like to extend a warm welcome to its new members: Michelle Gehan and Charlotte Gehan. A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing members: Michelle Etchells, Cindy Ryherd, and Elka Torpey. We appreciate all of the work you have done, and we look forward to another great year!

## Vacation Bible School is Coming!

We are already looking forward to the month of July and are excited to offer a week of VBS again this year! VBS will run from 9am – 11:30am, **Monday, July 17 – Thursday, 20.**

Our theme this year is *The Golden Rule.*

If you are interested in helping out in anyway with VBS please contact Kelsey at kelseyce@hollischurch.org, and mark your calendars for **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, when we will have a **VBS volunteer meeting** at 11:30, after the church service.

## News from the Nursery



The nursery is in need of some items for the littlest members of our church! In particular, the nursery could use:

- changing table
- changing pad & cover
- diaper pail and liners
- swing and/or rock and play
- Bumbo seat
- disinfecting wipes (non-chemical types such as Seventh Generation, Honest Company, Dapple)
- batteries for toys (AA and D)
- CD player and baby/toddler CDs
- toys suitable for babies (under one year)

If you have anything you'd be willing to donate, please email Allison D'Ambrosio at allison.stauble@gmail.com. Thank you!

## Adult CE Classes

**Lectionary Bible Discussion:** Everyone is welcome to meet in the Parkhurst Room on **Monday mornings**, 10-11:30am, to read and discuss the Bible passages that may form the basis of Rev. Tanya's sermon for the following Sunday. Pat Harris facilitates the discussion Mondays, continuing through the Monday of Holy Week, April 10. All are welcome.

## Youth Group News:

The Deacons are looking for youth to help out with the **Easter food basket packing** this year on **Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**, right after church. This is open to grades 5-8, both the junior youth group and Preconfirmants. Please contact Kelsey at kelseyce@hollischurch.org or Kevin Duquette at ks.duke@charter.net if interested!

## Mission Trip News

A **BIG Thank You** to everyone who came and supported our Mission Trip crew at the **Spaghetti Supper** back in March. It was a huge success and a great experience for us all!

On **Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**, we are hosting a **fundraising event** at **Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse** in Nashua. If you like Mexican food, then head on down to Shorty's for an afternoon/evening out, or grab some take out and support our crew! See our ad on **page 8** for details!

## Spring Yardwork & Clean-up

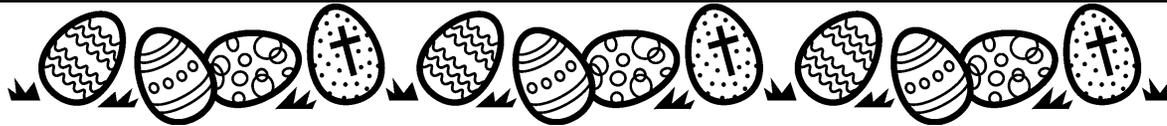
Our workcampers are ready to be your personal **Yardwork Crew!** Call to reserve your time slot on one of our yardwork dates. Contact: Matt Kopser - matt@kopser.net - (603) 325-5746 or Chris Adams (617) 820-2453

The Mission Trip workcampers are providing **Yard Clean-up on Saturdays — April 8, May 6, and May 13.** 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. 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.

We will be working in 3 hour shifts with most likely two shifts on each date. Shifts will be from 9:00 to 12:00 and 12:30 to 3:30 depending on the job and Workcamper availability. **Reserve your slot early — they will fill up fast.**



# April 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – New Member Enquirer class (session #1 of 2) 11:30 am – Confirmation 2018 info meeting <b>Eat at Shorty's</b> Mission Trip fundraiser 2	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8:00 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 10 am – Lectionary Bible Discussion 7pm – CE Board meeting <b>Easter flower order deadline</b> 3	7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting 4	7-8:30 pm – Adult Study <i>The Jesus Fatwah</i> class #5 of 5 5	7 pm – Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting 6		Mission Trip Yardwork Day 8
<b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – New Member Enquirer class (session #2 of 2) 11:30 am – Habitat for Humanity volunteer info meeting 11:45 am – Easter food box packing at Brookdale 12 noon – Mission Trip meeting 9	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 10 am – Lectionary Bible Discussion (final) 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting 10	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting 11	11 am – Staff meeting 5 pm – Facilities Committee 12	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:30 pm – Communion service 13	Our church volunteers provide Ash St. Shelter dinner 14	May Chimes deadline 15
<b>Easter Sunday</b> 6:00 am – Sunrise Worship — Continental Breakfast on the hill after worship 9:00 am – Family Worship with Choir 10:30 am – Family Worship with Choir (No Sunday School) 16	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 7 pm – Trustees meeting 17	7 pm – Church Council meeting 18		7 pm –Choir 20		21 22
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship / NO Sunday School 2:00 pm – Women's Fellowship 23	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast at Denny's 8 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 24	25	26	27	28	29
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship / NO Sunday School New Members join 30	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: space-between;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Mission Items of the Month:</b></p> <p>* Diapers (especially sizes 5 and 6) * Pedialyte * Kleenex facial tissues            * Toilet paper * Paper towels * Clorox disinfecting wipes</p> <p><b>for Marguerite's Place transitional housing for women and children</b></p> </div>  </div>					

## From the Pastor (cont. from p. 1)

Certainly, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, we will be celebrating Easter with great fanfare and rejoicing in the core conviction of our Christian faith: that, regardless of our suspicions in the trenches, God does not forsake us or abandon us in the challenging or harrowing moments of life. Rather, God *accompanies* us through those moments, supplying us with whatever modicum of strength we discover to make it through. And that's not all. When we emerge — victorious and beautifully transformed if we've but managed to yield, "Not my will, but Thine be done!" — the love and light of God will burst the walls of whatever tomb has held us, and we will know what it means to experience resurrection, and eternal life.

If you're going through a Good Friday moment, hang in there — Easter Sunday's coming! Happy Easter, beloved community!

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

*Tanya*

## New Member Enquirer's Classes in April

Think you might be interested in joining this church? Want to learn more about who we are and where you might fit? Please **join us Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, April 9** to enquire, and acquire answers! Pastor Tanya will lead the two 90-minute sessions, each packed with helpful information about the UCC, the Congregational Church of Hollis, and what membership means and entails. Meet in Parkhurst Room immediately fol-

lowing 10:30 worship. **New Members Join: April 30.**



## Holy Week Worship Services

### Palm Sunday ~ April 9

9:00 and 10:30 services in the meetinghouse

*Procession of Palms* at 10:30 service

### Maundy Thursday Worship ~ April 13

7:30 pm Communion service in the meetinghouse

### Easter Worship Services ~ April 16

**6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service** ~ Our Easter Sunrise Service will take place at 6 a.m. at the lovely Triple Knoll Farm, 0.1 mi. south of Ridge Road at 11 Pepperell Road/Rte. 122 in Hollis. The Pre-Confirmation class will lead the service outside on the hill, to the south of the house. Following the service, you are invited to share in a simple "continental-style" breakfast of breads, bagels, coffee, and hot chocolate. We'll gather in almost any weather conditions (bring an umbrella if you need to!), except for gale-force winds and snowstorm. It's a beautiful and moving way to begin our day of resurrection rejoicing—everyone is welcome! Happy Easter!

**9:00 and 10:30 Family Worship Services** in the meetinghouse with the Senior Choir singing at both services (No Sunday School ~ Families are invited to worship together)

## Do you like to brighten another's day?

Then maybe you'd like to join our **Pastoral Care Ministry Team!** We're forming a group of individuals who've discovered the joy of visiting and sharing the gift of caring and presence. If you're someone who has a couple hours a month to share with someone(s) who would appreciate a friendly visit from a fellow church-member, then you should join us on **Wednesday evening, May 10<sup>th</sup>, from 6-9 p.m.** for an informational and training session as we form a new Pastoral Care Ministry Team.

A light supper (soup and sandwich or similar, and beverage) will be provided, so you can even come straight from work if you'd like! **If you think you may be interested, please contact Rev. Tanya (pastor@hollischurch.org), or speak to a member of the Deacons Board by May 8th.**



## Stewardship Moment

In the upcoming weeks the stewardship committee would like to invite the Congregation to share their thoughts on the mission stated by the Strategic Planning Task Force.

*"We think the work of our mission can be organized beneath four headline words: Worship, Welcome, Learn, and Serve."* Please look internally to discover your own reasons. Here are some questions to help you get started thinking. How has our church made an improvement in your life? What does the church mean to you? Why do you support the church? Starting in April, during the service, just before collecting the offering Reverend Tanya will offer the opportunity to anyone who wishes to share.

## Sharing is caring

Service is the outward manifestation of our inward commitment to God's teaching. We believe our church will be strengthened as we consider new opportunities to support the homeless, feed the hungry, heal the sick and care for our neighbors. In December our Congregation donated \$256.80 to Harbor Homes' Gilmour Medical Respite which opened this past November. This donation helps Harbor Homes facilitate quality health care, residential and supportive services for individuals and families challenged by mental disorders and/or homelessness. The Health and Wellness Center provides primary, preventive and behavioral health care as well as dental/oral health care to homeless and low-income adults and children, while connecting them to the supports needed to end their challenge with homelessness. The Gilmour Medical Respite offers patients short-term inpatient treatment to assist in addiction recovery and pre-/post-surgical procedures, among other unmet medical needs in the community. With the availability of this critically needed comprehensive health care, our patients and clients are being encouraged to adopt healthy lifestyles, and also have the support they need in order to maintain these positive changes. Visit the website [www.harborhomes.org](http://www.harborhomes.org) for more information.

## Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship will meet on Sunday, April 23, 2017, at 2 PM at the church. We will have a most interesting speaker. Lorraine Schell will tell us of her experiences serving on the hospital ship Mercy off the coast of Africa.

## Music Notes

### Ring For Spring



Anyone interested in playing on Sunday, April 30 – any skill level – We will practice every weekend in April. Please contact Janet Sterritt for practice times:

[janetsterritt@gmail.com](mailto:janetsterritt@gmail.com).

### May 14<sup>th</sup> Music Sunday



*Attention singers and musicians of all varieties!*

We are looking for folks with a love of music to join us to *Make a Joyful Noise...* as part of our Music Sunday May 14th. Since this is a special Sunday for both music and

Mothers, we would love to have music that reflects the gifts of "music as praise" and the gifts that our mothers bring to our lives. **We need musicians for both the 9:00am and 10:30am services.** If you are interested in participating, please contact Beth Harper at [blharper@tds.net](mailto:blharper@tds.net) or (603)320-1257.

## From the Church Office

*Grateful Thanks* go to Nancy Bell, Marsha Joyce, Freddi Olson, Thelma Pollard, Doris Rafferty, Debbe Shipman and Joyce Toli for preparing your March *Chimes* for mailing.

## Our Church Records

### Deaths

February 24, 2017

Florine Broden

### Memorial Donations

*In loving memory of Hilda Tolles to support the Mission Trip workcampers by:*

Thelma and Ed Wigfield

Freddi Olson

Debbe Shipman

Dot Pitman

Henry Goodwin

## Mission & Action News

**April Items of the Month** will support **Marguerite's Place** of Nashua which provides transitional housing for women and children in crisis. They are in need of:

- \* Diapers (especially sizes 5 and 6) \* Pedialyte
- \* Kleenex facial tissues \* Toilet paper
- \* Paper towels \* Clorox disinfecting wipes



Please place items in the shopping cart in front of the office.  
Thank you for your generosity!

### **An Opportunity to Volunteer with Habitat for Humanity!**

Participate in a Nashua Habitat for Humanity project on **Saturday, June 17**. Volunteers age 16+ are welcome. Tools will be provided. Come to an **information meeting immediately after church on Sunday, April 9**. If you cannot make the information meeting but are interested in learning more, contact Cindy Ryherd at [cindy@ryherd.com](mailto:cindy@ryherd.com).

### **Heating Fuel Assistance**

Winter is still with us. We have funding available for oil, propane and kerosene fuel for heating and hot water. If you know of anyone needing this assistance, please contact Coleen Brady at [cbrady27@comcast.net](mailto:cbrady27@comcast.net) or 603-598-8049.

### **Ash St. Shelter Dinners**

The church provides a dinner serving 15 - 20 people to the Ash St. Shelter on the 2nd Friday of every month. The volunteer sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the pastor's office Thank you for your ongoing support!

### **Donations by Mission and Action**

- **Bridges** - assist and shelter the victims of domestic and sexual abuse.
- **Safe Stations** - promptly serves those who are seeking treatment and recovery from drugs and substance misuse.
- **St. John Neumann Food Pantry** - serves the greater Nashua community with food and household items
- **Fifth & Sixth grade Lenten project** - provides some basic necessities for refugees

## **Easter Flowers**



You may place flowers in the church on Easter Sunday in memory or in honor of loved ones. Fill out the form below to place your order. Call Wendy Longland at 465-3466 with any questions.

I would like to 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 payable to: **The Congregational Church of Hollis** with *Easter flowers* on the memo line.

This plant is given \_\_\_\_\_ **in loving memory**

**OR** \_\_\_\_\_ **in honor of:**

(PRINT NAMES EXACTLY AS THEY SHOULD BE LISTED)

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ **I WILL PICK UP** my plant(s) *after the last service* on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017.

Return form to: The Congregational Church of Hollis  
3 Monument Square, Hollis, NH 03049

**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING:**  
**Monday, April 3, 2017**



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**

**Mission Trip 2017 is Raising FUNds with Shorty's Fair Share Program**

*Join Us at Shorty's on Sunday, April 2!*

# ★ **Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse** ★

at the Nashua Mall (Route 3, exit 6)

**Sunday, April 2, 2017**

**ALL DAY! Lunch, Dinner, or Take-Out!**

Please be sure to tell your server that you're there on our behalf, and **put your itemized receipt in the basket at the hostess stand.** We will receive 15% of the total food sales.

