

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

March 2017

www.HollisChurch.org

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of Hollis (UCC)**

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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,*

**March 1st is Ash Wednesday**

— the date on which we  
commence on our annual 40-  
day (plus six Sundays) journey  
with Jesus toward the crucifixion. This year, we will hold an  
**Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m.**, during which I will invite  
participants to reflect on things they'd like to leave behind them,  
as we intentionally move forward and deeper across the Season of  
Lent, in our trust in God to make all things new.



The Church's liturgical year offers a variety of ways and seasons  
through which to become more familiar with our Christian story and  
personal faith experience. Advent and Lent are, for many, seasons  
during which extra-close attention is paid to their spiritual life.  
Sometimes, the best way to get more familiar with our own religious  
tradition is to also learn about another tradition. The act of compar-  
ing and contrasting can make us more aware of what we appreciate  
about our own tradition and narratives, while also deepening our un-  
derstanding and appreciation of those who differ from us.

Jesus was clear about his own Jewish identity; he knew the Jewish  
scriptures intimately, and they shaped his understanding of God,  
even as he transformed how they were often understood. Still, he  
reached out to people of other faiths and religious backgrounds, and  
embraced them as bearers of God's spirit and life as well. He was  
not fearful of any, but instead demonstrated the power of love by  
reaching out with curiosity and a desire to know others, which inevi-  
tably became part of his healing ministry.

Today, there is a lot of misinformation, confusion, and fear about  
Islam, and our Muslim sisters and brothers of faith. Much of that is  
directly related to atrocious acts of terror that have been perpetrated  
by individuals who claim to be Muslim, but are really radicalized  
individuals who warp and manipulate the teachings of the Muslim  
faith in much the same way as the KKK has done to Christian teach-  
ings. In seeking and sharing deeper understanding, we become more  
conformed to the image and life of Jesus Christ.

*(continued on page 5)*

# From the Christian Education Office

## Sunday School Central

In February, our kids learned how it takes COURAGE to do what is right and how Jesus taught about anger during Junior Worship on February 12th.

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

Date	Pre-K – 2 <sup>nd</sup> grades (Worship Centers)	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> grades (SPARK)
March 5	NO Sunday School	NO Sunday School
March 12	Junior Worship	Junior Worship
March 19	Epiphany Eyes	John 4:5-42 Woman at the Well
March 26	The Good Shepherd and the Wolf	John 9:1-41 Pool of Siloam

### 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)

- **March 5** – No Sunday class (communion Sunday)
- **March 12** – *The Holy Spirit*
- **March 19** – No Sunday class.
- **March 26** – Old South Church



### 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.**

**The Lenten season** begins this month, 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 April 9th, ending 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.



### 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
- Bumby 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 (less than one year)

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

## 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 will be hearing 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. The *Welcome Kits* will be delivered to immigrant and refugee children to welcome them to their new homes.

## Youth Group News:

The Junior Youth Group had a great turn out for the Lock-In back in February! In March, there will be a

### **St. Patrick's Day Game Night**

happening in Hardy Hall from **5-6:30 pm on Friday, March 17**. Brush up on your trivia and St. Patrick's Day knowledge, for a game of **Jeopardy!** **Pizza** will be included, and some fun **prizes** at the end of the game!



## 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 every Monday in March, continuing through the Monday of Holy Week, April 10. Rev. Tanya will lead the group for two weeks in March and will make special guest appearances as her schedule allows. All are welcome.

**An Adult C.E. Course** (also open to teens):

### **The Jesus Fatwah: Love Your Muslim Neighbor As Yourself.**

Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m., March 8-April 5

“Much of what passes as information about Islam is weed-like disinformation rooted in stereotype and watered by fear. In *The Jesus Fatwah: Love Your Muslim Neighbor As Yourself*, Islamic and Christian scholars offer reliable information about what Muslims believe, how they live out their faith, and how we all can be about building relationships across the lines of faith. Opportunities are made to consider powerful connections between Muslim and Christian faith.”

March 8 - Session 1: Islam 101: In Which We Tell You

Some of What You Need to Know About Islam.

March 15 - Session 2: Misconceptions about Islam: In Which

We Help You Adjust Your Malarkey Filter.

March 22 - Session 3: Islam in America: In Which We Intro-

duce You to People Who Love America and Pray Towards Mecca.

March 29 - Session 4: Making Connections, Part 1: In Which

Non-Muslims Make a Case.

April 5 - Session 5: Making Connections, Part 2: In Which

Muslims Have Their Say.

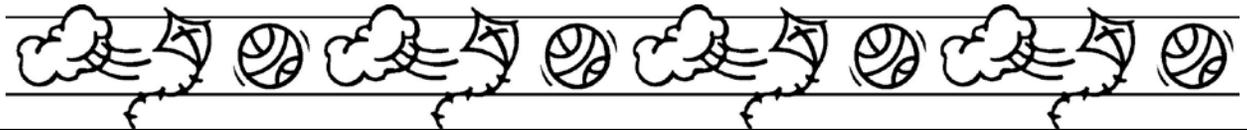
**Please sign-up** either by emailing Rev. Tanya (pastor@hollischurch.org), or on the list on the notice board near the church offices.

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## **From the Church Office**

Many Thanks go to Nancy Bell, Brenda Gibson, Marsha Joyce, Thelma Pollard, Doris Rafferty, Debbe Shipman and Joyce Toli for preparing your February *Chimes* for mailing. Your work is greatly appreciated!

# March 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p><b>Mission Items of the Month: Food Items</b>  <b>for Nashua's End 68 Hours of Hunger program</b>            * Canned pasta * Peanut Butter * Jelly * Crackers            * Cans of Tuna/Chicken/Ham * Mayonnaise            * Soups (meaty!) * Canned Fruit * Nutrition Bars</p>			 7:00 pm Worship service			
9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship NO Sunday School Deacons Fund receives today's Loose Offering	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	7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting	11 am – Staff meeting 5 pm – Facilities Committee 7-8:30 pm – Adult Study: <i>The Jesus Fatwah</i> class #1 of 5	7 pm – Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting	Our volunteers provide Ash St. Shelter dinner	 <i>Daylight Savings Time begins tonight!</i>
<p><b>Scout Sunday</b></p> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School <b>Mission Trip Spaghetti Supper</b> Seatings at 5:00 and 6:30 p.m.	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast 8 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 10 am – Lectionary Bible Discussion 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting	7-8:30 pm – Adult Study <i>The Jesus Fatwah</i> class #2 of 5 April Chimes deadline	7 pm – Choir	5-6:30 pm – Junior Youth Group St. Patrick's Day Game Night	
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 12 noon – Mission Trip meeting 2 pm – Women's Fellowship meeting	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast 8:00 am – Ladies' Breakfast 10 am – Lectionary Bible Discussion 7 pm – Trustees meeting	7 pm – Church Council meeting	7-8:30 pm – Adult Study <i>The Jesus Fatwah</i> class #3 of 5	7 pm –Choir 7pm – <i>Daughters of Abraham</i> meeting		Mission Trip Yardwork Day  10am – 3pm Hardy Hall
<p><b>One Great Hour of Sharing offering</b></p> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School	7:15 am– Men's Breakfast 8:00 am – Ladies' Breakfast 10 am – Lectionary Bible Discussion		7-8:30 pm – Adult Study <i>The Jesus Fatwah</i> class #4 of 5			

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

For five consecutive Wednesdays in Lent (March 8-April 5), I will lead a series of classes called *The Jesus Fatwah: Love Your Muslim Neighbor*. (A fatwah is a spiritual teaching or declaration by a religious leader.) Elsewhere in this newsletter is an overview of each of the five weeks. A sign-up list will be posted on the notice board near the church offices.

I hope you will embrace these six weeks of Lent as a time to specially focus your attention on your personal faith journey with Jesus! I know you won't regret it, and the strength and growth you experience will also strengthen and nourish our wider community with the love and presence of God among us!

Yours in faith, hope, and love,  
*Tanya*

## **Our Church Records**

### **Deaths**

January 24, 2017

Hilda Blood Tolles

February 5, 2017

Elizabeth "Betty" (Kassay) Gondola

### **Memorial Donations**

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

Susan and William Gorham

Addie and Roger Saunders

Janet and Dan Griffin

Judith Palmer

Katherine and Howard Whitehead

Martha Davis

Thelma Pollard

Marilyn Wehrle

Marc and Jennifer Squires

James and Kathleen Lustig

Nancy Palmer

Lorrie Carmichael

Marty and Dick Lancourt

Karen Marino

## **Daughters of Abraham**

*Rescheduled from February!*

On Thursday, March 23, at 7 p.m. in Emerson Chapel, Rev. Tanya will host an informational gathering for a new chapter of *Daughters of Abraham* — an interfaith group, ideally comprised of equal numbers of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim women. (More info at: [www.daughtersofabraham.com](http://www.daughtersofabraham.com).) **If you're interested** in possibly becoming a part of this group, or if you know anyone (particularly Muslim women; word hasn't spread broadly in their community yet!) who might be, **please contact Rev. Tanya at: [pastor@hollischurch.org](mailto:pastor@hollischurch.org)**.



## **Mission Trip News**

Our annual **Spaghetti Supper** will be **Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>** with seatings at both 5pm and 6:30pm. We are looking forward to serving our Church Community at this delicious annual event. **Make your reservations for the Spaghetti Supper! See the order form on page 7.**

Our workcampers are ready to be your personal **Yardwork Crew!** Call to reserve your time slot on one of our yardwork dates. See page 8 for more information.



## **Church Groups Survey**

The Trustees are assessing the ways in which our church serves our community through a Space/Needs sub-committee. In order to be as comprehensive as possible, a survey will be circulated to all internal and external groups that use our facility to see whether there are ways for us to be more efficient and effective. If you are part of a group that meets regularly at the Church, please let us know if you have not received this survey by the end of February. Thank you for your time. — Julie Forgaard, Susan Wider and Rev. Tanya

## **Women's Fellowship**

The Women's Fellowship will meet in Emerson Chapel at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 19. All women of the church are invited to join us for fellowship, refreshments and our program. We hope to have a speaker discussing women's health issues. Watch your Sunday bulletins for updates!



**Handbell Ringers!** Those interested in playing on Sunday, March 26, please contact Janet Sterritt ([janetsterritt@gmail.com](mailto:janetsterritt@gmail.com) or 465-7248) for practice dates and times.

# Mission & Action News

## One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

**Sunday, March 26**

**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 or severe economic hardship. 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 26. Use the special envelope inserted in your bulletin. Make checks payable to the church with OGHS in the memo line.



## March Items of the Month: Food Items

to support *End 68 Hours of Hunger – Nashua*

After a week in a structured environment where they have at least two full meals, some children will leave school and for 68 hours have little to eat.

The *End 68 Hours of Hunger* program puts nourishing food in the hands of school children to carry them through the weekend. Each bag of food costs \$10 each week and provides two breakfasts, two lunches, and three dinners for a child, with some left over to share! We are asking the congregation to help provide these supplies:

- **Soups:** As meaty as you can get
- **Canned Pasta:** Any brand spaghetti or ravioli - with meat sauce or meatballs preferred
- **Peanut Butter:** Doesn't matter what brand, in small (18 oz) plastic containers
- **Jelly:** Any kind, preferably in plastic squeeze bottles – less likely to break in transport
- **Mayo:** 10-16 ozs. Plastic container
- **Tuna/Chicken/Ham:** small (12 oz) cans, any brand
- **Cans of fruit:** 10 oz – 15 oz
- **Crackers:** Graham/Saltine/Ritz - anything plain, to go with peanut butter and/or jelly, small boxes or large
- **Nutrition Bars:** Try to get some with at least 8-10 grams of protein, and don't look for low calorie bars – high calorie is fine!

## 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).

## Ash St. Shelter Dinners

The church provides a dinner for the Ash St. Shelter for the homeless on the 2nd Friday of every month. We need volunteers to provide dinners in June and July. Please sign up on the Shelter Dinner Volunteer sheet on the bulletin board outside the pastor's office. Thank you for your ongoing support!



## Red Cross Blood Drive

**Saturday, March 25**  
**10 am - 3 pm in Hardy Hall**

Every 2 seconds, someone in the US needs blood! Almost 41,000 donations are needed every day! The need is constant and greater than ever now because of the recent severe weather across the country.

**We need both blood donors and volunteers to check in donors** (No medical experience is needed). High school students can use this opportunity to satisfy a community service requirement.

*Are you able to help us with the drive?*

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

## Donations by Mission and Action

- A donation to The Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter
- A sizable donation made possible through a matching opportunity to **Save the Children**

# Spaghetti Supper

Sunday, March 12



On Sunday, March 12, the Mission Trip Crew will be hosting our annual spaghetti supper in Hardy Hall as a fundraiser for their summer 2017 Mission Trip to Newark Valley, NY. Supper will be served family style (spaghetti, bread, salad, and dessert) with two seatings — 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm. Take-Out orders are also available. Seats are limited, so please reserve early.

**New this year...NO tickets for the supper. Your names will be recorded on our reservation list for each seating. Please fill out the below information and submit to the church office along with your payment. You will receive reservation confirmation via email (or telephone, if no email is provided).**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

OR \_\_\_ Take-Out Order

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Adults at \$8.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Seniors at \$5.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Children (ages 6-12) at \$4.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_ # reservations

**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 reservations — Wednesday, March 8  
(Deadline for donor names on placemat is Sunday, March 5)**

Please make checks payable to the *Congregational Church of Hollis* with **Spaghetti Supper** on the memo line. Drop off or mail to:

Congregational Church of Hollis, 3 Monument Square, Hollis, NH 03049



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 2017 Mission Trip Crew get to Newark Valley, NY.**

# Spring Yardwork & Clean-up

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 several dates this year**. 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.

Our first target date is **Saturday, March 25**. If weather and snow allow, we will begin the yard clean up offering. If not, we will be available for hauling and large item moving and dumping for these slots. The additional dates are Saturdays — **April 8, May 6, and May 13**.

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.***

