

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

February 2018

www.HollisChurch.org

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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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.

*“But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong . . .”*

(1 Corinthians 1:27)



Dear Friends,

For some, it will feel like we’ve barely finished putting the Christmas decorations away as we step off into the liturgical season of Lent. It falls early this year, and there’s a sort of playful theological message in the “secular” holidays that mark the first and final days of our sacred season: Ash Wednesday falls on February 14<sup>th</sup> (Valentine’s Day), and Easter is on April 1<sup>st</sup> (April Fool’s Day). This is the season when we’re invited to follow in Jesus’ spiritual footsteps by spending 40 days intensely focusing on our relationship with God amidst our own life’s wilderness. Don’t you think there’s something delightful about bookmarking Lent with one holiday that’s devoted to sharing expressions of our love, and the other that lampoons human foolishness?

I hope you’ll open yourself to a new experience of Lent this year, especially if you’ve never observed it in intentional ways in the past. Join us for our **Ash Wednesday service**, which we’ll hold in the meetinghouse **at 7:30 p.m. on February 14<sup>th</sup>**. You can also participate in reading and reflecting on **Walter Brueggemann’s Lenten devotional book, entitled *A Way Other Than Our Own***. As we did in Advent, on **Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m.** in the Parkhurst Room (starting on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>), we’ll gather to discuss the highlights and meaningful morsels we found. The Advent study group found Brueggemann’s *Celebrating Abundance* enriching in numerous ways, and we’re doing it again by popular demand. For those who prefer to meet in the morning, we’ll gather on Mondays from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Parkhurst Room, starting on Feb. 19. Books cost \$10/each if you purchase one from me (I ordered 20).

Prior to the beginning of Lent, however, I hope that everyone will make an effort to be present on **February 11<sup>th</sup> for our Annual Meeting**, where we’ll be sharing some exciting information about plans for our church—plans we’ll need your input and support to see through!

*(continued on page 7)*

# From the Faith Formation (Christian Education) Office

## Pre-Confirmation

(for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders)

The Pre-Confirmation class gathers on Sundays, February 4 and 11 to continue their exploration of the Old Testament. Classes begin at 10:30 in the Emerson Chapel. (Note that *class begins in Emerson Chapel – not the sanctuary.*)



The Confirmation Class begins this month with a field trip to Temple Beth Abraham on Friday, February 2. Gather at the Hollis church by 6:25pm. Carpool leaves at 6:30 sharp and will return at 9pm. Drivers are needed. Contact [confirmation@hollischurch.org](mailto:confirmation@hollischurch.org).

Confirmands join in the Ash Wednesday service at 7:30pm in the Meeting House. A regular class rounds out the month on Sunday, February 18. Gather in Emerson Chapel at 10:30am.

## The HCC Coed Basketball Team

continues to grow and improve each week under the direction of coaches Kevin Duquette, Tom Kuchta and Kerry Santerre. It is great fun to cheer on these hard-working young people from the stands of the Nashua Y each Saturday afternoon. This month we meet each team for the second time. And this time, we're ready!



Upcoming games include:

Sat, Feb 3 @ 12:45pm vs. First Church Nashua

Sat, Feb 10 @ 2:15pm vs. Nashua YMCA

Sat, Feb 17 @ 2:15pm vs. St. Patrick's/PAL

Sat, March 3 @ 2:15pm vs. New England Pentecostal

Games are free and fun for all ages. See you there! Check out the Congregational Church of Hollis Facebook page for action photos of the team.



## What to look forward to in Sunday School in February:

	<b>PreK-Grade 2 lesson (Worship Center)</b>	<b>Grade 3-6 lesson (Chronicle)</b>	<b>Chronicle activity</b>
<b>Feb 4</b>	Jesus Heals and Chimes practice	Visiting the Sick	Making pet beds for Nashua Humane Society
<b>Feb 11</b>	Transfiguration	Bible Overview	Bible Timeline
<b>Feb 18</b>	Lent begins and Chimes practice	John the Baptist	Making pretzels for Lent
<b>Feb 25</b>	<i>No Sunday School-</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>	



## **Bible 101:** A lively, entertaining and informative romp through the Bible!

- Wednesday evenings, January 31 February 7
  - 7-8:30 pm in the Parkhurst Room
- Facilitated by Pat Harris, these sessions give an overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation with a focus on how God has interacted, and continues to interact with people of faith. If you cannot attend both sessions, come to the one that works for you. Bring your own Bible or borrow one from the church library, also located in the Parkhurst Room. Contact [CE@hollischurch.org](mailto:CE@hollischurch.org) if you have questions.

## **Mission Trip News**

A **Mission Trip meeting** is scheduled on **Sunday, February 18**, at 12pm in the meetinghouse. Put it on your calendar *now*, and plan to attend!

Our annual **Spaghetti Supper** will be **Sunday, March 11<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 9.** The beautiful handmade **Mission Trip Quilt** will be on display at the spaghetti supper. You can purchase raffle tickets at the supper or **use the form on page 9 to purchase your tickets now!**

## **Christmas Fair Update**

The 2017 Christmas Fair was yet another successful event. The proceeds from the fair were approximately \$7,800.00. A *HUGE* thank you goes to all who played a role in making the events such a resounding success! The fair committee met and decided to donate \$800.00 of the profits to our Mission & Action Board to assist them with all the important work that they do. The remainder of the proceeds will go toward the completion of the shed as well as considering other church 'wish list' items such as a large screen TV for the meetinghouse and/or hearing assist devices for the meetinghouse. The option to hold the funds available for emergency infrastructure needs was also discussed. As we evaluate the options above we will continue to provide updates.

The Music Board invites you to a ...



**Sunday,  
February 18<sup>th</sup>  
at 3:00 p.m.**

Join us in the meetinghouse for music in a variety of styles for all to enjoy! Please come, and bring family and friends. Refreshments will be served in Hardy Hall following the concert.

**Our Women's Fellowship is partnering with the Music Board to host the concert.** Contact Dot Pitman (465-7672) for details and to offer your assistance.

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## **Shedding Gratitude\***

It's been a long process that has taken several years from concept to design to completion, but my vision for the community to come together to support and build a shed is finally coming to completion. I personally would like to thank all of you for your support.

Be it by physical means, or through encouragement and excitement, I'm truly grateful for all who helped build this shed.

Thank you,  
Darrell Stam



\*This is an excerpt from Darrell's shed report. See the Annual Report for the full text.

# February 2018



**Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday**



**All members are urged to attend our  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, February 11 at 11:45 am  
(snow date February 18)  
See the Warrant on page 5 of the February Chimes**

<p>9:00 am – Communion Worship 10:30 am – Communion Worship and Sunday School</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast at Denny’s 8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s 10:30 am – Fellowship &amp; Hospitality meeting 7 pm – CE Board meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p>7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p>7pm – Bible 101 Adult Study (class 2 of 2)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p>7 pm – Choir 8:15 pm – Music Board meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p>Our volunteers provide Ash St. Shelter dinner</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p>11 am – Bell Practice 2:15pm – HCC Basketball vs NY at Nashua Y</p> <p style="text-align: right;">10</p>
<p>9:15am – 10:30am – <del>Mardi Gras Breakfast</del> 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School <b>11:45 am – Annual Meeting</b> (Snow date Sunday, February 18) 7 pm – Community Prayers</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast 8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s 7:15 pm – Deacons meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p>7 pm – Mission &amp; Action Board meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p>11 am – Staff meeting 5 pm – Facilities Committee <b>ASH</b> WEDNESDAY 7:30 pm Worship service</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p>7 pm – Senior Choir 7 pm – Pastoral Care Team meeting March <i>Chimes</i> deadline</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p>11 am – Bell Practice 1:30 pm – Sledding party at Phyllis King’s hill 2:15pm – HCC Basketball vs St. Pat’s at Nashua Y</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 12:00 – Mission Trip meeting 3 pm – Mid-Winter Concert Sponsored by the Music Board and Women’s Fellowship</p> <p style="text-align: right;">18</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast 8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s 10am – Adult Lenten study 7 pm – Trustees meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p>7 pm – Church Council meeting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">20</p>	<p>7pm – Adult Lenten study</p> <p style="text-align: right;">21</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>
<p>9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:45 am – New Member Enquirer’s class in Emerson Chapel (class #1 of 3)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">25</p>	<p>7:15 am– Men’s Breakfast 8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s 10am – Adult Lenten study</p> <p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>	<p>7pm – Adult Lenten study</p> <p style="text-align: right;">28</p>	<p><b>Mission Items of the Month: Food Items &amp; Toiletries</b> * toothpaste * deodorant * shampoo *rice *jelly *juice *saltines *graham crackers to support the Corpus Christi Food Pantry</p>		





# WARRANT

(for the February 2018 Annual Meeting)

To the members of the Congregational Church of Hollis, New Hampshire, (United Church of Christ) qualified to vote in Church affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet in the Church in said Hollis, New Hampshire, on Sunday, February 11, 2018, (snow date of Sunday, February 18, 2018) at 11:45 a.m. to consider the following articles:

**Article 1:** To consider the reports of the elected officers, boards, committees, and organizations connected with the Church.

**Article 2:** The State of the Church Discussion – How are we living into our strategic plan and implementing our vision for the Church?

**Article 3:** To approve accessing up to \$50,000 as an interest free bridge loan from the endowment fund for professional services associated with the startup costs of the Capital Campaign including but not limited to: capital campaign consultant, sprinkler system design concepts & cost estimation, and limited architectural drawings/concepts and cost estimations.

**Article 4:** To see if the Church will vote on the recommendation of the Church Council to create the position of Minister of Faith Formation, a transitional position to lead us in our strategic goal of nurturing spiritual growth across all age groups.

**Article 5:** To see if the Church will adopt the following changes to the bylaws (new text in bold):

## Article VIII

### Boards, Committees, and Fellowships

#### Section 1: Board of Deacons

(a) The Board of Deacons shall consist of not more than 12 deacons, ~~half male and half female~~ **with a goal of gender parity**, in addition to the Pastor;

#### Section 2: Board of Trustees

(a) The Board of Trustees shall consist of ~~nine members~~ **a minimum of seven members with a maximum goal of nine members.**

#### Section 3: Board of Christian Education

(a) The Board of Christian Education shall consist of a minimum of ~~ten~~ **eight** members. One member shall be a high school student serving for one year. The remaining ~~nine~~ **adult** members shall each serve a two year term.

#### Section 4: Board of Mission and Action

(a) The Board of Mission and Action shall consist of ~~not less than nine members~~ **a minimum of eight adults and one youth member, who shall be a high school student serving for one year.**

Section 6: The Board of Christian Stewardship

(a) The Board of Christian Stewardship shall consist of ~~eight~~ **a minimum of six with a maximum goal of eight members.**

Section 7: The Nominating Committee

(a) The Nominating Committee shall consist of ~~six~~ **a minimum of five members with a maximum goal of six members** proposed by the Church Council,

Section 10: Fellowship & Hospitality Committee

(a) The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee shall consist of **at least three members who shall be elected annually** ~~not less than six members of whom two shall be elected annually, each to serve a term of three years.~~ A member of the Board of Deacons shall also serve on the Committee.

The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee ~~shall elect its own chairperson or co-chair persons~~ **may designate its own structure and leadership positions** and be empowered to appoint as many additional persons (church members and/or non-members) **to the Committee** as needed.

(d) All business of the Committee shall be conducted at ~~scheduled~~ meetings with a quorum of at least three members ~~present~~ **or via email for non-critical items.**

Article XI, Section 3 (f). Replace the struck-through text.

(f) To establish and effectively administer personnel policy and procedures through the Council sub-committee known as the Personnel Committee. ~~The Personnel Committee shall be comprised of five members. The Church Council members from the Trustees and Board of Deacons, the Pastor, the Chairperson of the Church Council, and another member to be elected at large from the members of the Church Council (not another at large member of the Church Council)~~

Replace with:

**The Personnel Committee shall comprise the following active members of the church: The Chairperson of the Church Council, the Pastor, a church member appointed by each of the following: the Board of Deacons, the Board of Trustees, the Board of Music, and the Board of Christian Education; and such other church members as deemed appropriate by the vote of the Church Council.**

**Article 6:** To elect all officers, board members, and committee members necessary for the upcoming year.

**Article 7:** To see if the Church will accept and adopt the budget as recommended by the Trustees and Church Council.

**Article 8:** To consider any other business that may come before the church.

Robbin Dunn, Church Clerk

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

We'll be celebrating and giving thanks for the amazing response to Council's November appeal for stepped-up pledged giving. We'll be hearing about the revised structure of our C.E./Faith Formation program and voting on the new Minister of Faith Formation position. And, we'll be getting an introduction to the newly-formed and already hard-working "Building Our Vision" team—I think you're going to be excited about what's in store!

To add to the fun of the day, Fellowship & Hospitality Committee has planned a Mardi Gras feast between the 9 and 10:30 a.m. services—so come early (or following the first service) for pancakes and sausages. And the Stewardship Board will be providing sandwiches and chips after the 10:30 service so that folks will have sustenance for the Annual Meeting. Come to church on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, and you are guaranteed to be well-fed—body, mind, and spirit . . . have a blessed Lent, all!

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

*Tanya*

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## *Unwrapping Our Gifts*

This group, possibly unlike any group you've participated in before, will join your faith to the real world, spanning the chasm between Sunday morning and work week issues. We will explore the Biblical vision that all Christians (not just the ordained) are **MINISTERS**, equally gifted and called by God to different kinds of focused Christian action. Through imaginative Bible studies, case studies, guided journaling exercises, and supportive group discussion, we will discover our gifts and strengthen our personal ways of ministering in our workplaces, relationships, and world. This group, for employed people, homemakers, or retirees, will help us unwrap our God-given purposes more fully.



### Requirements:

- \* Sense of Adventure
- \* Desire to apply one's faith to the workday world
- \* Commitment to attend scheduled sessions
- \* Commitment to brief homework assignments

Leaders: Rev'd. Tanya, Keith Hamer, Kimber Harmon

*Starting in April!* Watch this space for more details, or contact one of the leaders for more information.

## **Stewardship Corner...**

In recent discussions about our church's budget, questions arose about the importance of our church's UCC membership. While this affiliation may seem non-essential, I believe it is actually crucial to our church's growth and mission. When I relocated to Hollis, my family found this church community through its UCC affiliation, since the affiliation generally means that this community supported the tenets of acceptance and servitude that are hallmarks of the UCC, and important to us. If you haven't visited the UCC website in a while, visit it at [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) to see why those of us who move often may find ultimate importance in UCC designation.

In Peace,

Cheri Vanderpool

Christian Stewardship Board

## **Fellowship & Hospitality**

The Fellowship & Hospitality (F&H) team thanks all who attended the Chili and Corn Bread supper on the Luminaria Stroll night. It was wonderful to see so many visitors in our church. The generosity toward the free-will offering not only covered the dinner expense, but it also provided a \$120 donation to the Hollis school nurses that will be used to support local families in need. Please join us for our upcoming events--open to all:

\* Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast - Sunday, 2/11 between worship services.

\* Sledding Party - on King's Hill, Saturday, 2/17 at 1:30 pm

# **Mission & Action News**

## **February Items of the Month: for Corpus Christi Food Pantry**

The Corpus Christi Food Pantry serves the community with assorted food items plus toiletries and personal care products. This month please help those in need with your donations of:



- \* toothpaste   \* deodorant   \* shampoo
- \* jelly   \* juice   \* rice
- \* saltines   \* graham crackers

Thank you for your ongoing and generous support!



## **Food and Fuel Assistance Update**

Some of the Christmas Eve collection is used for local food and fuel assistance. This money will purchase local grocery store gift cards and heating oil certificates as well as kerosene and propane for those in need during these cold winter months. If you know of anyone needing this assistance please contact Coleen Brady at 603-589-8049 or [cbrady27@comcast.net](mailto:cbrady27@comcast.net).

## **Ash Street Shelter Dinners**

Once a month someone from our church prepares and delivers dinner to the Ash St. Shelter. If you are interested in participating please check the sign-up sheet on the Mission and Action bulletin board (in the hall outside the pastor's office). We can give you some ideas for meals and a gift certificate to help pay for the meal.



## **Blood Drive Update**

Our next blood drive is scheduled for **Saturday, March 24** from 10 am - 3 pm. Spread the word among your friends and neighbors. You can sign up online now at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

## **January Item of the Month Update Underwear for boys and girls**

We made a sizeable donation of underwear of different sizes to the Nashua Children's Home. As always thank you for responding to this need!

## **Donation To Mission and Action**

We very much appreciate the donation of a share of the Christmas Fair profits to our board. We always welcome suggestions from anyone in the congregation on ways to serve in the world and in our community.

## **We are *always* Collecting...**

- **Unwanted eyeglasses** - The Lions Club recycles them for use by those in need.
- **Unwanted cell phones** - Bridges gives the phones to victims of domestic or sexual violence for use in calling 911 for help. Phones that don't work are recycled which earns Bridges some income.
- **Travel-size Toiletries** - given to Ash St. Shelter, Bridges and other organizations.
- **Greeting cards and stationery** are sent to the NH State Women's Prison

The collection boxes for these items are on the shelves by the Christian Education office.

Thank you for your response throughout 2017!

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## ***Ring In Spring!***

Please join us for bells. Any experience through to no experience are welcome.

Starting practice on the weekend of February 3rd, in the following sets:



<u>Play:</u>	<u>Practice on weekends of:</u>
Feb 25	Feb 3, 10, 17
March 18	Feb 3, 10; Mar 4 & 11
April 29	April 7, 14, 21
May 27	May 5, 12, 19

Please contact Janet for exact dates and times of practices.

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



# Spaghetti Supper

## Sunday, March 11

On Sunday, March 11, the Mission Trip Crew will host our annual spaghetti supper in Hardy Hall as a fundraiser for their summer 2018 Mission Trip to Wallingford, CT. 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. **Please complete this form and submit to the church office with your payment. Your name(s) will be recorded on our reservation list for each seating. You will receive reservation confirmation via email (or telephone, if no email is provided). No tickets will be issued.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

OR \_\_\_\_\_ Take-Out Order

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Adults at \$8 each \_\_\_\_\_ # of Seniors at \$5 each

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Children (ages 6-12) at \$4 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 7**  
**(Deadline for donor names on placemat is Sunday, March 4)**

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

# Mission Trip Quilt

This beautiful handmade quilt will be offered for raffle to benefit the 2018 Wallingford, CT Mission Trip. The quilt, measuring 54"x75", is a large lap quilt or small twin. The hearts are hand applied and the quilt is machine pieced and quilted.



**Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. You can purchase tickets from Jessica Marchant or use the order form below.** When we receive your order, your name and phone number will be written on each of your tickets and

dropped in the raffle bucket. *Don't miss your chance to take this lovely quilt home with you!*

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

Total \_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the *Congregational Church of Hollis* with **Mission Trip Quilt** on the memo line.

Send order form and payment 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**

# *February Fun Events!*



## *Celebrate Mardi Gras!*

On Sunday,  
**February 11th**,  
 the F&H team &  
 friends will again be  
 hosting a **Mardi Gras Pancake  
 Breakfast** in Hardy Hall between  
 worship services (serving **9:15 -  
 10:30 am**). Come enjoy the fun, food  
 and fellowship! Bring a friend, too.

## *WINTER FUN ... SLEDDING PARTY!*

On Saturday, February 17th, at 1:30 pm, join  
 the family sledding party for all ages! We'll meet  
 at the "Easter Sunrise" hill of  
 Triple Knoll Farm located at  
 the corner of Pepperell Rd  
 (Rt 122) & North Pepperell  
 Rd in Hollis. Bring your own  
 sled, tube, or toboggan. Hot  
 beverages will be provided.  
 Special thanks to Phyllis  
 King for allowing us the use  
 of her hill.

