

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

June, July, August 2023

[www.HollisChurch.org](http://www.HollisChurch.org)

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**[www.hollischurch.org](http://www.hollischurch.org)**

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published for the summer months.  
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are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month pre-  
ceding publication.

## ***On the Threshold***

*"I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it?"*

(Isaiah 43:19, CEV)



If you attended the Annual Meeting of the UCC Hillsborough Association (and quite a few of you did!), then you may remember that the theme was *Liminal Times*. That means we are at a limit or on a threshold. It's not just transition or change, but it's an "in between" time when one ordered world is going to become another but for now the rules are up in the air.

We are reaching a threshold in Hollis. Soon we will welcome Pastor Tanya back after her sabbatical and after ours. Let's prepare for that event by expecting changes. The one constant in today's world is change, so it would be good to embrace it. What a joy it will be!

Whether I have worked closely with you every week or only know you in passing, I am aware that you have been incredibly supportive during my time with you, and I thank each and every one of you. What a sign of a healthy church! May we hold each other in our hearts, and feel the love of Christ surrounding us all.

I know from serving other churches for brief periods that I will miss you. Melody and I (and Scout!) have entered your community and have found a place in it. But as I have said, we are all one big church in the UCC and as I have been serving your church, I have in a sense been connected to all the other churches I have ever served. When I now go somewhere else, I will be going as *your* representative, bringing some of the new ways of doing things, as well as the strong sense of community and love I have felt here to other people. Society is experiencing change in so many ways. Is it possible that through the healthy behavior of our church we can model what we would like to see in the world? I pray that our faith and the work we do influences the wider community and helps to bring God's reign.

I will preach on Sundays until July 2. On that transition Sunday, Pastor Tanya and I will both be in the service. The lectionary readings that I will be using may be found on page 2.

Many blessings in your journey of faith,

*Rev. Bob Fellows*

# From the Faith Formation Office

## CE Book Read

The CE Board continues their invitation to read “the good book”! Rev. Fellows suggests the Scripture Readings from the lectionary as he completes his tenure as our Sabbatical Pastor.

### 6/4 Trinity Sunday

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 8

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

### 6/11 Second Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 33:1-12

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

### 6/18 Third Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture Reading:

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:35-10:8

### 6/25 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture Reading:

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:24-39

### 7/2 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrew Scripture Reading:

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Reading From Psalms: Psalm 13

Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:40-42

## Flock Adventure Days

Sundays, July 9  
& August 6

For two Sundays during the summer, your child can join me downstairs while you enjoy the service upstairs (just like Sunday school!). Nursery service available upon request!

**Signups now open!**

Summer Flock  
Adventure Days



## News from *The Flock...*

## VacATION It's *Christmas* BIBLE SCHOOL in July

**July 17-20 from 9-11:30am**

A week full of adventure! Jump in the fun for lessons, games, STEM, crafts, snacks & more!

- Ages 4 years - Grade 6
- Must be able to attend all 4 days
- \$5 per child
- Registration Deadline - June 14

Need a registration form?

Contact Kim at [CE@hollischurch.org](mailto:CE@hollischurch.org) or stop at the church office. You can mail the form to the church or drop it off during office hours.

**Volunteers Needed!** Entering Grade 7 in the fall through Adult is welcome to volunteer (background checks are required for anyone 18 and older). You can do 1, 2 or all 4 days!

Please email Kim at [ce@hollischurch.org](mailto:ce@hollischurch.org) with inquiries.

## Butterfly Adoption Day

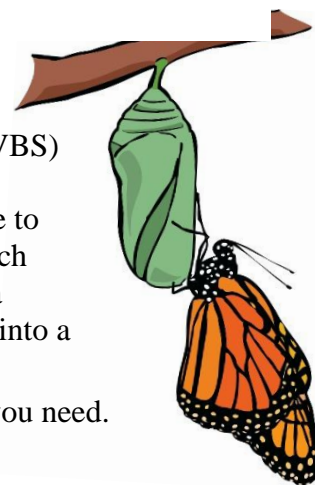
On Thursday, July 20, stop by the Flag Room at 11:30 (at the close of VBS) for Butterfly Adoption Day!

Lee Harper and Kim will both be there to answer questions about raising Monarch butterflies. You will be able to adopt a caterpillar egg and watch it transform into a beautiful butterfly.

Your kit will include all the supplies you need.

**Please bring \$10 at pickup.**

**Reach out to Kim at [ce@hollischurch.org](mailto:ce@hollischurch.org) to get on the adoption list!**



# Sabbatical Support Team News



**Only one month left of the sabbatical period!** Time has flown by! We look forward to welcoming back Rev. Tanya at the **Sunday, July 2** worship service where Rev. Bob will “hand back” the pastor leadership mantle.

**Thank you to everyone who completed a Sabbatical Support Team survey in May!** Your time and input are very much appreciated as the Sabbatical Support Team now reviews and summarizes the data to present to church leadership and Rev. Tanya over the next few months.

**As anticipated, the Community Magic Show by Rev. Bob was awe-inspiring and so well attended!** We are still trying to figure out “How did he do that?!” More importantly, the Squires Community Patio was used exactly how we envisioned: bringing church and community to-

gether. A perfect example of “Living Our Vision!” Go to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/SUqFf4JwzjMnzTkWA> to see photos of the magic show.

## JUNE EVENTS:

**CHANGE OF DATE: Saturday, June 10 (time 2:00pm) Hike at Beaver Brook followed by a bonfire discussion** - Due to the fire circle at Beaver Brook being used by another group on June 3, the **Beaver Brook hike is now scheduled for June 10 (NO JUNE 3 HIKE)**. Rain date TBD. We will lead two hiking groups, one for relaxed hikers with a shorter route and a longer one for the more energetic among us. The shorter route will not be silent but encourage some quietness to “be in the moment” with nature. The longer hike will have periods of silence but also periods during the hike when discussion will be encouraged.

**POSTPONED:** The **history presentation** on Henry Opukahaia has been **postponed** until Sept. or Oct.

**Thank you, Rev. Bob!!! We cannot thank Rev. Bob Fellows enough for all he has done during his tenure as sabbatical pastor! Here are some of the things he did:**

- Led us through the Lent and Easter seasons, including five “Lenten Loaves and Lessons” discussions, plus the extra Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunrise (where he played guitar) worship services
- Led Gabriel Clark’s memorial service and interment, Patricia Coughlin’s memorial service, and Martha Davis’s interment
- Led three Brush & Biscotti paint sessions
- Performed one community magic show and incorporated magic into the weekly worship service during *A Message for All Ages*
- Led worship for the Hillsborough Association, NH Conference, UCC Annual Meeting hosted by our church
- Participated in monthly meetings with the Deacon Board, Sabbatical Support Team, and Church Council, providing leadership, guidance and suggestions during challenging topics and discussions
- Did home visits
- In June, in addition to leading worship services, he will be participating in the Beaver Brook hike




To say we are grateful for all his contributions is an understatement! He has been a pleasure to work with and learn from, both spiritually and organizationally. **Please join us for an enhanced fellowship on Sunday, June 25 to thank Rev. Bob!**

**Blessings from your Sabbatical Support Team**

*Thom Davies, Paul Edmunds, Jessica Marchant, Karen Marino, Gudrun Pfeiffer, Cindy Ryherd*

# June 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>Summer Items of the Month</b> for Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter: <b>New Underwear</b> for children, women (briefs/bikinis) and men (knitted boxer briefs) <i>and</i> <b>School Supplies</b> for NSKS's <i>Backpacks for Back-to-School</i> program  <b>Donations deadline is August 6<sup>th</sup> !</b> 				7 pm – Choir  1	  2	  3
9:30 am – Communion Worship (In Person / Livestream) 2 pm – Music Board / Choir year end celebration & potluck on Squires Patio 4	7:30 pm – CE Board meeting 5	10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 6:30 pm – Music Board meeting 6	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 7	6 pm – Caring Connections 8	Our volunteers provide dinner at Spring St. Shelter 9	2:00 pm -Hikes at Beaver Brook followed by fire circle discussion 10
9:30 am – Worship (In Person/Livestream) 11	7 pm – Deacons meeting 12	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting 13	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 5 pm – Facilities Committee meeting <b>VBS Registration deadline</b> 14	 15	 16	 17
<b>Father's Day</b> 9:30 am – Worship at Rocky Pond (In Person only/No Livestream) 18	5:30 pm – Trustees meeting 19	10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 20	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting 21	 22	 23	 24
9:30 am – Worship (In Person/Livestream) 10:30 am – “Enhanced Fellowship” to thank Rev. Bob, our Sabbatical Pastor 2-4 pm Strawberry Festival on the town common 25	 26	 27	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 7 pm – Church Council meeting (or All-Boards meeting?) 28	 29	 30	 July 1
9:30 am – Communion Worship (In Person / Livestream) Rev Tanya returns / Rev Bob passes the mantle of leadership back to Rev Tanya Deacons Fund receives the loose offering July 2	<b>Sunday worship services continue both in-person and livestream on Sunday mornings at 9:30.</b> No livestream worship on June 18 <sup>th</sup> . <b>Church office:</b> Closed Monday & Tuesday; Open Wednesday - Thursday – Friday from 8am-12 noon ~ <i>Hours are tentative and subject to change to accommodate vacations and staffing fluctuations.</i> <b>Church boards</b> meet in June (unless otherwise notified by board chairs); on hiatus in July and August, resume in September.					



# **Mission & Action News**

## **Summer Items of the Month:**

**During June**, it's time for a change! This is not a time to go without... **New Underwear Desperately Needed**

The Nashua Soup Kitchen is requesting new underwear for children, women (bikini and briefs) men (knitted boxer briefs).

## **More Summer Items of the Month:**

Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter's **Backpacks for Back-to-School program** collects new backpacks and school supplies for families trying to live on minimum wage, staying at our shelters, or coming to the soup kitchen for food. The NSKS staff works diligently with families to provide children (Grade Kindergarten through 12th Grade) with a new backpack filled with new, grade-appropriate supplies. Throughout the summer months, we will collect items to support this program. **Deadline for donations is Sunday, August 6th.**

- **New Backpacks** for Boys and Girls, K – Grade 12
- Dry-Erase Markers for all grades (when called up to the board)
- 8GB (or larger) Flash Drives for High School Students
- 2 inch 3-Ring Binders – required in High School
- Loose Leaf Filler Paper
- Tabbed Dividers
- Spiral Notebooks
- Protractor or Multi-piece Drafting Package



- Pencil Boxes/Pouches for younger school children
- Lunch Boxes and Snack Bags for young ones
- #2 Pencils
- Hand-held Pencil Sharpeners
- Separate Erasers
- Pens
- 12-inch Rulers
- Bottled Glue
- Glue Sticks
- Scotch Tape
- Staplers - Mini or Desk Size
- Student Scissors
- Safety Scissors for Younger Students
- Crayons – Boxes of 24
- Colored Pencils – Bright or Bold
- Washable Colored Markers
- Calculators For High School Students
- Dictionary (one per family)
- Index Cards



For more information, go to <https://nsks.org/project/nsks-backpacks-for-back-to-school/> .

## **Spring St Shelter Cooks, Cooks, Cooks**

We are in need of individuals or families to cook dinner for the Spring St. Shelter on the 2nd Friday of the month for July, August, November, and December. You will be given \$100.00 gift card to pay for the groceries. For more information and delivery information please contact Lee Harper at [missionandaction@hollischurch.org](mailto:missionandaction@hollischurch.org).



## **Your Dollars at Work**

Contributions made this month to:

- End 68 hours of Hunger Sau 41
- End 68 hours of Hunger Nashua
- Strengthening the Church
- Meals on Wheels
- Nashua Children's Home

## **Yard/Bake Sale Thanks!**

**Thank you** to all who helped with and/or participated in the Community Yard Sale & Church Bake Sale! Special thanks to our Scout Troop 465 family volunteers who did much of the heavy lifting. What spectacular weather and everyone seemed to enjoy the day. It's a fun fellowship event for ALL and helps the Church to be seen as a contributor to the local community and maintains the small town feel and Hollis' rural character. All Yard Sale **proceeds were donated to the Deacons Fund** for the holiday food boxes.





## Stewardship Update & Reminder

On behalf of the Stewardship board, we'd like to thank you for a successful 2023 Pledge Season! This past month has shown the value of our pledge dollars at work, from a beautiful and robust Music Sunday, to a heartwarming Children's Sunday, where the young people of our Church had the opportunity to show off what they've been learning all year in our Christian Education Program. In addition, we hosted a community yard sale, bake sale, and magic show, which provided our Church with the opportunity to invite members of the greater community to gather together and enjoy our beautiful property. We are so grateful for all these chances to live our vision as a church family.

**While our pledges for 2023 were generous, there is currently a 14% pledge fulfillment shortfall.** We humbly ask you to make sure your donations have matched your pledge amount for the year, and perhaps even accelerate your pledge payment to ensure all our programs and infrastructure continue to run smoothly. Thank you!

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My grateful thanks go to Nancy Bell, Sue Burton, Patricia Cordell, Brenda Gibson, Freddi Olson, Deb Shipman and Joyce Toli for their assistance in preparing the May *Chimes* for delivery to your mailbox.

## Deacon Board Update ~ Deacons' Fund *Helping Local Families in Need*

**What is the Deacons' Fund?** According to our church By-laws, the "Deacons Fund" is "*to assist the Board [of Deacons] in performing their duties.*" In practice, the Board of Deacons uses the Deacons' Fund primarily to purchase perishable food and grocery gift cards put in the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter holiday food boxes distributed to local families in need and families in residence at Marguerite's Place (any extra boxes going to Front Door Agency, Nashua Community College, and/or Tolles Street Mission). The fund has also been used to provide assistance to local families experiencing an emergency or crisis.



**How is the Deacons' Fund funded?** The Deacons' Fund is NOT part of the church annual budget. When our annual budget is voted on each February, it does not include any money for the Deacons' Fund. It is funded and maintained completely separate from the church operating budget. Funds come from individual donations, Holiday Concert bake sale proceeds, some proceeds of various church fundraisers and church groups, and payments for Deacons on duty at funerals. It also receives the loose offerings (cash offerings not otherwise designated) in the offering plates on four Sundays each year: the first Sundays of January, Lent, July, and October. Starting this month and going forward, on Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of each month), a designated Deacons' Fund offering plate will be in the Narthex (it will not be passed during the Offertory). That offering plate will be exclusively for Deacons' Fund donations.

If you are interested and able to contribute to this fund, you can write a check payable to the Congregational Church of Hollis with "Deacons' Fund" on the memo line and mail it to the church or put it in the offering plate. Alternatively, you can donate to the fund via our online giving at <https://hollischurch.org/donations/>.

**Thank you for supporting this vital community outreach program our church has been proud to provide for so many years!**

## ...And the Rest is History

### *Our Church's History Highlights*

By Cindy Ryherd



Inside the narthex of our beautiful Congregational Church of Hollis, on either side of the doors leading into the Sanctuary, are two framed drawings of done by E.J. Colburn in 1893 (the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1743 ordaining of the church's first pastor, Rev. Daniel Emerson). E.J. Colburn was a Deacon of the church and a draftsman.

The two drawings are of the pew configuration on the main floor and in the gallery of the Third Meeting House (pictured below) which was erected in 1804, and they show which families owned which pews. There were 95 pews in total (68 below and 27 in the gallery).

At that time, pews were owned by parishioners, the funds used as the primary source of money to build the new church in 1804. The non-assigned pews segregated men and women: men sitting on the west side and women sitting on the east side. Similarly, men entered the Meeting House through the west entrance and women entered through the east entrance.

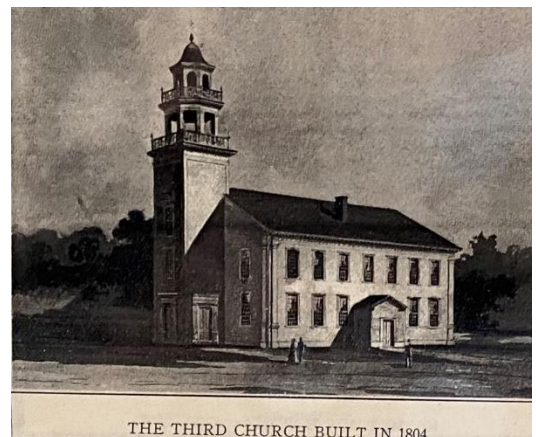
**If you look closely at the two drawings, you'll see they read like a "Who's Who" in Hollis and Brookline road names. Of the 49 family names represented in the drawings, 28 have roads named after them in one of the two towns (see table below; bold/italics are road names)!**

Names	Total Pews	Names	Total Pews	Names	Total Pews	Names	Total Pews	Names	Total Pews
<b>Ames</b>	1	<b>Farley</b>	13	Jones	1	Poole	2	<b>Smith</b>	2
Bailey	1	<b>Flagg</b>	1	Little	1	Price	1	<b>Spalding</b>	1
<b>Blood</b>	2	<b>French</b>	1	<b>Lovejoy</b>	2	<b>Proctor</b>	2	Tenney	1
Boynton	1	Hale	2	<b>Lund</b>	1	Read	2	<b>Wheeler</b>	3
<b>Burge</b>	1	<b>Hardy</b>	9	Marshall	1	Russell	1	Whiting	2
<b>Colburn</b>	3	<b>Hayden</b>	1	<b>Merrill</b>	1	Saunders	3	<b>Willoughby</b>	4
Conant	1	Heywood	1	Moore	1	Scripture	1	<b>Wood</b>	1
<b>Dow</b>	2	Holt	1	Ober	1	Searles	1	<b>Worcester</b>	2
<b>Eastman</b>	2	<b>Jewett</b>	2	<b>Patch</b>	2	<b>Shattuck</b>	1	<b>Wright</b>	1
<b>Emerson</b>	2	Johnson	1	<b>Pierce</b>	1	<b>Shed</b>	1		

The pews weren't like today's pews which are basically a 6' to 7' wooden bench with wooden back with perhaps a cushion on the bench. The pews for the 1804 church were mostly 5' wide by 6' long (close to square), neatly paneled and painted, with partitions between each pew. There were a few that would have been a little bigger than 5'x6'.

Inside the 5'x6' space were 2'wide, hard, non-cushioned seats which hung on hinges attached to the wall of the pew. When a parishioner stood to pray (which they did quite often back then), the seat would be raised, and when they sat back down, it would be lowered. Elderly might have arm chairs in the pew space, and **most pews had long, narrow "leaning boards" placed lengthwise in the pew in front of the occupants upon which they might rest their heads** when their drowsiness got the better of their interest in the service (which would easily last two hours).

We are grateful that these two drawings were saved when the Third Meeting House burned down in 1923, and to E.J. Colburn for documenting this piece of our church history in the two drawings.







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

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# Mid-Summer Rocky Pond Outing & Picnic

**WEDNESDAY, July 19th, 5:30 - 7:30 pm!**

**Mark your calendars -- no need to cook dinner!**

The Fellowship & Hospitality Committee invites you to the annual **All-church Mid-summer Outing & Cookout on Wednesday, July 19th at 5:30 pm with meal around 6 pm.**

We'll be at the Scout Beach at **Rocky Pond** (5 Samuels Way) with swimming available (or bring your kayak).

Come for activities and socializing followed by a picnic supper about 6 pm. Food & beverage will be provided. Lawn/beach chairs, games, guitars, and friends are all welcome.

**Watch for an email, Facebook post, or sign on the Church lawn if we need to relocate to the Church for "iffy" weather.**

Questions, volunteers, or RSVPs (helpful though not required), please contact **FandH@hollischurch.org** or call/text **603-860-2178**.

