

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

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

May 2019

www.HollisChurch.org

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**The
Congregational
Church of Hollis
(UCC)**

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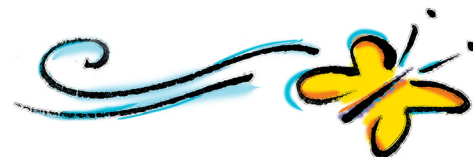
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September to May. One edition is
published for the summer months.
All submissions for the newsletter are
due by the 15th of the month preced-
ing publication.

“Soar we now
where Christ has led,
Alleluia!”

(from the Easter hymn, *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*)



Dear Church family and friends,

A resounding “THANK YOU!!” to everyone who participated in any way in the success of our memorable Commitment Sunday activities. From the countless hours of preparation done by the Funding Our Vision team (including those who hosted informational house parties), to the choir’s outstanding performance of a “Godspell” medley (complete with drums and guitars); to Rev. VanderWyden who preached; to the Caring Callers who went out and visited, and those who were being trained on our Continuity Committee; to those who made commitments in Letters of Intent; to those who were at the church in the afternoon greeting drop-ins and tabulating results; and all those who came to celebrate the results and give thanks and glory to God that evening. It was an extremely full day — but it was wonderful, memorable, and by all accounts very successful!

As we observe Eastertide — from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday on June 9 — we will continue to live into the vision we’ve collectively been discerning for our future, following on where Christ has led. May is always a lively month as the earth around us pushes forward its colorful buds and blossoms. Our church community will have something notable going on each Sunday during the month: on May 5th, members will vote on the Warrant to proceed to contractual plans for our building project. On May 12th, we will celebrate Mother’s Day with our annual Music Sunday service. On May 19th, the youth of our church will lead us in worship as we celebrate what they have learned across the year, and we’ll honor the dedication of our teachers and Faith Formation staff. On May 26th, we will move to our “summer Sunday schedule” of one service at 9:30 a.m., and will celebrate an infant baptism.

(continued on page 6)



From the Faith Formation Office



Confirmation 2019

Two very important classes remain in the schedule for ninth graders who are looking forward to confirmation on Sunday, June 2. These classes will be held in the Emerson Chapel on **Sundays, May 5 and May 19** at 10:30am. *Attendance is mandatory.*

Pre-Confirmation

7th and 8th graders will meet for class after the Introduction to the Theme on Sunday, May 5 and will return to take communion with the congregation at the end of the service. On May 19, pre-confirmation students will assist with the Children's Day service.

Journey to Confirmation 2020

Plans are well underway for a new *Journey to Confirmation* program for students in grades 7-9. Journey to Confirmation is designed to allow flexibility in preparing to make a decision on confirming one's faith over the course of two or three years through lessons, field trips, service and worship.

Back by popular demand — **Adult mentors** are key to this Journey. All adult church members are asked to consider accompanying a young person on their confirmation journey. Mentors would commit to participating in 2-3 confirmation classes for conversation and relationship-building, as well as attend a few group activities. This could be a one, two or three-year commitment. For details, contact Pat Harris or ce@hollischurch.org.



Children's Day is May 19!

The exciting culmination of this year's Sunday School program will be a sneak-peek into this summer's VBS program; the theme will be *Fruits of the Spirit*! Join in the fun as the children lead the 10:30 service and provide some heart-warming entertainment. Performances include singing, dancing, and acting, but that's not all!

All children are encouraged to attend a full Children's Day rehearsal on Wednesday, May 15 at 5:00 pm, where pizza will be served!

Exciting NEWS from Sunday School!

Coming this September, Sunday School will be launching a

new **"Rotation model"** for classes! Children in PreK-Grade 6 will embark each week on a journey through stations as they learn the lessons of the Bible. All ages will start together for the lesson to be taught through skits, games, or group discussion. Students will then break into groups by age, and will continue to learn in variety of ways; including crafts, activities, snacks, and music. Anything goes!

You can help...

Congregation members are welcome and encouraged to take part in this flexible curriculum by **sharing their talent, skill, or interest by leading a station**. Love to bake? Or sew? Enjoy woodworking? Or origami? We would love for you to share with the kids! Sign-ups begin at the Children's Day picnic on May 19!



New Parents Playgroup

This group is geared towards infants and toddlers and their caregivers. Meetings will take place in the nursery on Sunday, May 5 and Wednesday, May 8 from 9:30-10:30 am.

More times TBD for this summer! All friends and families are welcome!

Vacation Bible School

July 15-18th from 9-11:30am



It's back, and better than ever! Excitement is 'building' as a **STEM station** is introduced this year! During this week, children will delve deeper into their understanding of the *Fruits of the Spirit*, and will experience worship time, prayer, songs, skits, crafts, games, and snacks in a fun-filled morning of learning and laughter!

Space is limited and spots are filling quickly! **VOLUNTEERS**

NEEDED! Please contact

ce@hollischurch.org for more information, or find the volunteer sign-up and registration forms outside the Christian Education office.

Do you love a good Scavenger Hunt???

Join the Junior Youth (5th through 8th grades) on May 17th from 4:30 pm-6:00 pm in Hardy Hall to see if you have what it takes to complete the ultimate scavenger hunt. Bring your clue solving skills and friends. Pizza will be provided. RSVP to ce@hollischurch.org



Mission Trip Quilt Fundraiser

to benefit the 2019 Mission Trip to Dexter, Maine



STARS & PINWHEELS

This quilt measures 70 inches square and is multi colored with a gray back-

ground. It can be used on a bed, on the couch or as a wall hanging

Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. You can purchase tickets using the order form below.

When we receive your form, your tickets will be completed and dropped in the raffle bucket.

The winning ticket will be pulled at the All Church Picnic on May 19, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.

Quilt Raffle Ticket Order Form

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 Joy of Generosity Update

Thank you to all who made our ***Joy of Generosity*** Campaign a success. It would not have been possible without the hard work of our FoV and BoV teams as well as the many members of our congregation who held House Parties, stuffed envelopes and supported our efforts. Thanks, too, for your generosity not just financially but with words and actions of encouragement and support. And, of course, thanks to Huckleberry and Wicket for adding a touch of humor to the ex-paw-rience. This has truly been a rewarding and faith-raising journey.

Financial totals to date are over \$1.45 million. This is a larger figure than has ever been collected in the history of our church or any other community campaign in Hollis. And there is still more coming in. Soon we will begin a Public Outreach Campaign. Our church continues to be the heart of our community as it has been ever since its founding. We are excited about our plans to seed increased support as we inform and serve our neighbors and the wider community.

A reminder that we will be holding a special Congregational Meeting on May 5th to vote to proceed with renovation. Please see the Warrant below for more information.

With Gratitude and Peace

Ed Wigfield

WARRANT **(for the May 5, 2019 Special Congregational 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, May 5, 2019, at 11:45 a.m. to consider the following article:





Article 1: To see if the church will authorize complete construction drawings for the entire Building Our Vision project and the construction of Phase I of the renovation to include: the new patio on the East side of the meetinghouse and renovation of Hardy Hall and the kitchen.

Kristen Migliaccio-Walle, Church Clerk



May 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mission Items of the Month Protein-rich non-perishable Canned Goods ... for our Mission Trip workcampers to take to Dexter Maine				7 pm - Choir		11 am – Handbell practice
			1	2	3	4
9:00 am – Communion Worship 9:30 am – New Parents Playgroup 10:30 am – Communion Worship and Sunday School 10:30 am – Confirmation class - mandatory 11:45 am – Congregational meeting	8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast at Joey’s Diner 7 pm – CE Board meeting	7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting	9:30 am – New Parents Playgroup 10 am – Staff meeting 5 pm – Facilities meeting	7 pm - Choir	6:45 pm – Adult & Teen Movie Night Our church volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter	11 am – Handbell practice
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
 Music Sunday  9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 2 pm – Mental Health Discussion Group	8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast 7 pm – Deacons meeting	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting 7:30 pm – Music Board meeting	5 pm – Children’s Day rehearsal + <i>pizza!</i> Summer <i>Chimes</i> deadline	6 pm – Pastoral Care Team meeting 7 pm - Choir	4:30 – 6 pm Jr Youth Group Scavenger Hunt	11 am – Handbell practice
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Children’s Day 9:00 am –Worship 10:30 am – Children’s Day Worship 10:30 am – Confirmation class - mandatory 11:45 am – All Church Picnic 2 pm – Women’s Fellowship 7 pm – Stagecoach Women’s Chorus Concert	8 am – Ladies’ Breakfast 7 pm – Trustees meeting	7 pm – Church Council meeting				11 am – Handbell practice
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Summer Worship schedule begins 9:30 am –Worship	MEMORIAL DAY 					
26	27	28	29	30	31	

From the Pastor (cont. from p. 1)

In the midst of all this vibrant activity, it can be easy to forget to stay connected to the Source of all this blessing. And so, I share with you a poem by the brilliant Mary Oliver, as words of ongoing encouragement to practice:

Praying

It doesn't have to be
the blue iris, it could be
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few
small stones; just
pay attention, then patch
a few words together and don't try
to make them elaborate, this isn't
a contest but the doorway
into thanks, and a silence in which
another voice may speak.

Blessings on your Eastertide!

Yours with faith, hope, and love,

Tanya

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship will meet on Sunday, May 19th at 2 pm in Emerson Chapel. The discussion topic is: ***The BIG Changes in Our Lives: Finding Balance and Peace.*** Rev. Tanya is the facilitator. All are welcome to visit or join us. For further information, call Dot Pitman at 465-7672.

NH UCC Women's Fellowship Spring Gathering

NH UCC Women will be gathering at the First Congregational Church, 508 Union St, Manchester on Saturday, May 11 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Our theme is *Every Day Brings New Choices* with keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Tim Wildman. The cost is \$12 which includes lunch. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board or call Dot Pitman at 465-7672.

Fellowship & Hospitality invites you to a...

Movie Night for Adults and Teens



Friday evening, May 10th

Hardy Hall

Please arrive by 6:45 to get settled in with seats and treats (free popcorn, dessert, and beverages.)

The movie runs from 7 to 9 p.m.

Bring a friend!

The PG-13 rated movie that will be shown tells the extraordinary true story of an Army Chaplain who, fresh out of the seminary and basic training, is deployed to Iraq, leaving his wife and three young children. The harsh realities of war soon take their toll on him and his battalion, making it hard to stay connected to his beloved family. When he finally comes home, with battle scars on their hearts, the couple must decide if they're willing to face one more battle - the fight to save their marriage. One marriage, one family, under God.

Questions? E-mail FandH@hollischurch.org

Thank You!

The entire congregation extends their heartfelt ***Thank You!*** to Kimber Harmon and Rick Guay for coming up with the idea and creating the amazing Flowering Easter Cross we all enjoyed and were moved by last month! Such a beautiful way to represent the events of the Holy week, ending with an amazing visual display of new life!



From the Church Office

A BIG Thank You goes to Carol Birch, Brenda Gibson, Freddi Olson, Thelma Pollard, Doris Rafferty and Deb Shipman for preparing your April *Chimes* mailing.

Mission & Action News

May & June Items of the Month:

Canned Goods - non-perishable and protein-rich

Please support our annual Mission Trip and work campers by donating protein rich/non-perishable canned goods in May and June. Our group of 27 youth and adult campers will be travelling to Dexter, Maine the week of July 21. Thank you in advance for donating these items for our church to bring into their community. All items can be left in the shopping cart at the top of the stairs.



Ongoing need for diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6)

When you are doing your shopping, please consider picking up a **package of diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6)** that we can donate to the Nashua Soup Kitchen, Bridges and Marguerite's Place. Our littlest community members are in desperate need of these diapers.

Donations by M&A

In the month of April, the Mission and Action committee donated funds to the following needy organizations:

- Books for Hillsborough County Jail program participants
- Bridges
- St. John Neumann Food Pantry
- Heifer International

Food and Fuel Assistance

Thanks to the funds from our Christmas Eve offering and local fuel distributors, our church has the opportunity to help local families with food and fuel. 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 603-598-8049 or cbrady27@comcast.net.

Music Notes



Last Ring for the Season

Bells, please join in!

Practice: Saturdays, May 4, 11, 18, 25

Practice in Parkhurst room at 11 AM to noon

Play: Sunday, May 26 at 9:30 am service
(summer worship schedule)

For more info contact: JanetSterritt@gmail.com

Let's ring in summer!

The Stagecoach Women's Chorus will have their **spring concert** on **Sunday evening, May 19th, at 7 p.m.**



in the church sanctuary. The music will consist of a variety of styles, including a cappella, jazz standards, and a few old favorites. Come enjoy a relaxing hour of beautiful music! The concert is free; however, we will have a goodwill offering to benefit the church.

Our Church Records & Letters

Deaths

March 29, 2019 — Alisa Marie Mayo

Memorial Gifts

In loving memory of Alisa Mayo by
Phyllis King

To my Church family and friends,

A sincere thank you to you all for your lovely notes, cards and phone calls while I have been unable to be in church. The bouquet of tulips that had graced the altar at church was so beautiful. Everyone enjoyed them. Knowing that you were praying for me was the most comforting. I know my church was there for me.

Thank you all for the service you do. It means so much.
Fondly, Martha Davis





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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Everyone's invited to the...

Children and Youth Sunday All Church Picnic

Sunday, May 19th at 11:30

Come join us in the Church parking lot as our talented chefs grill burgers and hotdogs. We will supply the hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. Bring a salad, casserole, dessert or even a bag of chips to pass. Come and enjoy the fellowship of your church family and friends ... and a rousing game of Whiffle Ball or Corn Hole afterwards!

See you there!

