

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

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

May 2023

www.HollisChurch.org

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**The Chimes is a publication of the
Congregational Church of Hollis**
www.hollischurch.org

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All submissions for the newsletter
are due by the 15th of the month pre-
ceding publication.



Spring is in the Air

May 2023

It may be coming slowly, and we may have had a recent huge snowstorm, but spring is definitely in the air. As the snow melts, and the ground begins to dry, new growth is starting to emerge through the soil. Perennials are returning, trees are budding, and birds are singing. At our church, we enjoyed a burst of springtime with the fragrant tulips at the Easter service and a big cross on the front lawn beautifully decorated with flowers.

It all came at once: Maundy Thursday, an Easter Sunrise Service, a well-attended Easter service in the church, two heartfelt Celebrations of Life for Gabriel Clark and Pat Coughlin, the Brush & Biscotti painting sessions, and more. Like spring bursting on the scene, the church is flourishing in a meaningful way.

We will keep the Clark and Coughlin families in our prayers. We are honored that our church can be there for the life transitions of those we care about.

Now we seek other opportunities to get to know each other better and to reach out to others in Christ's name. I look forward to a town-wide yard sale with a magic show open to the community in May, and a spiritually-oriented hike in June.

This is an active spring and a turning point as we are right in the middle of our sabbatical together. Christ is alive, and while the crucifix may not sit on the dashboard of your car and you may not wear the medal of Saint Christopher, Christ is riding with you, and God is at the center of new life and lively spring activities as you enjoy God's Creation.

Remember that Mary mistook Jesus for the gardener! That's how close Christ is.

Blessings,

Rev. Bob Fellows



From the Faith Formation Office

CE Book Read

The CE Board again invites you to read “*the good book*”! Rev. Fellows suggests the Scripture Readings from the lectionary for May.

5/7 Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ Communion Sunday
Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
Gospel Reading: John 14:1-14

5/14 Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ Mother’s Day
Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 66:8-20
Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

5/18 Ascension Day
Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 93
Reading From Acts: Acts 1:1-11
Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-53

5/21 Seventh Sunday of Easter
Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 68:1-10,32-35
Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
Reading From Acts: Acts 1:6-14
Gospel Reading: John 17:1-11

5/28 Pentecost Sunday
Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 104:24-34,35b
Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
Reading From Acts: Acts 2:1-21
Gospel Reading: John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

★ Birthday Box Kit Thank You! ★

Thank you so much to all those who contributed items, or a whole kit, to the Birthday Box drive for Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter. We were able to donate over 10 complete kits, with lots of extra accessories and decorations to make a child feel extra special on their birthday. We are so grateful for your willingness to help!

~Kim & The Flock



News from *The Flock...*

It is hard to believe the church school year is coming to a close. This has been a fun-filled year with lessons, activities, songs and service projects! Each week your children amaze me with their curiosity and eagerness to learn God’s stories. I enjoy spending each Sunday morning with your children and will miss them over the summer; thank you for sharing them with me.

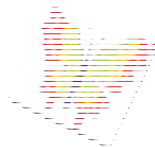
Be sure to check next month’s summer Chimes edition for some fun summer programs.

A special thank you to all who helped in the nursery, Flock classes, Youth Group and CE Board!! Your support and help meant a lot, and I appreciate each and every one of you!

~Kim

The Flock’s May classes:

May 7 - Butterfly lesson
May 14 – Mother’s & Father’s Day lesson
May 21 - Children's Day worship service followed by end-of-year celebration!



Vacation BIBLE SCHOOL Registration is open! Volunteers are needed!

Join us for *Christmas in July* on July 17-20 from 9-11:30am. VBS will be a fun filled week of adventure, scavenger hunts, lessons, crafts, STEM, games, snacks & MORE! Don't miss out! Spots are limited.

- Ages 4 years - Grade 6
- Must be able to attend all 4 days
- Registration closes June 14
- \$5 per child
- Need a registration form?

Contact Kim at CE@hollischurch.org or stop at the church office. You can mail the form to the church, drop off or bring to a Flock class.

***Adult and teen volunteers are needed!** Anyone entering Grade 7 and up is welcome to help! Please contact Kim at ce@hollischurch.org if interested.

Sabbatical Support Team News



We hope the congregation has enjoyed the events held so far. As a recap, in **March** there were five **Lenten Loaves and Lessons** held where we shared food, fellowship, learning, and thoughtful discussion, and in **April** Rev. Bob led three “sold out” **Brush & Biscotti** paint events (April 16 class pictured).

May promises awe-inspiring entertainment as Rev. Bob treats the community to a full-length magic show on **Saturday, May 13 at 10:30am** on the **Squires Community Patio** (to be held in the Meetinghouse in case of rain). This will take place simultaneous with the church-hosted Community Yard and Bake sale, Library Book Sale, and Colonial Garden Club Plant Sale. You’ve seen a

small sample of Rev. Bob’s magic on Sunday mornings during “A Message for all Ages”. Come enjoy a full show of his mastery of magic (he was a professional stage magician performing on national TV) and be sure to invite friends and family!

As the program year winds down, be sure to save a couple of dates in early June:

- **Saturday, June 3 (time 2:00pm; rain date June 10) - Hike at Beaver Brook followed by a bonfire discussion.** 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.
- **Sunday, June 4 after worship - TENTATIVE “And the Rest is History” presentation on Henry Opukahaia** presented by Cindy Ryherd. Henry Opukahaia is the man credited with starting Hawaii’s conversion to Christianity, and he has a very important tie to the Congregational Church of Hollis.

During the Sabbatical period, reflect on where we are and how far we’ve come over the last few unusual years. Look for an email in the coming weeks to complete a 3-question survey (anonymously or named as you prefer) providing your input on the past, present, and future. **We encourage everybody to contemplate how you would like to go forward in the years to come and complete the survey.** Information from the survey and the Loaves and Lessons discussions will be summarized and presented to the congregation sometime after Rev. Tanya’s return.



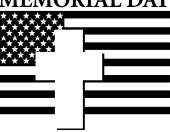
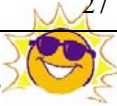
The Sabbatical Support Team is open for any input on these and all other matters and can be reached at SabbaticalST@hollischurch.org. We hope you find these events enlightening and enjoyable!

Blessings from your Sabbatical Support Team

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

May 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Saturday May 13 9am – 12pm Church parking lot 	7:30 pm – CE Board meeting 1	10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 6:30 pm – Music Board meeting 2	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 3	7 pm - Choir 4	5	6
9:30 am – Communion Worship (In Person / Livestream) 9:30 am – The Flock 2:00 pm – Our church hosts Hillsborough Association UCC annual meeting in Hardy Hall 7	7 pm – Deacons meeting 8	Yard Sale donations accepted 7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting 9	Yard Sale donations accepted 10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 5 pm – Facilities Committee meeting 10	Yard Sale donations accepted 6 pm – Caring Connections 7 pm – Choir 11	Yard Sale donations accepted Our volunteers provide dinner at Spring St. Shelter 12	9am – 12pm Community Yard Sale & Church Bake Sale 10:30 am Magic Show on Squires Patio 13
9:30 am – Worship (In Person/Livestream) 9:30 am – The Flock 14	5:30 pm – Trustees meeting Summer Chimes deadline 15	10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 16	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 7 pm – Stewardship Board meeting 17	7 pm - Choir 18	19	<i>Reimagine Church</i> workshop – Lessons from Improv at Littleton, NH Congregational Church 20
Children's Day 9:30 am – Worship (In Person/Livestream) Children's Day Brunch after worship in Hardy Hall and on Squires Patio <i>All are welcome ~ Bring something to share, if you're able</i> 21	 BLOOD DRIVE 11am-4pm 22	23	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 7 pm – Church Council meeting 24	25	26	27
Pentecost Sunday ~ wear RED! 9:30 am – Worship (In Person/Livestream) 11 am – Sabbatical Support Team meeting 28	MEMORIAL DAY  29	30	10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 31	Mission Items of the Month: Fun in the Sun items  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Beach Towels (new or gently used) ▪ Sun Screen ▪ Aloe ▪ Water bottles ▪ Frisbees for Nashua Children's Home		

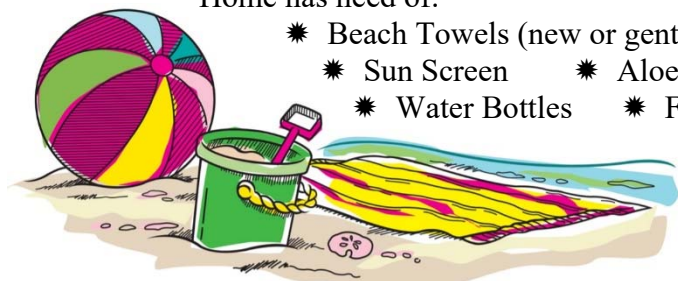
Mission & Action News

May Items of the Month:

Summer Fun items for the Nashua Children's Home.

With the warmer weather arriving, the Nashua Children's Home has need of:

- * Beach Towels (new or gently used)
- * Sun Screen * Aloe
- * Water Bottles * Frisbees



Please place your donations in the collection box outside the center front doors.

Spring St Shelter Chefs Needed

Our church volunteers to provide dinner for the Spring Street (formerly Ash Street) Shelter on the second Friday of every month. You just cook the meal and deliver; we provide you with a Market Basket gift card to pay for the food. **Volunteer Chefs are needed for July, November and December.**



Please consider signing up on the bulletin board outside the church office or by contacting Lee Harper at missionandaction@hollischurch.org.



**Monday, May 22
11am - 4pm in Hardy Hall**

Please consider donating, and book your appointment through their website:

www.RedCrossBlood.org

M&A Outreach in April

We collected and donated new bath towels and face cloths, paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, diapers and wipes to *Bridges*. We also collected a box of used cell phones for *Bridges*. Thank you for the generous support of this shelter for domestic and sexually abused women!

Join us for the...

Children's Day Brunch Sunday, May 21

After our Children's Day worship on May 21, all are invited to join us in Hardy Hall and on the Squires Patio for a Children's Day Brunch. If you are able, please bring something to share ~ anything from a homemade dish to donuts from Dunkin'!

Also good for sharing ... Anyone have Cornhole game they can bring? Other fun stuff like bubbles or sidewalk chalk?

Everyone is welcome!



The Trustees are keeping close tabs on the budget, and our **pledge fulfillment shortfall is about 14% short year to date**. We are hoping that the congregation can check and fulfill on their pledges as soon as possible. We appreciate your dedication to keeping the church infrastructure running!

Thank You notes...

Dear Friends,
I extend heartfelt thanks to all for your many prayers, cards, and expressions of sympathy following my mother's death. The care and concern from my church family has truly been a comfort throughout this time.
Gratefully,
Eileen Widner



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



The Caring Cooks (a new ministry team,) prepares frozen meals for the Caring Callers to take with them when they call on our friends in

need. We will meet **Thursday May 4th at 9:00 a.m.** to prepare packaged meals to be placed in the freezer. We are a small group who fellowship as we cook and serve others. Ingredients and recipes are provided ~ *just meet us in the kitchen!* If you know of someone who needs a meal please visit <https://hollischurch.org/caring-cooks-meal-request/> to request a meal. For more info Contact Lee Harper or Kimber Harmon.

Reimagine Church Workshop



Reimagine Church Lessons from Improv

God is working in unexpected ways among us, and that is the focus of **A New Thing Task Force**. We are looking for new ways to partner with God.

Join us for the final discussion of what improv offers our congregations. Bring a team and leave each session with a plan for how to approach today's challenges and joys in worship, meetings, social gatherings, and/or mission.

Lessons from Improv ~ Recovery of Materials
Saturday, **May 20**, from 9am to 2pm

Reuse and recycle what you've got to improvise a new church!

First Congregational Church of Littleton, UCC
Led by Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Mae Magill (Liz)



Fee: \$20/person/session \$50/church/session
FREE for 6 or more members of a church

Registration and Questions: Please contact ANewThingTaskForce@gmail.com for questions and registration. Payment will be at the door.

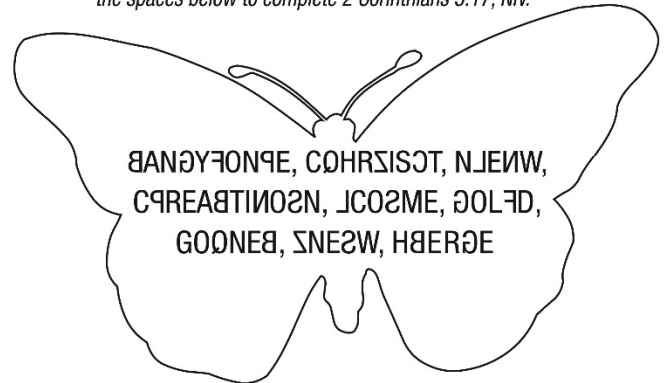
Just for Kids...



Transformation **POWER**

 Just as the caterpillar becomes a butterfly,  God transforms us from old to new.

Directions: Cross out the backward letters. Write the remaining letters in order in the spaces below to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.



Therefore, if _____ is in _____,
the _____ has _____:

The _____ has _____,
the _____ is _____!

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17, NIV

Answer: anyone, Christ, new, creation, come, old, gone, new, here

Bible Quiz ~ Pentecost

Which follower of Jesus preached to the crowds after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost?



- A. John
- B. Peter
- C. Mary Magdalene
- D. Paul

Answer: B (See Acts 2:14ff.)

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS...

A promotional poster for a magic show. The background is dark blue with a subtle light effect. At the top, the name 'BOB FELLOWS' is written in bold yellow letters, followed by 'MAGIC SHOW' in large, bold white letters. Below this, a green horizontal bar contains the date and time 'SAT. MAY 13 • 10:30am' in white. The central text reads 'FREE! ALL ARE WELCOME!' in red, followed by 'SQUIRES PATIO AT HOLLIS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH' in green, and 'MASTER MAGICIAN SEEN ON NATIONAL TV' in yellow at the bottom. On the left, there is an illustration of two yellow-gloved hands breaking chains. On the right, there is an illustration of a yellow-gloved hand holding several playing cards.

You've seen a small sample of Rev. Fellow's magic on Sunday mornings during "A Message for all Ages". Come enjoy a full show of his mastery of magic! Invite friends and family!

For more information and to watch videos of Bob Fellows performing magic,
go to <https://hollischurch.org/magic-show/>
Same morning as the Community Yard Sale
Will be held inside the Meeting House in the event of rain

Sell Your Spring-Cleaning Items and/or Your Arts & Crafts at the Community Yard Sale!

Saturday, May 13, 9:00-12:00

Church Parking Lot

(will be moved inside of church building in case of rain)

To Rent a Space:

Rent a space (or spaces) to sell your stuff (great way to "spring clean" and make money). If you don't have used items to sell but you have products to sell (excluding baked items), you can rent a space to sell your products. Tables also available to rent. Go to <https://hollischurch.org/community-yard-sale-reservation/> to reserve your space.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Friday, May 5

Questions? Please contact Carol at F&H@hollischurch.org or 603-860-2178
Church fundraiser Mission & Action contribution and in support of other church needs



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

Non-Profit Organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



The Community Yard Sale and Church Bake Sale are Back!

Saturday, May 13, 9:00-12:00

Church Parking Lot

(will be moved inside of church building in case of rain)

How Can You Participate?

- **Volunteers needed** Wed - Fri (5/10 - 5/12) for pricing donated goods, and Saturday, 5/13, for set-up, working at the sale, parking/traffic control, clean-up and haul away afterward.
- **Donate merchandise** to be sold as part of the church's yard sale tables. Donations can be dropped off **Tuesday-Friday, May 9-12**, from 8am – 1pm; **please no donations prior to May 9**. If other drop off day/time is needed, please contact Carol at F&H@hollischurch.org or 603-860-2178.
- **Donate baked goods** for bake sale
- **COME OUT AND BUY!** Great bargains and awesome baked goods to be had, plus an opportunity to see lots of people from town!

Questions or Willing to Help? Please contact Carol at F&H@hollischurch.org or 603-860-2178
Church fundraiser Mission & Action contribution and in support of other church needs