

The

# Chimes

Newsletter of

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

November 2021

www.HollisChurch.org

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

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*“Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”*  
(Matthew 6:26)

Dear Friends,

When I moved to Boston for seminary after living in Chicago for a while back in the early 1990s, I fell in love with the city. But when I returned to Wisconsin that first Thanksgiving, I heard the geese outside my parents’ home squawking at each other as they migrated south — the first time in a long time that I’d heard that sound. I remember being very moved by it; one doesn’t hear many geese in the heart of the city. Yesterday, I heard a flock of geese overhead and was reminded of that moment, and of a poem by the brilliant Mary Oliver called *Wild Geese* (poem on p. 3). I searched for the poem online because I didn’t have her book quick to hand, and discovered this poem by Christa Hesselink, which I share with you as a Thanksgiving-season blessing.

*A Blessing Inspired by Mary Oliver’s poem, “Wild Geese”*

May we have ears to hear the voice of Love  
coming to us in unexpected ways.

May we be gentle with ourselves and each other  
when we feel like we are riding a wave that could drown us.

May we allow our softness and vulnerability to rise, and

May we pay attention to what truth it has to tell us.

May we share our despair and listen deeply to the despair of others.

May we notice the rhythms of grace found in all living things,  
and receive it all as gift.

May we admit our loneliness, our survivor’s guilt,  
our helplessness, and our overwhelm,

while also holding the hope and the truth that somehow  
everyone and everything belongs in the family of things.

May we have eyes to see the profound reality unfolding  
and the patience to endure it’s revealing.

May we be ones who hark like the wild geese,  
shouting to each other with love and care,

that each of us have needs and are needed,  
and we are in this together.

(<https://www.soulplay.ca/soulcarekit/wildgeese>) (cont’d on page 3)

# From the Faith Formation Office

## Journey to Confirmation

November's *Journey to Confirmation* includes service projects, a field trip and a Life Lesson:

- 11/12 - Youth Group: Cooking for Ash St. Shelter
- 11/14 - Field Trip to St. John Neuman Catholic Church. Mass at 10:00 am.
- 11/17\* - Life Lesson at 4:30pm in Hardy Hall: Slow Down 3  
\*Change of date due to Christmas Fair
- 11/21- Thanksgiving Box packing at Brookdale (details forthcoming)

## News from The Flock:



In November, the Flock will be continuing their unit on becoming *Closer to God*, and will also begin the Advent lesson series. Among other holiday games and crafts, kids will be decorating Christmas placemats for Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter to use at their holiday meals.

**The Thanksgiving Food Parade** will take place during the worship service **Sunday, November 20**. Online sign-ups for students will be distributed the beginning of November.

**~NO CLASS on Sunday, November 28th after Thanksgiving~**

**Thank you, Thank you!** to everyone who donated underwear in October for the underwear drive for Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter. It was hugely successful with **over 50 packages donated!** This is the shelter's most needed, under-donated item, so *thanks* to everyone who brightened someone's day with the most basic of needs!



## Scouting for Food

*Did you know that our church receives food from the 'Scouting for Food' Campaign to help fill our Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets? Your participation helps us all. What goes around, comes around...*

Hollis Scouts will again be participating in Scouting for Food. The Hollis scouts will **drop off tags with information on Saturday, November 6** and **collect filled bags on Saturday, November 13**. Please consider donating any canned or dry foods (NO GLASS or perishables).

**Leave the bags out in a visible place by your door or near your mailbox NO LATER than 8 am on November 13th, rain or shine.** Scouts will not ring the doorbell to collect donations. If your bag has not been picked up by 11 am, please use the drop box at the handicapped entrance of the church.

The scouting community would like to thank you in advance for your generous donations. Someone will enjoy a nice meal because of your generosity.

(From the Pastor – continued from page 1)

May this year’s harvest season draw us into a deeper awareness of the varieties of abundance that bless and enrich our life, and may our Thanksgiving be expressed through our joyful sharing of it all.

Yours in faith, hope, and love,

*Tanya*

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2022 Stewardship Campaign

We’ve been meaning to ask: *What if you could do something that will bring you closer to God and His grace, strengthen your faith, be of tremendous help, and give you and others great joy?*

We are, of course, referring to the practice of Generous Giving in support of Christian Stewardship, where stretching your comfort level of giving a bit toward it becoming a sacrifice allows for God’s grace and reassurance of actual abundance to enter your soul and strengthen your faith.

Pledge cards have been mailed to your homes and are also available in the narthex or church office.

**We ask that you make your pledge by Pledge Sunday, Nov 7**, either online at our website under the “Giving” tab (<https://hollischurch.org/annual-pledge/>), or by completing a pledge card, and returning it to the Church (Congregational Church of Hollis; 3 Monument Sq, Hollis, NH 03049) or in an offering plate at Sunday service. If you have questions, please ask one of us.

Blessings & Gratitude to you,

The Stewardship Board – Chris Hyde,  
Dee Wagner, Beth Harper



## Wild Geese (by Mary Oliver)



You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.  
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.

## Thanksgiving Food Baskets: An “all-church” effort...



**Our Deacons** get non-perishable foods through *Scouting for Food* as well as purchasing Thanksgiving meal items to include in the baskets...

**Our children** will be creating Thanksgiving greeting cards and bringing fresh veggies and other Thanksgiving dinner items...

**Our Pre-Confirmation & Confirmation students** (grades 7-9) pack the food into boxes for delivery...

**Our Deacons** deliver the baskets...

**But we need your help, too!** We need volunteers to **bake more Thanksgiving pies** – pumpkin, apple, whatever you like – for the baskets. Please deliver the pies to Hardy Hall kitchen on Sunday morning, November 21<sup>st</sup> or contact Rick



Guay to make other delivery arrangements (RMGuay@comcast.net)

**Let’s work together to make it a Happy Thanksgiving for all!**



# Christmas Fair News

We are doing a “Hybrid” Christmas Fair for 2021!

- \* **Online Auction AND Raffle Basket Ticket Sales**  
November 10th to November 20th
- \* **In-Person Christmas Fair (scaled-down)**  
10am-2pm on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

## Online Auction

The Online Auction begins at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 10, and ends at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 20 (coinciding with the end of the live Christmas Fair). You can **PREVIEW ITEMS** already on the auction website by going to [hollischurch.org](http://hollischurch.org) under the Christmas Fair tab; click on the online auction website. More items are being added regularly and will continue to be added right up until the time the auction starts, so check back regularly!



## Raffle Basket Ticket Sales

**Raffle Baskets** Online or In-Person  
Baskets will be on display online.

To view, go to [hollischurch.org](http://hollischurch.org) under the Christmas Fair tab for basket descriptions, photos and ticket order form. Print the order form and send your completed form with payment to the church. Orders must be received by Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>!

Baskets will be on display at the In-Person Christmas Fair on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be sold in person until the end of the fair.

The drawing will take place at 2pm, at the conclusion of the in-person Christmas Fair. For more information contact Kim & Kim at [ce@hollischurch.org](mailto:ce@hollischurch.org) ASAP. Thank you!

## Angel Loft...No parents allowed!

Children shop for themselves, or family and friends. Everything is 2 bucks; yes, that's right — 2 bucks!



## Lunch to Go ~ Homemade

soups/chowders and homemade pie for dessert.

**Pre-Order your Thanksgiving pies** for pick-up on the day of the fair.

## How YOU can help with our Christmas Fair

**Volunteers Needed** - Please see the sign-up sheet outside the office to help with any of the following:

- \* Set up
- \* Clean up
- \* Raffle ticket sales
- \* Door Attendants
- \* Bake Sale
- \* Letters to Santa
- \* Floating Helpers

You can also email [sue@hollischurch.org](mailto:sue@hollischurch.org) or [CE@hollischurch.org](mailto:CE@hollischurch.org) for more info or to sign up as well.

## Items Needed

(drop at church office)





- \* **Silent Auction** - New or gently used items and gift cards
- \* **Craft Items** - Craft/handmade items that you would like to donate. Please contact Debbe Shipman at [deb3ship@tds.net](mailto:deb3ship@tds.net) or 603-465-7645
- \* **Angel Loft** – New or *gently used* small trinkets for baby siblings to grandparents, family games, jewelry, and things for Dad. Also need Christmas or plain gift bags
- \* **Raffle Baskets** – New individual items or completed baskets welcome! For more information email Kim & Kim at [ce@hollischurch.org](mailto:ce@hollischurch.org) ASAP.







# November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Christmas Fair</i> Online Auction ~ Nov 10-20 Raffle Basket ~ mail in orders Nov 10-19 <i>or</i> buy in person 11/20 In-Person Christmas Fair ~ Nov 20</p>	<p>7 pm – CE Board meeting <b>Deadline for Christmas Fair Auction &amp; Raffle Basket donations</b> 1</p>	<p>10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 6:30 pm – Music Board meeting 2</p>	<p>10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 3</p>	<p>7 pm - Choir 4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p><i>Scouting for Food</i> information tags distributed Set your clocks back to-night! Daylight Savings Time ends 6</p>
<p><b>Stewardship Pledge Sunday</b> 9:30 am – Communion Worship (In Person and Zoom ) 9:30 am – The Flock 10:45 am – Special Congregational Meeting 7</p>	<p>7 pm – Deacons meeting 8</p>	<p>7 pm – Mission &amp; Action Board meeting 9</p>	<p>10am – Zoom Coffee Hr 5 pm – Facilities Committee meeting <b>Christmas Fair Online Auction and Raffle Basket ticket sales begin</b> 10</p>	<p>11 am - Veterans Day observance on the Squires patio 7 pm - Choir 11</p>	<p>3:30 pm – Youth Group cooks for Ash St Our volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter 12</p>	<p><i>Scouting for Food</i> collection  10 am - 3 pm in Hardy Hall 13</p>
<p>9:30 am – Worship (In Person / Zoom) 9:30 am – The Flock 10:00 am – Confirmation field trip to St. John Neumann Catholic Church 14</p>	<p>7 pm – Trustees meeting December <i>Chimes</i> deadline 15</p>	<p>7 pm – Church Council meeting 16</p>	<p>10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 4:30pm – Confirmation pumpkin pie baking 17</p>	<p>7 pm - Choir 18</p>	<p>Deadline for mail-in Raffle Basket Ticket orders 19</p>	<p> 10am – 2pm 20</p>
<p><b>Thanksgiving Sunday</b> 9:30 am – Worship (In Person / Zoom) 9:30 am – The Flock Thanksgiving Food Baskets ~ homemade pie delivery to church and Confirmants’ packing event <b>GIVING TREE</b> in Hardy Hall 21</p>	<p>7pm – Stewardship Board meeting 3pm-6pm – Auction item pick up 22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>10 am – Zoom Coffee Hour 12:30 pm-3:30pm – Auction item pick up 24</p>	<p><b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>  25</p>	<p>Church office closed 26</p>	<p>9:00 am – 12 noon Auction item pick up 27</p>
<p>9:30 am – Worship (In Person / Zoom) NO Sunday School <b>GIVING TREE</b> in Hardy Hall (if tags are still available) 28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p> <b>November Mission Item of the Month:</b> <b>GIVING TREE</b> ~ tags available beginning November 21 to support Nashua Children’s Home and Marguerite’s Place residents</p>			

# ...And the Rest is History: *Our Church's History Highlights* Room Names, Part III

by Cindy Ryherd



November is the one-year anniversary of the November 14, 2020 dedication of the Squires Community Patio, making it the perfect month to talk about our second newly named space (the Saunders Room already discussed in Part I of this series).



## The Jim & Jan Squires Community Patio

More commonly referred to as the Squires Community Patio, it is officially named the Jim & Jan Squires Community Patio. Completed and dedicated a year ago, the patio, located on the east side of the church, was conceived by a team of visionaries at the church who recognized an opportunity to improve the facilities while addressing a legal need for fire safety. Designed by Dennis Mires of the Architects, and installed by local business, Morin's Landscaping, who also generously donated a lawn sprinkler system, the Squires Community Patio is intended to be a vibrant venue for town activities, and a welcoming spot for the community to enjoy fellowship with neighbors.

The patio naming opportunity was valued at \$250,000 due to its highly visible location as the centerpiece of the recently-completed church renovation. In line with their belief of giving back to the community, a value which Jan and Jim instilled in their children, the Squires family generously gifted over half the cost for the patio hoping to inspire others to invest in our community by donating generously in Jan and Jim's honor.

Jim and Jan's son, Marc Squires, shared during the dedication, "The patio truly looks like it has been here forever which is an amazing testament to the care and the work that went into this. The thought of having this community space for everyone to use in the church and in the town and the memories that will be made here is more special than my family could ever articulate."

## About Jim and Jan Squires:



Jim and Jan Squires married in 1960 and eventually settled in Hollis in 1971. They have been active members of the community ever since (50 years!). Their four children were raised in Hollis, educated in the local public schools, and attended the Congregational Church of Hollis.

Jan was active in many community organizations in addition to the church, taking special interest in Beaver Brook Association, Friends of the Hollis Social Library, and the Hollis School District. She also served for many years as an elected Supervisor of the Checklist. Jan's enthusiasm, positive spirit and belief that each day is a precious gift enriched the lives of all those around her. She passed away in 2013 and is still loved and missed by all who knew her.

Jim served in the US Air Force as a medical officer, built a practice as a general surgeon, and along with four others, founded the Matthew Thornton Health Plan, the state's first Health Maintenance Organization. The Matthew Thornton HMO grew to service more than 60,000 individuals. Jim also served as the first president of the Endowment for Health which is dedicated to serving the state's neediest residents by championing affordable health care and advocating for the poor and underserved. Throughout his career, Dr. Squires has been an articulate, compassionate, effective and non-partisan voice for health policies to reduce the burden of illness for New Hampshire residents.

Like his wife Jan, Jim is a firm believer in public service. He was Hollis' Town Moderator and Moderator for the local school district and for the Congregational Church of Hollis for decades. He served two terms as New Hampshire state senator and ran a principled campaign for governor, finishing second in a crowded primary.

In addition to their four children (two of whom live in Hollis), Jim and Jan Squires have a total of fourteen grandchildren. Jim lives in Hollis with his son, Marc Squires, Marc's wife Jen, and their four young children, including twins born just this summer who will never know the church WITHOUT the patio named after their grandparents! What a wonderful legacy!

### The 2020 Dedication:



During the dedication of the patio last year, Rev. Tanya shared that when she was being interviewed for the pastor position, Jim said to her “Tanya there’s a really special tradition we have in our church. At the conclusion of every service, we close with these words ‘Let us now go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage...’” Tanya said he then proceeded to recite the entire Common Commission. Afterwards, he said to her, “I appreciate it, because it reminds me of the person I want to be every day, not just in church, but we say ‘Let us go forth into the WORLD’. She shared, “I will never forget that moment...”

In wrapping up the dedication, Rev. Tanya said in prayer, “And so, it is very appropriate to me that this space here should be dedicated in honor and memory of Dr. Jim and Jan Squires, whose lives have embodied our common commission in our community and in the wider world. May their examples be carried forward as this sacred space, where our church meets the town and meets the world, continues to strengthen the faint hearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, and honor every person as we love and serve the Lord with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. And now we dedicate this space, hence forth to be known as the Jim & Jan Squire Community Patio, that we might continue to serve Your purposes of reaching out to, loving, and serving others. We bestow upon it the Squires name in honor and recognition of the many ways that Jim and Jan selflessly loved and served others, especially the young, the vulnerable, the sick and the needy after Jesus’ own example. May today be just the first of countless joyful gatherings on this patio that bring people together in our community. Thanks be to God.”

Thanks be to God indeed, for Jim and Jan and the entire Squires family for their generosity of love, time, talent and financial support over many, many years.



### **CORRECTION to October's *And the Rest is History...* article**

For those who read the October *And the Rest is History...* article about Emerson Chapel, the first paragraph incorrectly stated that the south windows of Emerson Chapel were covered (and made mirrors inside Emerson Chapel) as part of the 1965 west-wing addition. In fact, the south-facing windows of Emerson Chapel were not covered until the 1999 renovation that added the elevator and lobby. Thank you to Roger Saunders letting me know! It’s important to me to get historical facts correct. My apologies for the error!

*Cindy Ryherd*



## From the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee would like to spotlight the following fun ways to apply your talent(s). We hope you will consider serving on one of the following Boards:



- **Board of Deacons (3 positions OPEN)** - With the Pastor, Deacons direct the ministry of the church and promote the spiritual life of the church through its worship, faith, and outreach. They determine the order of worship and provide the necessary pulpit supply in the absence of the Pastor. They participate in the administration of the sacraments. They receive and examine all requests for admission to church membership. Deacons visit at the homes of the elderly, the sick, and the bereaved. They minister to the needs of the parish families and inform administrators of the Deacons Fund, other board committees, and the Pastor when their services are required. They express the concern of the church for those who are shut-in or hospitalized, either through correspondence, flowers, or personal calls.
- **Music Board (3 positions open)** - supervises the music program of the church. The Board is responsible for administering the purchase of music and recommends a budget for music to the Trustees each year. The Board is responsible for recruiting choir members and recommending organists and choir directors when vacancies occur.
- **Board of Christian Stewardship (3 positions open)** Each year this board chooses a thoughtful theme for the Fall Stewardship campaign. Then it plans how to rollout the campaign to the congregation. Members work closely with the Pastor, Trustees and Church Council.
- **Mission and Action (Youth position open)** - Provides for outreach and education in the area of social concern.
- **UCC Conference Delegates**

Feel free to contact the Nominating Board with any questions you may have at:

[NOMINATING@hollischurch.org](mailto:NOMINATING@hollischurch.org)

Thank you,  
Nominating Committee

## Notice for a Special Congregational Meeting

Please plan to attend the **Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 7**, following worship. We will vote on the recommendation by the Trustees to utilize \$120,000 from interest on the Church endowment to pay down the renovation loan. You should have received a letter from the Trustees explaining their decision, as well as including answers to some questions you may have. Know that Council voted to support the Trustees plan. Both in-person or virtual attendance via Zoom will be available. Voting options will be determined in the October Council meeting and shared with the congregation through information meetings and email blast. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at either [hyde@tellink.net](mailto:hyde@tellink.net) or call me at 465-6416.

Be well and safe –  
Dot Hyde, Council Chair

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



Monthly meetings of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held in Emerson Chapel on the **first Tuesday of the month**, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., beginning on **November 2nd**. No previous experience in making shawls is necessary, just bring your coffee along and join us! If you're interested in learning more about this Ministry, examples of shawls and prayer squares will be available. Any questions, email Irene Norian ([rinorian@comcast.net](mailto:rinorian@comcast.net)) or Patricia Cordell ([patricia.cordell27@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.cordell27@gmail.com)). Everyone is welcome!

## From the Church Office

**A BIG Thank you** goes to Nancy Bell, Sue Burton, Freddi Olson and Deb Shipman for preparing the October *Chimes* for delivery to your mailbox!



# Mission & Action News

## November Item of the Month:

### Support our GIVING TREE

This year the GIVING TREE will be supporting the Nashua Children's Home and Marguerite's Place, two organizations that our church has supported for many years.

Choose a name tag from our Christmas Tree after worship on Sunday, November 21. The tree will either be in Hardy Hall or the Squires Patio, depending on the weather.

All gifts will be due back to the church by Wednesday, December 15, 2021.

If you are unable to attend church on November 21, please call or email Karen Marino and she will deliver the tags to you. She can be reached at 603.465.2463 or [kmarino360@gmail.com](mailto:kmarino360@gmail.com).

If shopping is not an option for you, you may make a monetary donation toward fulfilling the "Christmas wishes" of the children. Checks should be payable to the Congregational Church of Hollis, with *Giving Tree* on the memo line. Donations are needed by December 12, 2021 to allow time for M&A to shop to fulfill the children's wishes.



**Thank you** all for your generous donations of coats, jackets, sweaters, mittens, hats sweat-shirts, and scarfs. Large donations were made to both the Nashua Soup Kitchen and to Davis Funeral Home. If you still have donations to make, please leave them in the M&A bin outside the elevator entrance.

## Mission & Action Ongoing Collections...

- Diapers
- Eyeglasses
- Travel size Toiletries
- Used Cell Phones
- Items for the Brookline Food Pantry\*

**Please Note:** We are no longer collecting Greeting Cards and Stationery. A drop box for Holiday Cards 4 Our Military is located outside the Hollis Pharmacy. They will accept cards and stationery.

We have collection bins in the coat cubby inside the church's center (handicapped) entrance. Please place your donations of eyeglasses, cell phones and travel toiletries in their new bins. Donations may also be dropped in the M&A collection bin outside the church's center (handicapped) entrance.

## \*Brookline Food Pantry Info

Brookline Food Pantry is located on the lower level of Brookline Town Hall. Enter at the back of the building. The Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10am-12pm and Wednesdays 6-8pm. The pantry needs:

- **Refrigerated items:** milk, eggs, cheese, juice, butter, long lasting produce, cottage cheese, yogurt, lunch meat in packages, cream cheese, and pudding snacks.
- **Frozen items:** frozen vegetables and meats
- **Non-Perishable foods:** granola bars, juice, instant potatoes, rice, rice-aroni, ground coffee, cereal, pasta sauce; **Please no pasta or beans**
- **Dog & cat food**
- **Other items:** toothbrushes, personal hygiene items, toilet paper, paper towels, detergent, dish soap.

For the perishable foods, please call the Welfare office, Rebecca Purdin, at 603.673.8855x300 and leave a message. Your call will be returned within 24 hours.

## Ash St Shelter Meals

Volunteers (individuals or families) needed to cook dinner for the Ash Street Shelter on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month. Dates are available in 2022. You will be given \$75.00 to pay for the groceries. For more information and delivery information please contact Lee Harper at [Blharper@tds.net](mailto:Blharper@tds.net)



**Saturday,  
November 13  
10am - 3pm**

Go to [www.RedCrossBlood.org](http://www.RedCrossBlood.org) to sign up for an appointment.



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**

*You're invited to the In-Person portion of our...*

# *Christmas Fair*

Saturday, November 20

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Hardy Hall

- \* ***Fabulous Gift Basket Raffle*** —something for everyone or great for gift giving
- \* ***Craft Table***
- \* ***Fashion Scarves***
- \* ***Letters to Santa***
- \* ***Angel Loft*** (where only children may shop ☺)
- \* ***Silent Auction*** – goods and services
- \* ***Bake Sale*** - delicious homemade treats
  - \* ***Lunch to Go***
  - \* ***Pre-ordered pies***