

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

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

November 2023

www.HollisChurch.org

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**The Chimes is a publication of the
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are due by the 15th of the month
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*“Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.”*
~Henry Alford, Anna L. Barbauld

Dear Friends,

I don’t know about you, but I thoroughly enjoyed our metamorphosis adventures across the past couple months. It will be hard to put “*Chrys*”alis, the wonderful blanket Monica Alvarez made that featured differently each Sunday, away— but we’re leaving behind the chrysalises and spreading our wings to venture to new places.

As we travel into the depths of the harvest season, across the four Sundays in November, we’re going to explore a journeying theme. Rick Steves, the popular travel journalist and faithful Christian, may make an appearance or two as we explore themes of “Leaving Home”, “The Encounter”, “The Reflection”, and “Returning Home”. The idea is that, whether we travel far from home or only around the corner, this world we’ve been given to learn and grow in is full of wonders and rich with blessings, if we are open to discovery with curious spirits and open hearts and minds. In a time that seems plagued by fearful tribalism, or resistance to embracing the sacredness and divine beloved-ness of each and every “other”, we will practice paying attention to our encounters as we journey in faith through this realm. Because they have the potential to change us in beautiful ways!

On Sunday, November 12, Chris Hyde will share his faith journey testimony. These are always powerful narratives of how our fellow church family members have experienced and understood God, and faith, and life itself — and I encourage you to be present for that if you can.

That same day, my dear friend, the Rev’d. Dr. Mark Williams (a member and Associate Pastor of the church I served in England, also a Professor of Clinical Psychology and world-renowned authority on mindfulness meditation) will be worshiping with us.

(continued on page 2)

From the Faith Formation Office

News from *The Flock*...

In November, the Flock will be learning about women in the Bible and begin Advent lessons. Among other games, crafts, card making and skits, we will be starting to prepare for our CHRISTMAS PAGEANT to take place on December 10! *More details to follow...*

Flock Family Glow Night Pizza Event

Join Tanya and Kim for Glow
Night Pizza Event on Wednes-

day, November 8
from 5:15-6:30pm. There
will be glow sticks, glow in the
dark games, and more! Sign Up Genius
will be emailed out or RSVP to Kim at
ce@hollischurch.org



The Thanksgiving Food Parade



will take place during
the worship service **Sunday,
November 19**. Online sign-
ups for students will be dis-
tributed the beginning of
November.

**** NO CLASS ****
on Sunday, November 26th
(Sunday after Thanksgiving)

(From the Pastor – cont'd from p. 1)

He is the author of several books on mindfulness, including *Mindfulness: An 8-Week Plan for Finding Peace in a Frantic World*, which I highly recommend. If you've ever wondered about the practice of mindfulness, Mark will look forward to talking with you! It's well-timed, too, because our Advent series "*The Gift of Being Present*" will be focusing on Christian Mindfulness. (See p.3 for more details.)

Throughout November, we will also continue to engage our annual Stewardship theme: "*Because of you, our church changes lives.*" On November 19th, we'll celebrate Pledge Commitment Sunday as we welcome several new members into our church community through baptism and profession of faith. (If you're interested in joining, please email me: pastor@hollischurch.org.) Please carefully consider how God (a.k.a., Love) is encouraging you to journey deeper in your experience of divine faithfulness by committing to support the ministries of this church with a pledge, so that together we can change lives, and nurture the life and ministries entrusted to us.



The daylight hours are waning as our hemisphere prepares for its season of seeming "rest" — though we all know there's plenty going on as the decaying foliage quietly fertilizes the soil and prepares for next year's abundance. Let each of us notice and express our gratitude for the abundance we have enjoyed in our own lives, and share it unreservedly in ways that spreads the blessing deep and wide!

Yours with faith, hope, and love,

Tanya



Scouting for Food

Did you know that our church receives food from the 'Scouting for Food' Campaign to help fill our Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter food baskets?

Hollis Scouts will again be participating in Scouting for Food. Scouts will **collect filled bags on Saturday, November 4.** Please consider donating any canned or dry foods (NO GLASS).

Leave the bags out in a visible place by your door or near your mailbox NO LATER than 8 am on November 4th, 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 center 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.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets: An "all-church" effort...

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



Our children create Thanksgiving greeting cards and bring fresh veggies and other Thanksgiving dinner items...

Scouts and church volunteers* pack the food into boxes for delivery...

Our Deacons and other church volunteers* deliver the baskets...

Pie Bakers needed! Homemade Thanksgiving pies are a great addition to our food baskets to make the Thanksgiving meal complete.

Volunteer to be a pie baker— pumpkin, apple, whatever you like! Please deliver the pies to Hardy Hall kitchen on Sunday morning, November 19th.

***Contact Tom Hildreth** to volunteer to pack or deliver food baskets (twhildreth@gmail.com)

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

Exploring Mindfulness as a Practice to Cultivate Peace, Joy, and Wellbeing

"Can you remember the last time you lay in bed wrestling with your thoughts? You desperately wanted your mind to become calm, to just be quiet, so that you could get some sleep. But whatever you tried seemed to fail. ...By the time the alarm went off, you were exhausted, bad-tempered, and thoroughly miserable. Throughout the next day you had the opposite problem — you wanted to be wide awake, but you could hardly stop yawning. You stumbled into work, but weren't really present. ... You couldn't concentrate. Your whole body ached and your mind felt empty. ..." (pp. 1-2, Williams & Penman)

***Mindfulness: An 8-Week Plan for Finding Peace in a Frantic World*, by Mark Williams and Danny Penman** is a very readable book that teaches how to free oneself progressively from anxiety, stress, unhappiness and exhaustion. It offers a series of simple practices that can be incorporated into daily life — practices that have proven effective in numerous studies in freeing people from the need for medications to treat anxiety & depression.

But you don't need to be anxious or exhausted to benefit from the joy and peace that Mindfulness practices provide!

Our Advent theme in our December Sunday worship services, and at our ***Loaves & Lessons*** series will be **"The Gift of Being Present."** We'll be using Amy G. Oden's book *Right Here Right Now: The Practice of Christian Mindfulness* and accompanying video clips at *Loaves & Lessons*. Feel free to purchase the book if you're interested — it's a different take on the same material, more rooted in the roots of Christian mindfulness (which trace back to Jesus and before), and it's equally readable.

Whether or not you read the book(s), please join us for the very popular ***Loaves & Lessons*** 4-week series on **Wednesday evenings at 5:30-6:45pm, starting on November 29th!**



November 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Mission Item of the Month: GIVING TREE ~ tags available Nov 12 and Nov 19 Supports Nashua Children's Home and Marguerite's Place residents			10am – Zoom Coffee Hour 1	7 pm - Choir 2		3 <i>Scouting for Food</i> collection Daylight Savings Time ends tonight ~ Turn your clocks back 1 hour! 4
9:30 am – Communion Worship (In Person and Livestream) 9:30 am – The Flock 4 pm – “Chari-tea” Concert ~Enjoy live music along with tea, coffee and treats! Benefits the Deacons’ Fund 5	7 pm – CE Board meeting 6	10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 6:30 pm – Music Board meeting 7	10am – Zoom Coffee Hour 12pm – Facilities meeting  5:15 pm – Flock Family Pizza Night & Glow Party 8	 12pm-5 pm 10am – Staff mtg 6 pm – Caring Connections 7 pm – Choir 9		11:00am - <i>Veterans Day</i> Observance on the Squires Patio 11
9:30 am Worship (In Person/Livestream) 9:30 am – The Flock GIVING TREE in Hardy Hall Deadline for Christmas Fair raffle baskets 12	7 pm – Deacons meeting 13	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting 14	10am – Zoom Coffee Hour 6:30 pm – Stewardship Board meeting December <i>Chimes</i> deadline 15	7 pm - Choir 16		 Christmas Fair 9am – 2pm 18
Pledge Commitment Sunday 9:30 am Worship (In Person/Livestream) 9:30 am –The Flock ~ Thanksgiving Food Parade! GIVING TREE in Hardy Hall 11am – 1pm – Thanksgiving food basket packing at Brookdale 19	5:30 pm – Trustees meeting 20	10 am – Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting 21	10am – Zoom Coffee Hour 7 pm – Church Council meeting 22	Happy Thanksgiving  23		24 25
9:30 am Worship (In Person/Livestream) <u>No Flock</u> Sunday School 26			10am – Zoom Coffee Hour 5:30 pm – <i>Loaves & Lessons</i> Advent Study #1 of 4 29	7 pm - Choir 30	 <i>Loaves & Lessons</i> Advent Series begins Nov 29	

Mission & Action News

In lieu of an Item of the Month, M&A requests your support for the annual ...

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE*

The Mission & Action Board sponsors the Giving Tree program which benefits the Nashua Children's Home and Marguerite's Place.

The Christmas tree will be in Hardy Hall on Sunday, November 12 and Sunday, November 19.



Here's how it works:

1. Choose one or more tags from the tree depending on how many children you wish to sponsor.
2. There are TWO tags on each string. Pull the *second* tag off the string, write your name and telephone number on it, and put it in the basket provided.
3. Keep the top tag. It has the information about the gift recipient.
4. Go shopping! Use the information and suggestions on the tag as a guide. It is not necessary to purchase every item listed on the tag. Many items are available on Amazon. In order to make all children feel equally loved and important, (kids know how to count!) we ask that everyone have **6 to 8 gifts** for each child to open.
5. Please wrap gifts individually with the child's name on each package, from: Santa.
6. Place all gifts in a large plastic bag. Attach the tag to the bag with the gifts you purchased checked off. Any other items which are not on the tag, please list.
7. Please **return the bags to church as soon as you have them ready to go.** The **deadline is Sunday, December 10th** to give us time to deliver them.
8. ***Monetary donations** toward fulfilling "Christmas wishes" are also gratefully accepted. Checks should be payable to the Congregational Church of Hollis with *Giving Tree* on the memo line. **Monetary donations are needed by December 3rd** to allow time for M&A to shop to fulfill wishes.
9. We want to express our sincere thank you to everyone who takes this opportunity to make a child's Christmas extra special!

Red Cross Blood Drive



**Thursday November 9
12pm-5pm
Hardy Hall**

**GIVE
Blood**

Most adults are eligible, so please consider being a blood donor!

Online registration is recommended at www.redcrossblood.org

Food and Fuel Assistance

If you know anyone in the community who needs assistance with food or fuel, please connect with Lee Harper at missionandaction@hollischurch.org

Mission and Action Update

Thank you for your donations to the Church World Service Blanket Sunday special offering last month. Because of your generosity, Church World Service will be able to provide blankets to 20 families left homeless by economic hardship or natural disasters. ***Because of YOU, our church changes lives!***

Your M&A Dollars at Work for the month of October:

- Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire
- Mercy Ships
- College Freshmen Care Packages

From the Church Office...

A BIG Thank You goes to the small but mighty group who prepared your October *Chimes* for mailing — Florence Baker, Brenda Gibson, Freddi Olson, and Deb Shipman.

Music in Ministry

Our church's Music Ministry continues to seek anyone interested in singing, ringing, sacred dancing to lift up our congregation in the glory of God's gift of music.

- ♪ **Choir** - The Advent/Christmas season is fast approaching and is a wonderful opportunity to help present the glorious music of the season. The choir will soon be practicing the seasonal music and would love to have you join them for rehearsals on Thursday nights from 7 – 8 p.m.
- ♪ **Acoustic Guitar?** – The beloved song “Silent Night”, the poem by Father Mohr was set to music by Franz Gruber for a Christmas Eve service after the church's organ was damaged by flood waters in 1818 in a small town in Austria. For anyone out there who can play a guitar (and your friends!), the Christmas season is a perfect time to feature this moving Christmas favorite.

If you have an interest in participating in our Music Ministry you can contact Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music – 603 930-6139, April Springfield, Music Board Chair – 603 943-9452 or any Music Board member.

It's not too late to join the Community Christmas Chorus! On December 9th, our Fellowship & Hospitality, Deacons, and the Hollis Town Band & Community Chorus will present a holiday concert, collecting non-perishable food for our church's holiday baskets as “admission.” The chorus is a short-term commitment for anyone who loves to sing. *No auditions – if you can climb the stairs at the Town Hall, you're in!* All voices needed! **Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 pm** upstairs in the Town Hall. Rehearsals have begun, but you can still join — just come when you can!



Deacons' Fund Charitea Concert



Sip. Savor. Support!

Date: Sunday, November 5, 2023

Time: 4:00 – 5:00pm

Location: Hardy Hall

Get ready for a heartwarming experience that will tantalize your taste buds, enthruse your ears, and warm your soul! Join us for a delightful afternoon of tea, treats, live music, and community at our CHARITEA EVENT!

- **Teas and Coffee:** Explore a selection of delicious teas and coffee
- **Delicious Treats:** Pair your tea or coffee with delectable treats that will leave your taste buds dancing.
- **Live Music:** Enjoy the soothing melodies of live violin music donated by local violinists Sharon Funk of Brookline and Shannon Laine of Hollis, setting the perfect ambiance for this tea party.
- **Giving Back:** Your attendance supports a local and worthy cause! All proceeds from the event will be donated to the church Deacons' Fund, with 100% of the funds helping local families in need.
- **Ticket Information:** Reserve your ticket(s) (to help with food and beverage planning) and make a donation to the Deacons' Fund online or at the door.

Go to <https://hollischurch.org/deacons-fund-charitea-fundraiser/> to learn more and register for tickets.

Because of YOU, Our Church changes lives

by Chris Hyde, Stewardship Board Chair

Throughout the Bible, but also in today's day to day life, examples abound of the need to reach out to help others – to act selflessly with generosity, sharing, and kindness to others – be it helping those suffering from natural disasters or wars, homelessness and hunger, to supporting the church to help educate and improve our moral compass and sense of purpose, and how God wants us to respond. Certainly, this outreach helps those in need who receive these generous acts. But we often don't appreciate that the act of giving *also blesses and strengthens the givers*, not only making them feel good, but also strengthening faith and connection to God and Christ. ***Acts of Christian Stewardship are indeed acts which keep on giving – to those who receive, but also to those who give.*** How wonderful and how accessible these benefits are !

But are you like me? For many reasons (both good and questionable), the voices in the back of our minds often tell us to avoid helping or giving generously: “There are soo many issues, it's overwhelming”, “Someone else will do it”; “I may not I have enough of a cushion”; “I've got other plans/wants for that”; or, “I've helped already, it's time for somebody else.” By giving in to the perceptions of scarcity vs. a clear-eyed appreciation of our actual blessings and abundance (as well as our capacity to restore what we give away), **we get betrayed by evolutionary conditioning and our more selfish desires.** I know I go through this often myself – too often!

But I continue to make progress in reminding myself of the realities, as well as the manifold benefits of extending myself through giving beyond where I'm comfortable. I really have found that by stretching my comfort levels in our giving, that I'm experiencing more benefits than regrets, and it certainly is strengthening my faith – though it's a constant struggle. I think that perhaps that's the point. What do you think? How do you view or experience God's call to be good stewards?

Allow me to pivot slightly and focus specifically on our church and some of the issues we are seeing and help that we need. **A few facts... and a few requests.**

Did you know...?

Our current church membership = 277

Our current Budget is approximately \$380,000

Pledged giving represents 90% of all income, and supports 80%+ of the church budget. (The remaining 20% is covered by endowment interest, rental income, and “loose”/unpledged offerings.)

Pledging Households = 87 (Down from 100 in 22, and 131 in 2017) !

Recent Sunday Service Attendance average ~ 45-50 in person, 25-30+ Live Stream

Requests...

*** Request #1: Please make a Pledge! If you are not already a pledger, please consider becoming one by committing to a pledge this year.** Making a pledge is easy! You can complete a 2024 Pledge Card (cards will be mailed in early November) and return it to church OR make your pledge online at <https://hollischurch.org/annual-pledge/> We need your help more than ever!

*** Request #2: If you possibly can – Please raise your pledge generously to help meet our increased needs,** which are impacted by inflation, increased needs, and the loss of income from those who have departed and to offset the difficulties some in our church will have this year.

*** Request #3: Please help and volunteer!**

Contact our Church Office (churchoffice@hollischurch.org), Nominating Committee (nominating@hollischurch.org), or Stewardship (stewardship@hollischurch.org) to discuss.

Thank You ... Because of YOU, Our Church changes lives



Our church needs YOU!!

Several boards and committees are looking for both new and experienced members to help them. Please consider your talents and how God is leading you to help our church. Nominating Committee members

would love to talk with you and answer questions about the various boards and openings. To submit your name for a position or get further information, email: nominating@hollischurch.org or speak with any of the members (Charles Lewis, David Gilmour, Janis Louzek or Barbara Amos).

Current openings:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| ✠ Stewardship (3) | ✠ Deacon Bd (1) | ✠ Christian Education (3 adult/1 youth) |
| ✠ Church Council (1) | ✠ Music Bd (2) | ✠ NH Conference Delegates (1) |
| ✠ Trustee Board (1) | ✠ SIPE Scholarship (1) | ✠ Nominating Committee (2) |

Church Council – Meets 4th Wednesday at 7pm
Representatives of each board and 3 at-large Council members act as the executive committee of the church, oversee and support the work of the church as we live into our vision.

Stewardship Board – Meets on 3rd Wednesdays at 7 pm and oversees the year-round discipline of stewardship — the spiritual practice of giving back to God our time, talent and treasure out of the abundance bestowed upon us. Responsibilities include:

- Prepare & conduct an annual Stewardship drive
- Actively pursue ways of engaging the church community to give their time, talents, treasure
- Provide records of all pledges, collections and gifts given during the year

Trustees – Meets on 3rd Monday at 5:30 pm. Trustees manage the financial affairs of the church, prepare annual budgets and monitor income/expenses. Trustees oversee the maintenance of the church building and all church property.

Deacons Board – Meets on 2nd Mondays at 7 pm. The Board of Deacons together with the Pastor direct the ministry of the church and promote the spiritual life of the church through its worship, faith and outreach. Responsibilities include:

- Prepare sanctuary for worship services
- Provide for greeting and seating of worshipers
- Assist pastor with worship services, including Communion, Baptisms & Confirmation
- Prepare food baskets during the holiday seasons
- The Pastoral Relations subcommittee is the liaison between the pastor and congregation
- Oversee/assist with use of Meetinghouse for special services (e.g., funerals, weddings)

Christian Education Board – Meets on 1st Monday at 7:30 pm and is responsible for the educational ministry for all people of the church. Responsibilities include:

- Oversee and support all Faith Formation programs, activities, volunteers and staff
- Provide adult learning opportunities in partnership with the pastor
- Ensure teacher training and adherence of Safe Church policy for all youth activities

Music Board – Meets on 1st Tuesdays at 6:30 pm and supervises the music program for the church. Responsibilities include:

- Oversee music staff; conduct yearly reviews
- Ensure maintenance of the pianos, organ and bells; clean choir robes
- Administer music budget and special funds
- Oversee the copyright licensing

Nominating Committee – Meets as needed and is responsible for filling all Board and Standing committee positions. Its members serve as the recruiters to match members' talents with the church's needs.

Sipe Scholarship Fund Trustees - The Sipe Scholarship was established to students preparing for service in the United Church of Christ. Sipe Scholarship trustees receive all monies directed to this fund and award scholarships from the accrued interest as sufficient funds are available.



A Letter of Thanks from the Ryherds

In late 2004/early 2005, I started attending the Congregational Church of Hollis. I wanted a church to raise our future adopted daughter from China when we eventually found out who she was, and we became her parents. In June 2005, Amy was put into my arms in Changsha, China, and the greatest blessing God ever gave me, being Amy's mom, began. On November 13 of that year, she was baptized into this amazing church family. Thank you, all, for keeping the promise made to her that day: *"We promise our love, support, and care."* Thank you, again, for the promise you made to her and kept on June 2, 2019, at Amy's confirmation, *"We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ."* Even as a busy college student, Amy asks about what's happening in the church. You will always be family to her and have surpassed everything I hoped she would benefit from by being a part of this church family.

I didn't know back in 2005 how important this church (and by "this church," I mean all of YOU) would become to me personally, not just me, Amy's mom, who wanted her to be raised as I had been. While Eric and I are very excited about our next chapter of life in Dover, NH, we are also genuinely sad to say goodbye to some of the most wonderful people we know. We will live just an hour away and intend to visit and participate in occasional town and church events and services. Still, it's unrealistic to think it will be the same as the regular, dependable, predictable joy we get from our church family relationships while living in Hollis.

Know that you have left an indelible mark on our lives, with more heart-warming memories than we could list. Through the ups and downs that life delivers (and we have been blessed with many more ups than downs), you have been there for us, as we have tried to be there for you. Having the rock of this church to stand on has given us comfort and so much joy for 18 years. Thank you for everything...

Sincerely,
Cindy Ryherd

Changes in the Church Office

Changes are coming in the church office! Jessica Cleveland will join our staff as our church administrator in early November, while Eileen continues but with reduced hours and responsibilities. Please give Jessica a warm welcome! Here's an intro provided by Jessica...



STAFF CHANGES

Jessica lives in Hollis with her husband, Ken, and their adorable dog, Boots. She has a background in engineering and business. When Jessica isn't working, she loves to explore the great outdoors through hiking, camping, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. She is excited and deeply honored to be welcomed into The Congregational Church of Hollis family and cannot wait to use her skills to help the church fulfill its wonderful mission.

Thanksgiving Thoughts... Bounty of Thanks

—Robert Louis Stevenson

We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.

And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience.





Come to the Christmas Fair!

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th

Luncheon served from 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

This year's Christmas Fair will be all in-person.

All your favorites will be back ~ Basket Raffle, Book Room, Bake Sale, Jams & Jellies, Luncheon, Angel Loft, Kids'

Craft, *New to You* + Crafts, Silent Auction & *Santa*!

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Don't miss out on the opportunity to take pictures of your child with *Santa* at the Christmas Fair on Saturday, November 18.

***Santa* will be visiting the fair from 10am - 11:30am, and again from 12:30pm - 1:30pm, to greet them.**

While you're there with your child, be sure to visit the **Angel Loft** (where only children shop), and the kids' craft room! Have some lunch and get some of your own shopping done as well.



Christmas Fair Luncheon

What better way to share the holiday spirit with friends and neighbors than a hot homemade lunch at the Christmas Fair?

Holiday shopping builds up an appetite! Be sure to join us in Hardy Hall for the **Christmas Fair Luncheon** on Saturday, November 18th from **11:00am – 1:30pm**. Enjoy listening to holiday music and socializing with friends and neighbors. Hope to see you there!

We still need your help to make the Fair a success!

Check out all of the opportunities on the next page...



How YOU can Help with Christmas Fair

It's almost here... the 2023 Christmas Fair with all or most of your returning favorites. **But we still need you and your help!** Please contribute and volunteer to assist with this important and beloved **Church and Community annual tradition!**

Volunteer Opportunities: christmasfair@hollischurch.org

- Helpers for each area/activity on Fair day...volunteer for a favorite job or as a floater or "wherever needed." We have both active and seated tasks/roles to fill with varying shifts and time commitments. Let us know your schedule and needs. It's really a fun day!
- Musicians/singers to perform and share the holiday spirit
- Elves to assist Santa with the kids
- Coordinators to manage Craft Room and Musical Entertainment
- Helpers to sort, organize and set-up the goods prior to the event for the Book Room, Angel Loft, Silent Auction
- Set-up and clean-up crews
- Solicitation to local area businesses for silent auction (please first check with or notify Allison at auctiondonations@hollischurch.org)

Donations Needed:

- New or gently used small trinkets for children to purchase as gifts for their family members in the Angel Loft (e.g., toys, games, jewelry, Mom & Dad things) and holiday or plain gift bags, too
- Gift cards to local businesses, tickets to games or events, special experience opportunities, excursions, gift baskets, coupons for a unique product or service — be creative! — and other *new* items for Silent Auction
- Books, puzzles, games and DVDs for Book Room
- Homemade tasty treats for the Bake Sale table
- New or *gently* used goods for the "New to You" and handmade crafted items for the Craft tables
- Items for themed Raffle Baskets or donate a basket from your family or group of friends (email: ce@hollischurch.org so we can anticipate what is coming)! More info below.

Please contact Carol Birch or email christmasfair@hollischurch.org to volunteer, contribute or ask any questions. Sign-ups near the church office or Hardy Hall. Drop off donations on Sundays, during church office hours, or place items in the CE box (right side) outside the church's front door or reach out to Carol or christmasfair@hollischurch.org to make special arrangements.

* * * * *

Calling All Bakers/Candy Makers!

I will be coordinating the sale of the baked goods at the church fair again this year and hope that people who love to bake will contribute to making this sale another success. There is a sign-up sheet at the church where you can indicate what you anticipate contributing; or if you are still not in the church on a regular basis, you can shoot me an e-mail at deb3ship@tds.net. Please be sure to include your e-mail and/or phone number so I have a way to contact you with any last-minute updates or suggestions. You can also call me with any questions at 603-465-7645. Thank you in advance... Debbe Shipman

Christmas Fair Raffle Baskets

Be creative! Donate a basket from your family or get together with friends! Please have at least 5 items to make a complete basket. Email ce@hollischurch.org with **your theme by November 5** so I can look forward to what is coming! All baskets are due by November 12 and can be dropped off during office hours, Tuesday through Friday from 8-12, and placed in the Flagg Room. I look forward to seeing some fantastic baskets!!



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



JUMP START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING!

There will be something for everyone at our 2023

Christmas Fair

*Saturday, November 18
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*



Santa will be visiting this year!

- * *Fabulous Gift Basket Raffle*
- * *“New to You” sale*
- * *Kids’ Crafts*
- * *Angel Loft (where only children may shop)*
- * *Pictures with Santa*
- * *Silent Auction – goods and services*
- * *Bake Sale - delicious homemade treats*
- * *Handcrafted Items*
- * *Delicious homemade jams and pickles*
- * *Books and Puzzles room*
- * *Hot Luncheon — homemade soups, breads and pies with time to socialize with neighbors!*
- * *Holiday music (live and/or recorded)*