

The

Chimes

Newsletter of

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

September 2019

www.HollisChurch.org

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- New adult Bible study – *Listen Up!*
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- Junior Youth Group, Basketball, Work Camp 2020 ... and more!

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

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"They spent their time learning from the apostles, and they were like family to each other. They also broke bread and prayed together. Everyone was amazed by the many miracles and wonders that the apostles worked. All the Lord's followers often met together, and they shared everything they had. They would sell their property and possessions and give the money to whoever needed it. Day after day they met together in the temple. They broke bread together in different homes and shared their food happily and freely, while praising God. Everyone liked them, and each day the Lord added to their group others who were being saved."

(Acts 2:42-47, CEV)



**... they broke bread
at home and
ate their food
with glad and
generous hearts,
praising God and
having the
goodwill of all
the people. Acts 2:46-47, NRSV**

Dear Friends,

I hope you've had a restorative summer! That you've enjoyed plenty of time to experience sabbath rest. To break bread/eat, play, and share life, thoughts, and laughter with people whose company delights you. To pray and spend intentional time communing with God. And in all of this, to become more aware of God's grace and joy in your life.

In Acts Chapter 2, Luke describes the spirit and activities present in the earliest Christian communities as they formed and grew. Though they certainly suffered challenges, the believers were positive – filled with hope and enthusiasm about the present and the future, because they felt the Spirit with them. Though diverse in many ways, they invested themselves deeply in the identity and practices that bound them together: they were followers of the Jesus Way, Christians practicing behaviors that were counter-cultural but offered immense freedom. They were forming holy habits that shaped their personal lives and changed their wider communities.

The American historian/philosopher Will Durant famously paraphrased an observation from Aristotle's *Nichomachean Ethics*, saying, "We are what we repeatedly do."

(continued on page 7)

From the Faith Formation Office

New Journey to Confirmation program is underway!

Beginning in 7th Grade, students will begin the process of being confirmed. This program contains most of the components of Confirmation classes in prior years, but the requirements have been streamlined with the option of completing the program in either 2 or 3 years. 7th Graders will continue their learning by performing Bible lesson skits for Sunday Schoolers and will bake pies for Thanksgiving. 8th and 9th Graders will take part in developing relationships with church mentors, and attend an overnight retreat. All students will attend field trips, complete required lessons, and fulfill service hours helping both in church and the wider community.



Calling HCC Basketball players!

The Church team graduated many members from the last few years so we are looking to fill the ranks to keep the team participating in

this community league. Games are Saturday afternoons from December to March at the new Westwood Park YMCA. We hope to have at least one practice during the week. This team is part of the co-ed Church Basketball League, run by the YMCA of Greater Nashua since the early 1900s. Players must be at least 13 and in 7th grade by October 15, 2019, and no older than 18 and in grade 12 by that date. Games begin in early December; practices begin in November.

If interested, please let us know as soon as possible. The league is contemplating some changes to increase participation and parity, so it will be great if we can communicate our involvement. Please contact alexkutschke@gmail.com with any questions.

Homecoming Sunday September 8

Homecoming Sunday marks the first day of Sunday School and Confirmation classes. September will be an exciting time with the new Rotation Model underway! Many exciting lessons are planned; including skits, bread baking, service projects, and crafts galore!

We need *your* help...

Volunteers are always needed to help oversee learning stations. Please email Kim and Kim at ce@hollischurch.org if interested.

Sunday School Registration

Parents – Please complete a 2019-2020 Sunday School registration form (inserted in your *Chimes*) and bring it on Homecoming Sunday. Thanks!



Junior Youth Group Game Night!

Join us on Saturday, September 28 from 4-5:30 for Game Night! Jr Youth Group is open to all kids in grades 5th-8th. Come meet new friends, play games and have snacks.

Drop off and pick up will be in Hardy Hall. Games are more fun with friends - Bring a friend to join in the game fun. Hope to see you there.



Bingo Night returns!

Save the date – Saturday, October 12 from 4:00-5:30pm. Fun for all ages! Enjoy time with friends, snacks, and maybe win a prize! More details coming soon.

LISTEN UP!

A Bible Study on Acts Chapters 1-6

Mondays 10-11 a.m. (Sept. 16-Oct.21)

OR Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. (Sept. 18-Oct. 23)

Led by Pat Harris and Rev. Tanya

The program of **Holy Habits** our congregation will be engaging across the coming year finds roots in Luke's description of what happened at the church's earliest formation (Acts 2:42-47; see Rev. Tanya's monthly column). "Today American society is an officially secular, religiously pluralistic, and ethnically diverse one. In many ways, *this is also the world of the Acts of the Apostles*, a world where Christianity was not socially sanctioned nor mandated by the government. Christians were a minority and the church was more of a mission movement than an established social institution. As we negotiate these changes in our social role, Acts will be helpful to us.

"Beyond these factors of cultural change that make Acts particularly timely, Acts is a book that is focused on a dynamic church guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit. In the first chapter of Acts, Jesus instructs his disciples to return to Jerusalem and wait for "the gift from on high," that is the gift and empowerment of the Spirit. In Acts 2, the Spirit comes with wind and flame, empowering the new church to tell the story of God in all the languages of the known world. During the Christendom period, when the Church was an established social institution, many churches did not pay a great deal of attention to the Holy Spirit. It would not be too much of an exaggeration to say that we trusted in our own power and did not always feel the need for God's power or the Holy Spirit.

"In this series of Bible studies, you will be encouraged to listen: listen to the Bible, listen to your own questions and responses, and listen to the honest sharing among participants in your study group. Trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, we believe that in that mix of biblical text, personal engagement, and honest speaking and listening, God's word may be heard, speaking words of challenge and words of comfort."*

* From the Introduction of the *Listen Up! Bible Study*



BOV Coffee Hour and Information Session ~ Sunday, Sept 22

Have you been curious about renovation plans?

We hope so!

Did you know that BoV is now targeting March 2020 to begin construction? Why? By using a single-phase construction plan and by starting in the spring, we can shorten the construction schedule, reduce disruptions, and save significant money!

Over 30 people from our congregation are now involved on task forces and committees, working out logistics and optimizing plans to ensure a successful renovation that will fully serve our members and our community.

Please join the BoV team for coffee hour after the 10:30AM service on September 22nd. Members from the BoV team will share progress on our plans, construction, community outreach efforts and more.

We are excited to share our progress with you!

Ed Wigfield, Sarah May
BoV@HollisChurch.org.



Work Camp 2020...


Thank you for a successful Work Camp 2019 in Dexter, Maine. We had an AWESOME time (make sure to attend the **Mission Trip Sunday service on October 27th** - it's going to be a fun morning!).

Planning for **Work Camp 2020** has already started. We have reserved a week in **Reading, PA for July 12-18, 2020**. Our youth are finding out how some "Relentless" home repairs and community volunteering can bring them closer to God and how their valuable talents are becoming "Worth It."

For more information, to reserve a spot, or if you'd like to help out with the year round planning, contact either Kevin Duquette (kevinduquette46@gmail.com / 603-930-9843) or Holly Babcock (hdeurloo@aol.com / 603-759-9175).



September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Homecoming Sunday is September 8th! Sunday School for Pre-K thru 6 th grade and <i>Journey to Confirmation</i> classes begin						
9:30 am – Communion Worship End Summer Worship Schedule 1	Labor Day NO Ladies' Breakfast! (church office closed) 2	7pm – Stewardship Board meeting 3	6:30 pm – Teacher Training 4	7 pm - Choir 5	6	7
Homecoming Sunday 9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School Sunday School begins for Pre-K - Confirmation 11:30 am – Homecoming All-Church Picnic 2 pm – Mental Health Discussion Group 8	8 am – Ladies' Breakfast at Joey's Diner 7 pm – Deacons meeting 9	7 pm – Mission & Action Board meeting 7:30 pm – Music Board meeting 10	5 pm – Facilities meeting 11	7 pm - Choir 12	Our church volunteers provide dinner at Ash St. Shelter 13	HOLLIS OLD HOME DAY 8-10 am - Pancake Breakfast in Hardy Hall 10:30 am – Parade 10am-5pm – Visit our church booth at Old Home Day! 14
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 1:00 pm – Women's Fellowship potluck luncheon at Doris Rafferty's home October <i>Chimes</i> deadline 15	8 am – Ladies' Breakfast 10 am – <i>Listen Up!</i> Bible study (class 1 of 6) 7 pm – Trustees meeting 16	7 pm – Church Council meeting 17	7 pm – <i>Listen Up!</i> Bible study (class 1 of 6) 18	6 pm – Pastoral Care Team meeting 7 pm - Choir 19	20	21
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – BOV Coffee Hour & Info Session 22	8 am – Ladies' Breakfast 10 am – <i>Listen Up!</i> Bible study (class 2 of 6) 23	24	7 pm – <i>Listen Up!</i> Bible study (class 2 of 6) 25	26	27	4 – 5:30 pm – Junior Youth Group Game Night 28
9:00 am – Worship 10:30 am – Worship and Sunday School 11:30 am – Christmas Fair meeting 29	8 am – Ladies' Breakfast 10 am – <i>Listen Up!</i> Bible study (class 3 of 6) 30	<div>  <div> Mission Items of the Month: Sweaters, Coats, Jackets (new or clean, gently-used) Supports the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter and the annual <i>Sweater Weather Recycling Campaign</i> sponsored by Davis Funeral Home </div> </div>				

OLD HOME DAYS FUN

Join us on Saturday, September 14th for Old Home Days festivities!

COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST



New this year! BEFORE Old Home Days, come enjoy good food and community fellowship at the **“Pre-Old-Home-Days” Pancake Breakfast** to be held Saturday, Sept. 14th in Hardy Hall, serving from 8am – 10am (OHD parade starts at 10:30am). Breakfast will include pancakes (plain, blueberry, chocolate chip, and gluten/dairy free), sausages, and beverages (milk, juice, coffee, tea, and cocoa). **This is a public fund raiser** with proceeds raised to help support the costs of the **Jim & Jan Squires Community Patio** which will be used and enjoyed by the entire community. Prices are:

- Adults & Teens \$5
- Children (5-12) & Seniors \$4
- Children under 5 FREE

Let's make this a new annual tradition. Invite family and friends. ALL are welcome!

PARADE

For the young and young at heart! Come march in the parade and share your church spirit. We will gather at the Church and walk over to the Middle School for line up (Time TBD). Parade starts at 10:30AM.

No need to sign up, just show up! Contact Kim Burton at CE@HollisChurch.org if you have any questions.



JOIN THE PARADE!



OHD BOOTH

Stop by our Congregational Church of Hollis booth and say hello. There will be a bit of church history, news about our renovation project, information about how our church serves the community, and fun games and crafts for the kids.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- **OHD Church booth volunteers** - volunteers to help man the booth for one hour sessions from 10am to 5 pm on Saturday, September 14. If you are able to commit to an hour of booth coverage, please contact Paul Widner at pjwidner@aol.com / 465-9054 or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office.
- **Pancake Breakfast volunteers.** Please contact Carol Birch at FandH@hollischurch.org if you can help in any way.
- Someone to **take photos at Old Home Days events.** Cindy Ryherd is out of town that weekend and would greatly appreciate it if someone could take some photos at any/each of the three events.
 - **Pancake Breakfast** - 8am-10am Hardy Hall
 - **Parade** - starting at 10:30 am
 - **Booth** - all day at OHD fieldsYou do NOT need to be an expert photographer or have an expensive camera! Most cell phone cameras do a great job these days! Please contact Cindy at news@hollischurch.org or 603-966-7559 if you could help out.

Thank you!



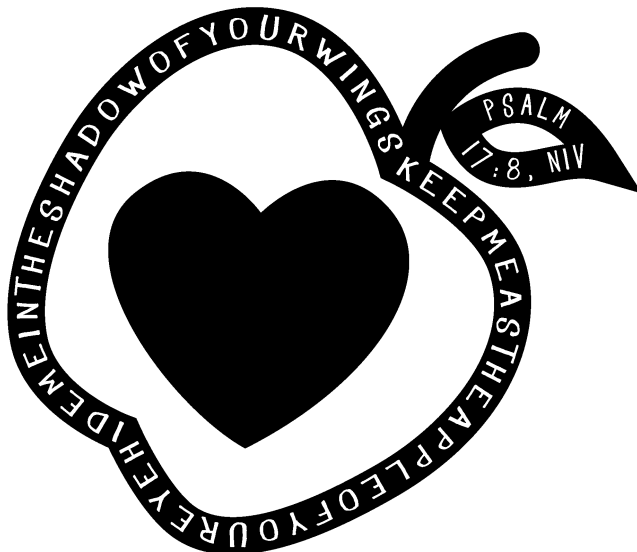
Just for Kids...



APPLE OF HIS EYE

Start each school day by remembering God's loving care for you.

Directions: Starting at the K by the stem and going clockwise, circle each word. Then place the words in the blanks to complete Psalm 17:8.



" _____

_____;

_____."

PSALM 17:8, NIV

Answer: "Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings." Psalm 17:8, NIV



These healthy chips make a yummy back-to-school snack.

What you need:

- 4 apples, cored and cut into 1/8" rings
- Large bowl
- Spoon
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Baking sheets (sprayed)

What you do:

1. Place apple slices in the bowl. Add cinnamon and sugar. Stir so apples are coated evenly with the mixture.
2. Place apple slices on the sprayed baking sheets in a single layer.
3. Bake at 200 degrees for two to three hours, until chips are dry but still slightly soft.

(From the Pastor – continued from page 1)

Thus, as we share more often from our personal resources, we become more and more defined by our generosity. As we consistently take time to pray, we're increasingly prayerful as a way of being. The more often we give thanks, the more grateful we become through and through. These are truths the early Christians (and so many people of faith after them!) discovered as they devoted themselves to practicing the attitudes and actions that defined Jesus' life. And in so doing, the faithful also experienced the freedom, purpose, and profound connectedness Jesus had with God and the world—sublime!

In the coming year, our community will be exploring and practicing some of the "Holy Habits" described in Acts 2. Habits that Jesus himself modeled. Loosely employing resources that have been quite successful with congregations in the U.K., we'll start by spending eight weeks looking at the habit of Prayer. (an outline of the more specific themes we'll be dealing with each week follows my column) If all goes well, we'll develop our understanding and practice the habit of Worship as we move into the Holiday Season. (After that, we'll look at Fellowship, Biblical Teaching, Gladness and Generosity, and Serving—though not necessarily in that order!) Worship services will be "changed up" a little bit from time to time, and there will be more interactive activities that engage us all in thinking, sharing, and maturing together in faith and habit formation.

I've been working with a small team of people to plan the Holy Habits services and activities. If you think you might be interested in also getting involved somehow, please email me (pastor@hollischurch.org) or give me a call; we'd be thrilled to have you join in the fun!

As your summer draws to a close and the school/program year picks up the pace of things, I hope and pray that the restorative sabbath experiences of summer will propel you forward, and that the holy habits we'll nurture together in the coming year will continue to nourish and sustain us all!

Yours with faith, hope, and love,

Tanya

Holy Habits—Prayer—Weekly Themes

- 8 Sept., Week 1: Introducing Prayer: What Do We Know (or Want to Know) About Prayer?
15 Sept., Week 2: Simple Prayers—ACTS, 5-fingers, teaspoon, others
22 Sept., Week 3: The Lord's Prayer
29 Sept., Week 4: Prayer as Advocacy
6 Oct., Week 5: Prayer Using All the Senses
13 Oct., Week 6: Prayers of Praise, Prayers of Lament (Personal Faith Journey Sharing)
20 Oct., Week 7: Silent Prayer, Prayer with Movement
27 Oct., Week 8: Prayer in Action (Mission Trip Sunday)

Music Notes



Celebrating our Retiring Music Staff

Choir director Sylvia Eggleston and Handbell director Janet Sterritt have retired. We will be recognizing the contributions that Sylvia and Janet have made to our church's music ministry as part of our Homecoming Service at 10:30 on September 8.

Choir rehearsals resume Thursday, September 5

at 7pm in the Parkhurst Room. Choir meets most Thursday nights at 7:00. New voices welcome!

Be A Star at our Open Mic Night!



We are looking for performers for our upcoming **Open Mic on Saturday, October 5th** from 6:30 -9:00. Please contact Beth Harper with your name, performance planned and preferred time slot. Email to blharper@tds.net.

Our Church Records

New Members ~ June 2, 2019

by Rite of Confirmation

Grant Robert Stone Batson
William Russell Bird
Eliza Mae Gehan
Cameron Burns Newbold
Abigail Grace Ogren
Amy Jeanne Ryherd
Daniel Shafer Sattler

Women's Fellowship

All women are welcome to come to the Women's Fellowship at they begin their 2019-2020 programs.

Our new season begins on Sunday, September 15th at 1 pm with a Potluck Luncheon at the home of Doris Rafferty. Her address is 53 Deacon Lane, Hollis. **RSVP to Doris at 465-3781.** For more information call Dot Pitman at 603-465-7672.

Women's Breakfast at Joey's

All women of the church are invited to join us for breakfast at Joey's Diner every Monday at 8am (No Women's Breakfast on Labor Day, Sept 2). Come break bread and enjoy fellowship!

Note of Thanks from Sibyl Cushman...

I want to thank the church family for all the thoughtfulness they extended to me after my accident. The two bouquets were so springy. The prayers and cards, along with the visits, were much appreciated.

With endless gratitude and love,
Sibyl



From the Church Office

Sincere Thanks go to Carol Birch, Thelma Pollard, Marcia Poulin, Doris Rafferty, Deb Shipman and Joyce Toli for preparing your Summer *Chimes* as well as a BOV mailing.



WANTED: Empty printer ink & toner cartridges

Did you know that our church earns \$2 per cartridge (up to 20 cartridges/month) when we recycle your empties? Just drop your empty cartridges in the collection bin on the shelf outside the CE office. Thank you!



Online Pledging Coming Soon!

Hurray for options! Stewardship will be rolling out the option of online pledging this stewardship season! Not to worry, traditionalists, pledge cards will still be available to fill in if you prefer, and online pledging will not be a financial transaction, just an e-notification of the same information that the pledge cards provide. Look for more information in next month's *Chimes*.

E-Giving Coming Soon!

It's been discussed for years, and now we are finally going to implement E-giving! Regular offerings, special offerings, ticket purchases, capital campaign donations and more will ALL be able to be paid online or through a smartphone app! Like online pledging, e-giving is an option; checks and auto-transfers you have already set up with your bank are also welcome. We will keep everyone posted and provide detailed information on how to become an E-Giver as soon as the implementation is complete.



You shop. Amazon gives.

Shopping on Amazon?

Turn your online purchases – all year long -- into dollars for the church *without costing you a penny* at **AmazonSmile!** AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to **support our church** every time you shop, at no cost to you. **On your first visit to smile.amazon.com, just designate the Congregational Church of Hollis as your charitable organization** to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping.

Since our church joined the AmazonSmile program in 2014, the total given to the church is \$1,076.79. ***Join the 82 other families who have supported our church through Amazon Smile and help us grow!***

Mission & Action News

September Mission Item of the Month:



Sweaters, Coats & Jackets

Cold weather is coming! Time to check your closets for sweaters and coats that you don't need anymore! Mission and Action is collecting new or CLEAN used sweaters and coats in good condition for men,

women and children. They will be given to area agencies for those who don't have enough warm clothing in the winter months. Those in need will be grateful for your concern and thoughtfulness! Even though it's still warm, dig through those closets and drawers and support this terrific program. Please place your donated sweaters and coats in the cart at the top of the stairs.

Socks, socks and more socks!!

At the end of June, Mission & Action received a donation of **1500 pairs of socks from Bombas** to distribute to those in need in our community. Bombas donates one pair of socks for every pair they sell - so please support them if you are buying socks for yourself! The socks have made some happy feet through The Nashua Children's Home, Bridges, Nashua Soup Kitchen, Marguerite's Place and Harbor Homes.

Thank You for your generosity for the Nashua Soup Kitchen Backpacks program. We contributed many items to fill up backpacks for local children heading off to school.

Continuous Need (drop in cart at top of stairs):

- There are many organizations in our community who distribute diapers to support mothers with little children. PLEASE help with a donation of **diapers (sizes 4,5,6)**. This is a constant need!!
- **Canned soup, beans and vegetables** are important for all families in need. When doing your shopping, if you can purchase some extra canned goods and drop it in our shopping cart, we will distribute them to area organizations (Nashua High School food pantry, Nashua Soup Kitchen, St. John Neumann, Corpus Christi Food Pantry, etc).



Christmas Fair News!



This year's **Christmas Fair** will be **Saturday, November 23rd** from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. There will be no impact to the fair due to construction, so it will be business as usual for the church elves!

There will be a **fair planning meeting** on **Sunday, September 29th** after the 10:30 a.m. service in Emerson Chapel for anyone interested in helping with the fair.

Volunteers Needed to...

- ✳ **Coordinate the Silent Auction**
- ✳ **Manage advertising & communication**

For more information, see Sue in the church office or email sue@hollischurch.org

Items Needed (drop at church office)

- ✳ **Silent Auction and "New to You" table** - New or gently used items and gift cards
- ✳ **Fashion Boutique** - Gently used, stylish garments, purses, shoes or accessories
- ✳ **Craft Items** - Craft/handmade items that you would like to donate. Please contact Debbe Shipman at 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. Christmas or plain gift bags are also needed.
- ✳ **Book Room** - Gently used books, puzzles, DVDs/CDs, and games
- ✳ **Themed Raffle Baskets** – All are welcome to contribute items (new and unused, please) for raffle baskets. We'll suggest some themes in our next issue. Have an idea for a basket? Wonderful! You are welcome to donate a basket on your own or with some friends with any theme you wish.
- ✳ **Empty Poulin feed sacks** ~ 50 lb, plastic burlap. *Anyone have chickens, sheep, goats, horses and use Poulin brand feed?*



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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Homecoming Sunday All-Church Picnic

Sunday, September 8, 2019 following 10:30 worship

Join us for our annual All-Church Picnic after our Homecoming Sunday service that kicks off the Sunday School year. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. with the picnic outside in the parking lot immediately following the worship service. The grills will be filled with hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone! The church provides the hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. Bring your favorite summer dish to pass — salads, casseroles or desserts — and, if the weather is nice, a lawn chair and your baseball mitt or Frisbee so we can enjoy our picnic outside!

Everyone's invited!

