

The

Chimes

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

September 2026

www.HollisChurch.org

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www.hollischurch.org***

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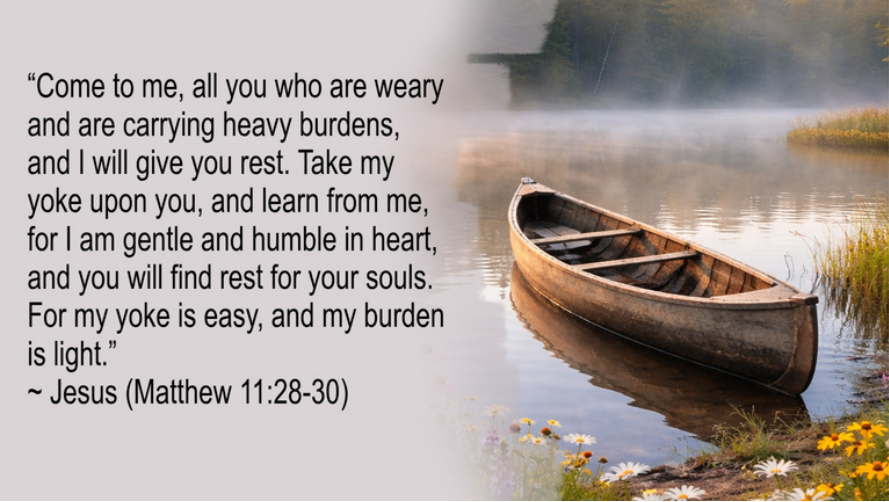
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“Come to me, all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest. Take my
yoke upon you, and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden
is light.”
~ Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)

Dear Friends,

I hope you’ve enjoyed a restful and restorative summer, and are looking forward to jumping into a new program year as much as I am! Over the summer, I spent a fair amount of time pondering and praying about how we might deepen our sense of connection and meaningful community, and how I might support you who yearn to dive a little deeper into your faith-in-life understanding. There are a few ways I’m going to try to do this.

First, in order to deepen my personal connection with those of you I don’t know so well, I’d like to invite you to join me for a one-on-one conversation either in my office, or at a coffee shop of your choosing! I’m going to hold **Pastor’s Office Drop-in Visitation hours on Tuesdays from 10-2**—but, if you’d like to meet elsewhere, just send me an email and we’ll arrange it! I’ll start with drop-ins—but I’m prepared to hang a sign-up list if lots of you show up! And, just for fun, I’ll pose a question of the

(From the Pastor- continued on p. 2)

month to kick off our conversation. So, for September at least, I'd love to hear about **"What brings you alive?"** Or, said another way, **"What makes your heart sing?"** Come talk to me about it!

Next, I'm going to offer an adult faith formation course called *"Adults Revisiting Confirmation"* (ARC). This is an opportunity for grown-ups to (re)visit some of the content covered by teenagers in the church; whether you ever went through a confirmation program or not, you may be curious to explore some "Christian Basics"! **We'll meet on Zoom from 7:30-8:45 pm on the first and third Thursdays of most months.** Here, we'll deepen our connection with God, self, and each other! While I hope folks will want to come to all of the sessions (because they really are going to be fun & fascinating, help us to get more familiar with each other, and with our personal faith understandings!), it will absolutely be okay if you can only make a few; just come when you can! I've set the time for an hour when I hope parents of young ones can also be included—and, if bedtime runs a little late, there's no shame in being a bit tardy; just come!

Finally, our **Stewardship Board has been working hard** to help all of us think a bit more deeply about our faith journey, and how the ways we allocate our time and resources can draw us into deeper, more intentional relationship with God, the world around us, our divine purpose—and, into a deeper experience of joyous, generous connection with all of life! **I hope you'll open your heart and mind to new insights and associations** as their efforts unfold in the coming months.

Friends, our **Homecoming Celebration Sunday**, with our annual Blessing of the Backpacks (for all ages!), resumption of weekly Flock (junior church school & nursery) gatherings, and followed by a potluck brunch, is on September 13th, rain or shine—I hope

you'll be part of the joyful community!

Yours with faith, hope, and love,

Tanya

Adults Revisiting Confirmation (ARC)

Using the Confirm Not Conform curriculum supplemented with some brief videos, this course is available for stalwarts and drop-ins! We're meeting on Zoom—so no need to travel! (Zoom link will be supplied in the weekly bulletin prior to class meetings.) And, if you can't make it to all of them, or if only a couple interest you, feel free to come when you're able... each class is designed to help you deepen your understanding of what it means to confirm a Christian faith. Please join us!

First & Third Thursdays 7:30pm – 8:45pm on Zoom

2026

Sept. 17: What's This All About? (Recognizing Our Story)

Oct. 1: Spiritual & Maybe Religious

Oct. 15: Broad Overview of Major World Religious History

Nov. 5: Heretics We Have Known

Nov. 19: A Mad Dash Through a Good Book

[Dec. 3, 10, 17: Loaves & Lessons Advent series, 5:30-6:45pm in Hardy Hall]

2027

Jan. 7: Studying God

Jan. 21: Creeds of the Universal Church

Feb. 4: Spirituality: Pain to Power

Feb. 11, 18, 25, Mar. 4, 11, 18: Loaves & Lessons Lenten series, 5:30-6:45 pm in Hardy Hall

April 1: Where Does the Time Go? Reflecting on Our Commitments

April 15: Wrap-up/Conclusion



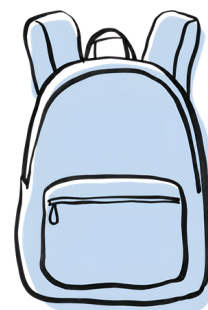
FAITH FORMATION

Welcome back to Sunday School!

Join us on Sunday, September 13th, at 9:30 a.m. to mark the beginning of a new program year. Once again, the classrooms will be filled with laughter and learning! Please complete the included Sunday School Registration form in this newsletter and bring it with you on the 13th!

Blessing of the Backpacks

We're sending students (and adults) back to school (or work) with our prayers and blessings! Everyone is welcome to bring a backpack or briefcase to the 9:30 am service on September 13th to receive a special blessing.



You're invited to volunteer!!!

It has been exciting to see our Flock program grow each year. This year, I am excited to say we will be back to running two classrooms to cater to the needs of these age groups. In order to support the children, I am inviting you to share your time and talent with the Flock & Nursery children!

Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet the children in the congregation, as well as build relationships with them as they go through their faith journeys. If you have any special talents (e.g., STEM, cooking, crafts, etc), this could be a great way to get involved. You may sign up for as many or as few days as you'd like, whatever fits your schedule. All instructions and curriculum will be sent to you the week of your signup date.

If snuggling littles, coloring, and playing are more of your interest, we have a great nursery to play in, too. This is for infants through age 3. There is a TV in the nursery to follow along with the service!

Please email Kim at ce@hollischurch.org with any questions or to be added to the volunteer list. All volunteers 18+ will need to complete a background check.



Pickleball Tournament is BACK!

Registration is now open! Create a team and register today! We would also love some volunteers for scoring and timers! Visit <https://hollisnh.recdesk.com/Community/Program> to register.

Hollis Old Home Day Saturday, September 19



Come enjoy Hollis Old Home Days and be sure to stop by the church's table on the front lawn during the parade!

STEWARDSHIP

Journey to Generosity: A Faithful Journey Together

This fall, our pledge season theme is “Journey to Generosity.” Together, we will reflect on what it means to live generously, faithfully, and joyfully, and how our generosity puts our faith into action. Jesus invites each of us on a journey of discipleship through worship, prayer, study, service, and generosity. As a community of faith, we are also called to be agents of God’s love, grace, healing, and hope in a world that is hurting and broken in so many ways.

Our congregation lives out that calling in countless ways: through the ministries we support, the people we serve, the welcome we offer, and the care we extend to our neighbors. Our financial generosity makes much of this ministry possible. When we give, we help strengthen our community and extend God’s love and grace beyond our walls.

Throughout the fall, our Journey to Generosity will invite us to consider not only what we give, but why we give—and how our generosity reflects the people God is calling us to become.

As we begin this journey, we ask you to start thinking and praying about your financial pledge for 2027. What does generosity mean to you? How has this congregation been a blessing in your life? How might you help our church continue its mission and ministry in the coming year?

Our journey will lead us to Commitment Sunday, when we will gather in worship to offer our financial commitments for 2027 and celebrate all that God is doing through us and among us.

The early church gathered with “glad and generous hearts” (Acts 2), sharing their gifts so that there was no need among them. We hope that same spirit of joy, generosity, and community will continue to grow among us.

Thank you for walking this journey together. We look forward to discovering what God has in store for us as we continue our Journey to Generosity.

FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY

Fellowship Volunteer Opportunities

Special thanks to F&H, all the Boards (September through June) and our summer volunteers for hosting Sunday Fellowship throughout the year. We couldn't do it without you! Fellowship is a vital contributor to welcoming others, building connections, and fostering community. If you would like to help hosting or provide snacks for post-worship Fellowship, please contact Carol or email FandH@hollischurch.org.



Homecoming Sunday All-Church Pot-Luck Brunch Sunday, September 13

To reconnect and kick off the new church program year, join us for an All-Church Potluck Brunch and fellowship on Sunday, September 13, immediately following worship. We'll gather in Hardy Hall and on the Squires Community Patio. All are welcome!

Volunteers for set up and clean up are needed and greatly appreciated. If you are able, please bring a food item to share. Bring the whole family and/or a friend who might be interested in exploring our church. Contact FandH@hollischurch.org for more info.





Congregational Church of Hollis 2026-27 Sunday School Registration

Parent Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Child(ren) first and last names:

_____ Date of birth _____ Grade _____ Baptized? Yes or No

_____ Date of birth _____ Grade _____ Baptized? Yes or No

_____ Date of birth _____ Grade _____ Baptized? Yes or No

_____ Date of birth _____ Grade _____ Baptized? Yes or No

Special issues or concerns (allergies/learning/behavior) _____

*By signing below, I give permission for Christian Education staff to photograph or video my child, unidentified, to monthly Chimes emails, Church website, Private/Public Church Facebook page(s) and publicity usage.

Parent signature: _____

Otherwise, please opt out of photo/video permission by checking boxes below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Monthly Chimes Emails | ☐ Church website |
| ☐ Private church Facebook group | ☐ Public church |
| ☐ Facebook page | ☐ Publicity (ie postcards, flyers, etc) |

Volunteers are imperative to the success of our program! All Flock volunteers are fully trained, supported, and directed by the Christian Education staff. Please check any positions you would be interested in helping with our Rotation Curriculum:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| ☐ Teach lesson/lead group discussion | ☐ Nursery |
| ☐ Oversee activity/games station | |
| ☐ Special Event helper- (Christmas pageant, Children's Day, cook, etc) | |

If you are interested in volunteering, please specify your availability:

Semester 1 (Sept.- Dec.)

_____ weekly

_____ "x" times/month

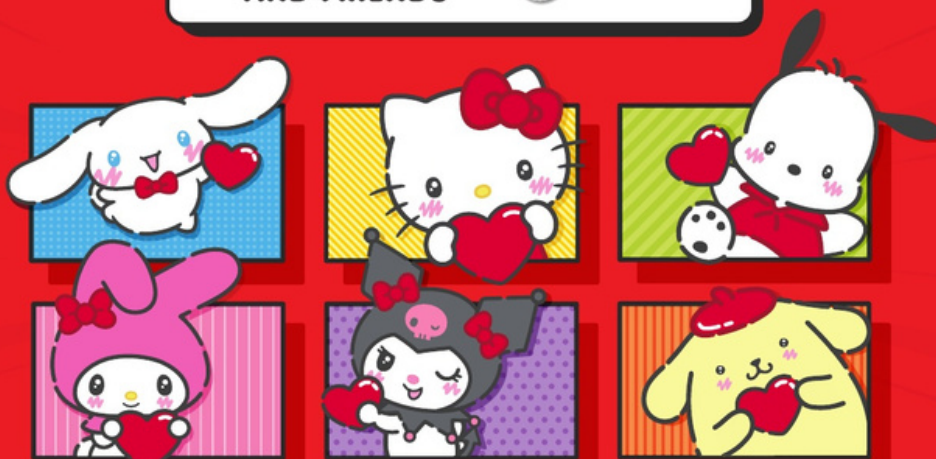
Semester 2 (Jan.- May)

_____ weekly

_____ "x" times/month

Thank you for this helpful information, and WELCOME to Sunday School!

HELLO KITTY® AND FRIENDS x  American Red Cross



Giving blood is super kind!

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Blood Drive **Hollis Congregational Church**

Basement
3 Monument Square
Hollis, NH 03049

Saturday, September 12, 2026
9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: HollisNH to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to
RapidPass®

The American Red Cross and Hello Kitty are releasing exclusive NEW merch! Come give blood Sept. 1-20 for a supercute Red Cross x Hello Kitty collectible item, while supplies last!



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, and dancing at our upcoming Square Dance in Hardy Hall! Enjoy an evening of music, dancing, and good company. Food will also be provided. More details to come!



We're looking for a handful of volunteers to help with event setup and cleanup, as well as anyone interested in helping plan or promote the event. Please email admin@hollischurch.org if interested!

Strawberry Festival a Great Success!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who shared their time and enthusiasm with this year's Strawberry Festival!

From the Hulling Party and Baking Team to the many hands that helped throughout the day of the festival, every contribution was deeply appreciated. This was the first year of the "Friends of the Strawberry Festival," with the Church serving as co-host alongside the Hollis Town Band, and we are delighted that the event went so smoothly.

We were blessed with enthusiastic volunteers—from the Church, HB Rotary, Women's Club, HBHS Robotics Team, and other townspeople—1,000+ happy local residents and visitors, and wonderful music from the Hollis Town Band.

This beloved event is an important part of the charm of Hollis and provides an opportunity for our Church to give back to the community and welcome everyone through our doors. We are especially pleased that the Church's approximately \$4,000 share of the proceeds will support our new solar panel array—helping both the environment and reducing the Church's energy costs.

A very special thank you to all of our generous business sponsors and the approximately 85 volunteers who helped make the event possible. We truly could not have done it without you and hope you'll join us again for next year's Festival on June 27th!

With our sincere gratitude,
Carol, Eileen & Kimber (co-chairs)

Help Feed Local Families Through Grow Nashua

Did you know the donation station outside our church helps provide fresh, healthy food to local families experiencing food insecurity? The donation station is a place where you can leave fresh, home-grown or store-bought vegetables for your neighbors. Everything is lovingly collected, sorted, and tended to by Grow Nashua volunteers. You can find the donation station located near the Adam Verrecchia Garden. **Donations will be collected up until Sept 11.**



New Fall Office Hours



Fall office hours will begin the week of August 24. The church office will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and 3:30–5:30 p.m. Rev. Tanya will also be holding weekly Pastor's Office Visitation Hours on Tuesdays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Our Church Records

New Members

June 14, 2026

By Rite of Confirmation

Linnea Margaret Natalie Bergeron
Hannah Marie Louise Burton

Deaths

June 27, 2026

Marcia Boulton Poulin

Memorial Gifts

In loving memory of Patricia Cordell by:

Bruce Bottamini
Karen and Warren Coulter
Phyllis King
Addie and Roger Saunders

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:30am Worship Communion Sunday 11:00 CE Board 	31 Labor Day	1 10:00am Knitting 4:00pm Mission & Action 6:00pm Music Board 	2 4:30pm  Caring Connections	3 7:00pm Choir	4	5
6 9:30am Worship Communion Sunday 11:00 CE Board 	7 Labor Day	8	9	10 7:00pm Choir	11 4:00pm Facilities	12 9:30-2:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive 
13 9:30am Worship Flock Resumes HOME COMING SUNDAY Blessings of the Backpacks & Potluck	14 7:00pm Deacons	15 6:30pm Council Chimes Deadline 	16	17 7:00pm Choir	18	19 
20 9:30am Worship 9:30am Flock	21 6:00pm Trustees	22	23	24 7:00pm Choir	25	26
27 9:30am Worship 9:30am Flock	28	29	30	For the most up-to-date information please check our online calendar: https://hollischurch.org/events/month/ Thank you to Kitchen Board for hosting Sunday Fellowship this month! Church Office Hours are Tues & Thurs 8:00am—12:00 3:30—5:30pm Please remember that hours are subject to change to accommodate inclement weather, holidays, vacations, and staffing fluctuations. Call before you stop by or make an appointment (603-465-7797).		

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

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Hollis, NH 03049

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SEPTEMBER 13

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Blessings of the Backpacks & Potluck

Join us Sunday, September 13 for worship, fellowship, and a special blessing for students and adults returning to school and work. Bring a backpack or work bag to receive a blessing. Following worship, enjoy a potluck brunch — please bring a favorite dish to share!

