

Be Strong and Courageous.
Do not be afraid; do not be
discouraged, for the **Lord**
your **God** will be with you
wherever you go. ~Joshua 1:9



Dear Friends and Community Members,

It is with a heavy heart, yet one uplifted by Christ's promise of Resurrection, that I write with the news that 9-year old Adam Verrecchia of Hollis, whose entire family are a beloved part of the Congregational Church of Hollis family, died a little after 9:30am on Monday, August 3rd. His parents, Kim & Joel, brother Luke, and sister Josie, were all with him at home.

I feel that words are failing me just now, especially because Adam was such an extraordinary child. He truly loved to read and listen to the Bible every day—highly unusual for most human beings these days, and even more so for a young child. His favorite verse appears at the opening of the Book of Joshua and a plaque on his wall (image above): “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). I cannot come up with more perfect words than these to meet this moment.

A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, August 12th at 10:00 am at the Congregational Church of Hollis, to be attended in person by the family only, but we are making arrangements to stream it and will make a recording of the service available. Please send an email to memorialservice@hollischurch.org if you would like to request the live stream link to watch the memorial service.

The Flowering Cross has been erected in front of the church to receive flowers and tributes for Adam and the family. And the Verrecchia family is establishing a fund at the church to construct a memorial garden area. This is separate from our active BOV/building project, but the hope and intention is to find a place somewhere on church property to create a peaceful place where many people will find comfort and strength as they spend time with God and the memories and spirit of loved ones in our community. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you may send donations to the Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C., with the words “Memorial Garden” in the memo line or click [HERE](#) to contribute online.

Adam touched and inspired countless lives, because the spirit and light of Christ burned brightly in him and invited others to love, appreciate, and care for others in the completely unselfish and joyful way he did. We give thanks for his life in our community, and now for his eternal life in the holy community of the Saints in Light.

Yours with faith, hope, and love,

Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen