

**North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC
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**Return Service Requested
Dated Material**

September 2019

The Sandpiper is a monthly publication of the North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC.
The Reverend Bob Naylor, Interim Pastor (508) 563-2177, www.northfalmouthucc.com





The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

September 2019

Pastor's Page

From the Interim Pastor's Desk

What to Do With Waiting Time

I want to begin this reflection with you by saying it is a joy sharing in ministry with you! You are a gracious and service-oriented family of faith. I thank you for so compassionately welcoming me into the family! I appreciate your positive feedback on the "Questions of Life and Faith" summer sermon series. The Artful Matthew Bible Study was well attended and filled with insightful discussion. Your response to the "Beauty of Creation Art Show" was overwhelming – if you count the individual works of art we came close to 100! My visits with homebound church members and listening to their stories have truly been a gift received.

Now, the waiting time for the calling of a new pastor grows shorter. It will be good to have a settled pastor. During this waiting period, I will continue with my leadership of worship, pastoral visitations, faith development Bible Studies and devotional writing.

In addition I will be:

- Talking to as many members of the church as time allows to hear about your hopes and dreams for the future of NFCC. Naturally I probably will not be able to talk with all members so if you would like to speak with me, please contact the church office.

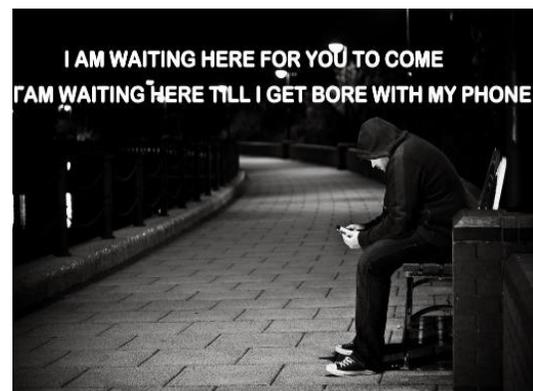
- Working with leadership and committees on structure, programming and other issues. I am hoping with the arrival of a new pastor, leadership will well be on the way to a highly effective ministry formation that will address "new ways for new days."
- Providing insights to leadership on church growth and effective financial stewardship and planned giving.
- Leading the *Blessing of the Animals*, September 15th at 4 pm, outdoors in the church garden. In the event of inclement weather the event will be held in the Covenant Room.

I turn to Paul to reflect on waiting in Romans 8.

²⁴For in^[o] hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes^[p] for what is seen?

²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

In an age of the microwave, the in a minute expectation, I want an "in the moment" speed lifestyle as patient waiting is a lost art. This picture probably best describes the attention span of our age.



What can you do while waiting?

- Be faithful in worship as a symbol of your support for the future ministry of the church.
- Offer your time and talents to alleviate some of the overload on the elected leadership.
- Practice nurturing an attitude of openness to change. The only constant in life is change. Pray that you can remember the message of the Gospel is the same but it also should be made relevant to each new generation.
- Grow a supportive attitude so as to accept freely and lovingly whoever the search committee calls. Remember there was only one Jesus!
- Continue to pray for the search committee.

I close with the opening words of a prayer by a dear friend of mine, Ted Loder. (Put your church in for the "I"s. You can find the full prayer online.)

*God of history and of my heart,
so much has happened to me during these
whirlwind days:*

I've known death and birth;

I've been brave and scared;

I've hurt, I've helped;

I've been honest, I've lied;

I've destroyed, I've created;

I've been with people, I've been lonely;

I've been loyal, I've betrayed;

I've decided, I've waffled;

I've laughed and I've cried.

*You know my frail heart and my frayed history –
and now another day begins.*

O God, help me to believe in beginnings

Looking forward in hope and waiting patiently with
you!



Worship for September....

Following the Labor Day Weekend and Homecoming Sunday I will begin a new sermon series...."Our Big and Little Ancestors in the Faith." It will be character studies and the faith messages of Biblical figures.

September 1 – Labor Day Weekend – The last in the "Questions of Faith and Life Series."

Scripture – Matthew 22:34-40

Sermon – "What is the Job of a Christian – Faithful or Religious?"

**September 8 – Homecoming Sunday – (Mr. Naylor had a previous speaking engagement.)
The service will be planned and led by Lisa Allen.**

September 15 – Focus - Nicodemus

Scripture John 3:1-17

Nicodemus in Wonderland

September 22 – Focus – The Syro-Phoenician Woman

Scripture – Mark 7:27-38

Sermon – Going to the Dogs

September 29 – Focus – Elijah

Scripture – Selection from I Kings 18, 19

Sermon – A Bad Example of Spelunking

Bible Study – Four to Five Week Session – Artful Genesis – Tuesdays 11 a.m. – 12 Noon – We will take a look and discuss major themes in the first book of the Bible. Naturally the visual arts, music, the written word, and theater will be catalysts for our discussion. Starting September 10th!

Help Bob Out – Please keep Bob informed of those who are in the hospital, convalescing, or in need of pastoral care. Call the church office or Bob (843-415-5644).

A note to accept 843-415-5644 calls. I will be contacting as many members as possible for a variety of reasons. If you see this number it is not a telemarketer, unless you consider "selling" the Gospel as telemarketing. Thanks.

A Devotional Prayer for September:

Light dimming, air cooling, back to a faster pace going.....Lord, help me to be a light of your love to those who see increasing darkness in their lives. Lord, help me to bring the warmth of your grace to those whose world seems cold. Lord, when I tire from going at hyper-speed slow me down so I can hear your still small voice. Amen.

(rhn)

September Birthdays

Family Faith and Fun Night



- 09/01 **Jean Holmes**
- 09/09 **Madison Deveau**
- 09/11 **Phil Thomas**
- 09/16 **Shirley Dunkle**
- 09/18 **Alan King**
- 09/20 **Joyce Kenneally**
- 09/20 **Hale Thomas**
- 09/21 **Kay Clark**
- 09/26 **Gregory Clements**
- 09/27 **Lisa Allen**
- 09/27 **Donald Packard**
- 09/29 **Angelica Oshman**



In August we held our second annual Family Faith and Fun Night. Some of our families as well as some friends got together for dinner, games and activities. A good time was had by all. Our theme was Joy and we had lots of joyful fun!



Happy Birthday



Fresh Start Backpack Collection

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation we were able to fill 10 backpacks for the Falmouth Service Center's Fresh Start program. These packs will go to needy students grades 7-12 to help them get their school year off to a good start.



Autumn Reunion Day

On Sunday, September 8, we will celebrate together the start of our program year. The morning will begin with the 10:00 service where we will bless our kids' backpacks and worship together. Then we will have an all-church barbecue outside - weather permitting - with games for people of all ages. The usual kid friendly activities will be there but we will also have games available for adults as well. Come and demonstrate your bocce or corn hole skills! Or just have some lunch and chat with a friend. This is a time for the whole church to come together and welcome in the New Year. Of course friends and extended family are enthusiastically welcome. It is important to remember that this is an event for all of us to enjoy a time of worship and fellowship together.



Director of Music, Babette Bach

September 8 marks the return of our choir as well as our Church school and we are now looking ahead to some serious singing!

If you are new to NFCC or have just decided that you would like to be part of our choir, then plan to come to rehearsals starting on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY evening at 7:00 - 9:00 PM

And / OR

SATURDAY mornings at 10:00 - 11:30 AM

On Sunday mornings our rehearsal before service begins at 9:00. Ideally, we should be finished by 9:30.

If you have a busy schedule and can't commit for the entire year (Sept - June), then join for a part of the year, Sept - Dec or Jan - June. Come talk with me. The Choir Room is just down the hall. When leaving the Sanctuary, walk down the hall, past the office on your right and then take your next left. You'll walk right into the Choir Room.

Looking forward to everyone's return and to new voices as well, Faithfully, Babette



SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATES:

SEPTEMBER 8th, FAMILY REUNION, BBQ
SUNDAY/ CARNIVAL

ALSO:

SEPTEMBER 15th, BLESSING OF THE
ANIMALS

OCTOBER 5th, HARVEST PORK ROAST
SUPPER

NOVEMBER 16th, HOLIDAY FAIR

DECEMBER 1st, ADVENT WORKSHOP



HOLIDAY FAIR

You probably all know what my next sentence is going to be.....We are in need of some people to step forward and be leaders for our Annual Holiday Fair.

It is scheduled for Saturday, November 16th. We plan to have most of the usual things: Jewelry Room, Holiday Room, Bake Table, Attic Treasure Room, Silent Auction & Raffle & Lobster Roll Luncheon. That is if we can find enough people to work on setting up and running the rooms the day of the fair. What we are looking for is a person to be in charge of the Attic Treasures Room. Maybe someone from the Thrift Shop who only works one or two days a month would like to volunteer as most of the items come in thru the TS.

As most of us age we need to make this fair easier on everyone so we are planning on making a few changes. One idea is to only use one of the current YMCA rooms which means less work for them and us. We plan on having the Christmas room set up where we had the plants in the Cov. Rm last spring. That means pricing items and leaving them in that area they are priced in. Not having to heft them across the hall will help a lot. Not having to clean and put back rooms will help tremendously.

We have people who will oversee the jewelry, the kitchen and the bake tables. What other people can we count on to volunteer, to step up, to say, "I can do that!?! No problem!"

Would someone like to take over the job of Silent Auction and Raffle items? That would be a big help!! It entails sending out letters to businesses and taking letters around to places to try to get Silent Auction and Raffle items. Setting up the display and calling people who win.

Please email Myrna O'Hara at oharmy@gmail.com if you would like to fill one of these spots for the fair. Don't worry we still need lots of other people to help and there will be sign-up sheets for all in late Oct. as we get into the season. But to save us some sleepless nights won't YOU be the one to help head a room? Let us know ASAP.

From the Treasurer

Another reminder...We have received our annual Fellowship Dues assessment from Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ. The MACUCC dues are \$20.00/member and the Barnstable Association dues are \$1.75/member for a total of \$21.75/member. This assessment is per member not family. Our 2019 total assessment based on 135 reported members is \$2,936.25.

The Board of Finance urges all members to pay their dues and put Dues on the memo line of the check. Through July we have received only \$305.00 in dues payments or slightly more than 10% of what we were assessed.



Daily Lectionary Scripture References
Sept. 2019 (Year C)

Sun., Sept. 1
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
 Jeremiah 2:4-13
 Psalm 81:1, 10-16
 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
 Luke 14:1, 7-14

Mon., Sept. 2
 Psalm 58
 Jeremiah 2:23-37
 Hebrews 13:7-21

Tues., Sept. 3
 Psalm 58
 Jeremiah 3:1-14
 Titus 1:1-9

Wed., Sept. 4
 Psalm 58
 Jeremiah 3:15-25
 Luke 14:15-24

Thurs., Sept. 5
 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
 Jeremiah 15:10-21
 Philippians 2:25-30

Fri., Sept. 6
 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
 Jeremiah 16:14—17:4
 Colossians 4:7-17

Sat., Sept. 7
 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
 Jeremiah 17:14-27
 Matthew 10:34-42

Sun., Sept. 8
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
 Jeremiah 18:1-11
 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
 Philemon 1-21
 Luke 14:25-33

Mon., Sept. 9
 Psalm 2
 Jeremiah 18:12-23
 1 Timothy 3:14—4:5

Tues., Sept. 10
 Psalm 2
 Jeremiah 19:1-15
 1 Timothy 4:6-16

Wed., Sept. 11
 Psalm 2
 Jeremiah 20:1-18
 Luke 18:18-30

Thurs., Sept. 12
 Psalm 14
 Jeremiah 13:20-27
 1 Timothy 1:1-11

Fri., Sept. 13
 Psalm 14
 Jeremiah 4:1-10
 2 Peter 2:1-10a

Sat., Sept. 14
 Psalm 14
 Jeremiah 4:13-21, 29-31
 John 10:11-21

Sun., Sept. 15
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
 Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
 Psalm 14
 1 Timothy 1:12-17
 Luke 15:1-10

Mon., Sept. 16
 Psalm 94
 Jeremiah 5:1-17
 1 Timothy 1:18-20

Tues., Sept. 17
 Psalm 94
 Jeremiah 5:18-31
 2 Peter 3:8-13

Wed., Sept. 18
 Psalm 94
 Jeremiah 14:1-10, 17-22
 Luke 22:31-33, 54-62

Thurs., Sept. 19
 Psalm 79:1-9
 Jeremiah 12:14—13:11
 Romans 3:1-8

Fri., Sept. 20
 Psalm 79:1-9
 Jeremiah 8:1-13
 Romans 8:31-39

Sat., Sept. 21
 Psalm 79:1-9
 Jeremiah 8:14-17; 9:2-11
 Mark 12:41-44

Sun., Sept. 22
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
 Jeremiah 8:18—9:1
 Psalm 79:1-9
 1 Timothy 2:1-7
 Luke 16:1-13

Mon., Sept. 23
 Psalm 106:40-48
 Jeremiah 9:12-26
 Acts 4:1-12

Tues., Sept. 24
 Psalm 106:40-48
 Jeremiah 10:1-16
 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

Wed., Sept. 25
 Psalm 106:40-48
 Jeremiah 10:17-25
 Luke 20:45—21:4

Thurs., Sept. 26
 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
 Jeremiah 23:9-22
 2 Corinthians 8:8-15

Fri., Sept. 27
 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
 Jeremiah 23:23-32
 Ephesians 2:1-10

Sat., Sept. 28
 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
 Jeremiah 24:1-10
 Luke 9:43b-48

Sun., Sept. 29
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
 Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16
 1 Timothy 6:6-19
 Luke 16:19-31

Mon., Sept. 30
 Psalm 119:49-56
 Jeremiah 32:16-35
 Revelation 3:14-22



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