

North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC
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Return Service Requested
Dated Material

November 2021



The Sandpiper is a monthly publication of the North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC.
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The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

November 2021

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer... practice hospitality.” Romans 12:12-13

Dear Friends,

By the time this reaches your inbox or mailbox, we will be waiting anxiously for the election results—or we may already know the results. 2020 has been a year marked by anxiety and fear. The pandemic has taken more than 200,000 lives and it has laid bare the injustices of those who have suffered the most. No doubt we are in a time of transition that is affecting us all.

Lately, I hear the urgent call from Jesus to love my neighbor in new ways. I need to listen to those with opposing opinions fully and respectfully—even though it is easier to dismiss and judge. I need to be an ally with all the lives that don't matter in our country right now. There is so much I could, should, and want to do. But the enormity of it all is incredibly overwhelming.

When we are overwhelmed, we become inert and silent. Emotions like fear, worry, hopelessness, and helplessness keep us stuck. What can we do to stay resilient, patient, and calm in the face of all that is going on? We can check with ourselves daily to make sure we are doing the right things to sustain our health and well-being. Daily practices like deep breathing, prayer, gardening, walks in nature, and connecting with love ones renews us and empowers us to make a positive impact on the world.

There is another practice I'd like to suggest—seeking hope. Why? Because when we find it, it makes the impossible possible. It helps us overcome

life's biggest challenges. It is the spark that can pull us away from the edge of despair. It is a haven from pessimism and fear. Hope gives us courage and renews our energy. It encourages us to help those in need and who are distressed. During difficult times such as these, finding hope is essential to our well-being.

Despite these dark days, sparks of hope are swirling all around us. I can think of no better place to find hope than in the bosom of God's love, in the good and faithful works of others, and right here in our church. Every time I kneel in prayer before our Creator, I find hope. Every time, I whisper Jesus' precious name, I find hope. Every time I see you in a Zoom meeting or in our outdoor sanctuary, I find hope. Every time, I sit with you on your porch or in your home, I find hope. Every time, I talk with you on the phone, receive a text message, or an email, I find hope.

Together we find hope in community. Each of you is the spark of hope God wants shining forth in the world. Together we can shine the light of God's hope ever brighter. So, my friends, seek hope, find hope, share hope, and be joyful in hope.

Many blessings,

Pastor Christina



Worship in November

UPCOMING WORSHIP – November

We will continue outdoor worship until it gets too cold. If the service is canceled because of rain, please check your email, the website, or the Facebook page. When the cold weather arrives, the service will move into the sanctuary. Because of state regulations, our sanctuary is too small to have in-person worship at this time. In-door worship will move to a Zoom format at some point soon, and it will still be live on Facebook.

November 1 – Jesus Never Voted – Communion Sunday

Stewardship season continues, but we take a brief break to reflect on the stewardship of our vote and ask ourselves if our vote reflects the faith we proclaim and God's compassionate and just vision for our world. Scripture: Matthew 22:36-40 and Romans 12:9-21

November 8 – Together in Joy We Can – Looking with Gratitude – Blessing Our Pledges

At the heart of our relationship to money is living and giving with gratitude—whether the gifts we have to give are monetary, or our own capital of time and energy for the sake of the human family. We end our Stewardship series by looking for hope in transforming fears to gratitude in the act of sharing. Scripture: Acts 4:32-35

November 15 – Belonging to Each Other – Guest Speakers

On this Sunday we will welcome Paul McCadam, CEO, and Gina Torielli, CAO, from Belonging to Each Other. They will share with us the many ways BTEO helps those experiencing homelessness in Falmouth during the colder months. Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

November 22 – Thanksgiving Sunday – Going Back for Seconds

Because of the pandemic, Thanksgiving will be very different this year. Many will feel the sadness of not being able to gather with family. We may not be able to sit at the table of abundance with our loved ones this year, but we

can still take the time to go back for seconds in thanking God and each other for the many blessings we receive. Scripture: Luke 17:11-19

Advent Season Begins

November 29 – First Sunday of Advent – I Believe in the Sun: Hope for Tomorrow

This Advent, we are looking to hear words of comfort and challenge and the good news. The prophet Isaiah and the four Gospel authors wrote in a time when people needed desperately to hear all of these as well. This first week, scripture reassures people that good news is beginning and— “Make yourself ready! Raise your voices, change your hearts, get ready to be transformed, because now is the time.” Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11 and Mark 1:1-15

OUTREACH NEWS

Thanksgiving 2020

Donation Day: November 22nd, 12 - 3pm

WE ARE IN NEED OF FROZEN TURKEYS!
(TURKEYS ONLY PLEASE!)

- WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY OTHER FOOD ITEMS THIS YEAR
- WE CANNOT HAVE ANY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS DUE TO COVID-19 STATE AND LOCAL GUIDELINES



Distribution Days: November 23 & November 24

Holiday Toys 2020

Distribution Days: December 14 - 16

We have had to modify our annual Holiday Toy program this year. If you would like to help our youngest clients this holiday season, we are in need of gift cards for the following stores:



- *TJ Maxx
- *Olympia Sports

- *Eight Cousins Bookstore

- *Target
- *Walmart

(increments of \$25 preferred)

Due to Covid-19 state and local protocols, we are unable to accept toy donations or volunteer assistance this year.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US!
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CALL 508-548-2794
OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE FALMOUTHSERVICECENTER.ORG

**DROP OFF FROZEN TURKEYS AT THE
FALMOUTH SERVICE CENTER, 611 GIFFORD
STREET, FALMOUTH**

508-548-2794

November Birthdays



11/03	Elaine Coe
11/05	Stefan Sievert
11/06	Lyla Malcolm
11/08	David Dunphy
11/10	Lillian Kazanis
11/12	Bill Martin
11/16	Ward Fraser
11/18	Peter Allenby
11/21	Robert Young
11/22	Kathryn Greco
11/23	Mary Jane Thomas
11/23	Kristen Tivey
11/25	Vera Nouaime
11/27	Rosemary Scavotto



Happy Birthday

College Care Packages

We still plan to send our annual college care packages this year. Perhaps this year they will be especially important. Instead of everyone filling boxes which is not possible at this time, we will collect cash offerings and Lisa will shop for all the needed items. There will be a collection box outside the church office where you can drop off your donations or you can mail a check with 'college care packages' in the memo.

Sunday School

We have enjoyed a month of appreciating God's creation during our virtual Sunday School classes.

The theme for our November Sunday School classes will be Gratitude. Classes are posted on Facebook each week and a children's message is posted every Sunday.

Links of Love



If you didn't come to see the worship service where we unveiled the links of love chain, here is a picture. Feel free to keep making links to add. November is great time to remember the things we are grateful for while we prepare for Thanksgiving.



From the Music Director

It's hard to believe that we are now looking at November. Eight months have passed during this pandemic. As we look ahead to Thanksgiving and realize that this holiday will be different from others and some of us may mourn the change in the way we celebrate our upcoming holidays, it seems appropriate to focus our attention on the small gifts that grace our lives in 2020. The month of November is a time when we offer up gratitude and thanksgiving. I would like to take the opportunity to offer my thanks to the members of our music program who have been offering solos for the last eight months. While the Choir cannot gather for safety reasons, some of them have selflessly made themselves available on any given Sunday to guarantee there is an anthem/solo for worship service. The challenges that have come with this task are many, and because I can not rehearse or perform directly with the singers, they have learned to receive a recording of their part and a recording of the accompaniment which then is used to record with their voice. I look forward to having the choir offer more recordings and participation in that manner in the future. Thanks to Sarah Bach and Rodney Rountree for editing the last recording. It takes hours and patience to add each voice track to the recording and so I am very grateful for their willingness to handle such a tedious task.

The following singers/instrumentalists deserve a round of applause:

- Lisa Allen,
- Sarah Bach
- Marcus Greco
- Alan King
- Rodney Rountree
- Rosanne Amaru Tatro
- Brian Youmans

Your offerings have lifted our spirits and have been a very special offering to God.

The following choir members participated in the last choir recording:

- Sarah Bach
- Alan King
- Chris Polloni
- Pam Polloni
- Rodney Rountree
- Ray Rowitz
- Rev. Christina Williams

Thanks so much to our choir members for their special gifts, I miss you dearly but please remember we will eventually get through this pandemic and be together again. I can't say when but I hope and pray that it comes sooner than later.

If there is anyone in the congregation who would like to offer a solo of a favorite hymn, please call or email me and we will make a plan.

Faithfully,
Babette

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st



From the Altar Committee



Live Memorial Christmas Tree

This year, as we are not holding services in the sanctuary, we will not be ordering poinsettias for the altar. As an alternative we will be having a live Memorial Christmas Tree on the front porch of the church. With a donation of \$5, a scallop shell will be placed on the tree in memory of/in honor of/in celebration of as we have done with the poinsettias. Each scallop shell will have the name of the person to be remembered. The list of donors will be included in the weekly announcements and the January Sandpiper.

This will be an unusual Advent and Christmas Season with losses and changes thrust upon us. We need alternatives to spark our spirits and share another piece of Christmas with the community. Please consider contributing to our Lighted Live Christmas Tree. (See order form included in November Sandpiper) You may also download a copy on the website home page.

And:



The Altar Committee will be decorating the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas on Friday, November 27th @ 9:30 AM. We welcome others to help with the decorating and especially would appreciate a few men to carry boxes up from the basement.



One of the many lovely floral displays at the outdoor Sunday Services

Stewardship

“Together in Joy We Can”

Our 2020 Stewardship campaign is underway. You should have received your pledge kit mailing by now. (If not it should be in your mailbox shortly.) Your Stewardship Team encourages you to read the Stewardship letter and guide for giving. And, please consider a pledge gift for 2021 by completing and returning your pledge card in the enclosed envelope. Your pledge gift for 2021 is extremely important, especially given the challenges we need to overcome as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



TOGETHER IN JOY
WE CAN

Whatever our hopes and dreams are for the future of our church and congregation, we can best meet them with our active participation and with our financial commitment for the coming year.

Please return your pledge card at your earliest convenience and remember we will be blessing all pledge cards received on Sunday, November 8th.



From the Treasurer

Through August we were running ahead on net income thanks in large measure to continued member support for which we, on the Board of Finance, are extremely grateful.

We spent all of the money received in the Paycheck Protection Program Loan and will soon be filing for forgiveness of the loan that is authorized as one of the provisions of the CARES Act. We qualify for 100% forgiveness of the loan.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT ORDER FORM
Due in Church Secretary's Office
By Sunday, November 29, 2020



**Payment must accompany order. Please mail, attention Church Secretary,
 or place in Secretary's mailbox or on her desk. The Christmas Tree will be
 lighted on Sunday, November 29th, the beginning of Advent and continue until Epiphany.**

I wish to give _____ scallop shells @ \$5.00 each

In loving memory / in honor / in celebration **(Circle One)**.

Given by _____

(Phone#)

Payment must be in with your order by Sunday, November 29, 2020

Please make checks payable to **Flower Committee, NFCC**

(PO Box 403, North Falmouth, MA 02556)

Questions: 508-563-2177

THANK YOU!



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References -November 2020 (Year A)

Sun., Nov. 1

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Joshua 3:7-17
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12

Mon., Nov. 2

Psalm 128
Joshua 4:1-24
1 Thessalonians 2:13-20

Tues., Nov. 3

Psalm 128
Joshua 6:1-16, 20
Acts 13:1-12

Wed., Nov. 4

Psalm 128
Joshua 10:12-14
Matthew 15:1-9

Thurs., Nov. 5

Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 5:10-12
Revelation 8:6-9:12

Fri., Nov. 6

Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 8:30-35
Revelation 9:13-21

Sat., Nov. 7

Psalm 78:1-7
Joshua 20:1-9
Matthew 24:1-14

Sun., Nov. 8

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

Mon., Nov. 9

Psalm 78
Joshua 24:25-33
1 Corinthians 14:20-25

Tues., Nov. 10

Psalm 78
Nehemiah 8:1-12
1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Wed., Nov. 11

Psalm 78
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Matthew 24:29-35

Thurs., Nov. 12

Psalm 123
Judges 2:6-15
Revelation 16:1-7

Fri., Nov. 13

Psalm 123
Judges 2:16-23
Revelation 16:8-21

Sat., Nov. 14

Psalm 123
Judges 5:1-12
Matthew 12:43-45

Sun., Nov. 15

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Judges 4:1-7
Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

Mon., Nov. 16

Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18
Judges 4:8-24
Romans 2:1-11

Tues., Nov. 17

Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18
Exodus 2:1-10
1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Wed., Nov. 18

Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18
Esther 7:1-10
Matthew 24:45-51

Thurs., Nov. 19

Psalm 100
Genesis 48:15-22
Revelation 14:1-11

Fri., Nov. 20

Psalm 100
Isaiah 40:1-11
Revelation 22:1-9

Sat., Nov. 21

Psalm 100
Ezekiel 34:25-31
Matthew 12:46-50

Sun., Nov. 22

Reign of Christ
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Mon., Nov. 23

Psalm 28
Numbers 27:15-23
2 Timothy 2:8-13

Tues., Nov. 24

Psalm 28
Zechariah 11:4-17
Revelation 19:1-9

Wed., Nov. 25

Psalm 28
Jeremiah 31:10-14
John 5:19-40

Thurs., Nov. 26

Thanksgiving Day
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Zechariah 13:1-9
Revelation 14:6-13
or
Deut 8:7-18 and Psalm 65
2 Corinthians 9:6-15
Luke 17:11-19

Fri., Nov. 27

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Zechariah 14:1-9
1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

Sat., Nov. 28

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Micah 2:1-13
Matthew 24:15-31

Sun., Nov. 29

First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Mon., Nov. 30

Psalm 79
Micah 4:1-5
Revelation 15:1-8