

**North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC
155 Old Main Road/PO Box 403
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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 2022

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“I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.” Psalm 138:1-2

Dear Friends,

When I write, I like to look for synonyms so that I am not repeating the same word over and over. For instance, when I look up a synonym for gratefulness, the word thankfulness pops up. I interchange these two words all the time. But I stand corrected by Brother David Steindl-Rast, the founder for A Network for Grateful Living.

Brother David Steindl-Rast makes a distinction between the two words. The words “gratitude” and “thanksgiving” are different terms for our experiences, he says. We all experience gratitude welling up in our hearts. We feel joy expanding inside us, but we can’t articulate it right away. And

when that joy bursts to overflowing, we want to thank someone. This is thanksgiving. Gratitude and thanksgiving are the two phases of gratefulness. But when our heart is full of gratitude and doesn’t overflow, there is no thankfulness. We don’t experience the fullness of joy gratitude offers.

The Psalms are such rich examples of how gratitude bubbles up and spills over into thankfulness despite despair, fear, fury, shame, disappointment, and a sense of injustice and unfairness. The psalmist is not glad for life’s hard stuff, but he still experiences the feeling of overflowing gratitude for God’s faithfulness, and he is insistent on expressing thankfulness to God.

Feeling gratitude and giving thanks are part of Christian life. It lies at the heart of communion—also known as the Eucharist which literally means “to give thanks.” Thankfulness is a central act in both the Psalms and Epistles. It infuses our daily prayers. Worship and faith formation teach us to embody gratitude and offer thankfulness as we navigate life.

Thanksgiving is a time to contemplate all the ways God blesses our lives. May our hearts overflow with gratitude as we bow down in thankfulness for God’s abundant love and faithfulness in our lives and in this church. In all things, give thanks.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Christina

This pastor's letter was inspired by an interview between Krista Tippett and Brother David Steindl-Rast. Here's the link if you would like to listen or read the transcript,

<https://onbeing.org/programs/david-steindl-rast-how-to-be-grateful-in-every-moment/>



November 20, Thanksgiving Sunday



Margot Alva Swartz



With her Godparents.



The stunning cornucopia designed by Beverly Blaine.



Preparations for the Baptism.



Baptized by Pastor Christina.

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

From the Altar Committee

Live Outdoor Christmas Tree



Again, this year we will have an outdoor lighted Christmas Tree on the front porch of the church during the Advent Season. If you would like to purchase a gold scallop shell with the name of a special person on it, please fill out a form located on the counter outside the office by Sunday, November 27th. We will be lighting the tree that day which is the first Sunday in Advent.

This is a nice way of reaching out to the neighborhood during the Holiday Season. It is reported that the daycare children enjoy seeing the brightly lighted tree as they leave for home each evening.

Any questions, contact Marsha Martin.

And:

Sanctuary Decorating for Advent



We will be decorating the sanctuary for Advent on Friday, November 25th at 9:30 AM. If we have lots of Christmas Elves, the transformation will take less than 2 hours. There are tasks for all ages as demonstrated by the intergenerational decorating of the tree last year. The live outside tree will be going up as well on Friday morning to be lighted on Sunday evening for the start of Advent. If you have questions, please contact Marsha Martin.



Chrismons



Again this year, the Altar Committee is decorating the sanctuary for Advent and the Christmas season. The white and gold ornaments placed on the tree and the wreaths are called Chrismons. They were handmade by the

ladies of our church back in the 1980s. The original Chrismons were developed in 1957 at a Lutheran church in Virginia as a decoration appropriate for the church Christmas tree as opposed to the colored lights and secular symbols being used at that time. The Chrismons are Christian symbols made in white with gold decorations. "Chrismons cannot be bought or sold; they can only be made, given in love, and in celebration of Christ's birth." The NFCC is truly fortunate to have these beautiful symbols of the true Christmas decorating our sanctuary.

Stewardship



Re-membering
Community

Thank you to all of you who returned your pledge card for the coming year. If you intend to pledge but have yet to return your pledge card we ask that you mail it in at your earliest convenience or put it in the offering plate on Sunday. If you need a pledge card, please contact Debbie Pinkney.

College Care Packages

Once again, we will be sending care packages to all of our college students for the holidays. Four boxes will be available to fill in the Covenant Room beginning Sunday, November 13, through Dec. 4. Students look forward to all of the little gifts we send. Bring in some snacks, homemade treats, post-its or other homework supplies, ornaments, etc. We will also accept cash donations to help defray the cost of postage. Help to brighten the end of this first semester and remind our college students how important they are to us. Four students will be receiving care packages this year.

Thrift Shop Holiday

Gift

Cards

Available for Purchase!

The Perfect Gift for Family & Friends
who Love to Shop at the Thrift Shop

Mail in requests should include return address & phone number
Send check to NFCC Thrift Shop,
P.O. Box 403, North Falmouth MA 02556
508-564-4075

Christmas in Waquoit

Charity Tree and Wreath Sales

- ◊ Fresh cut Balsam Fir trees in all sizes, while supplies last
- ◊ Decorated and undecorated wreaths, plus mixed greens roping

Waquoit Congregational Church

Route 28 & Parsons Lane, East Falmouth

Fridays 2-5pm Nov. 25 & Dec. 2	Saturdays 9am-5pm Nov. 26 & Dec. 3	Sundays 9am-5pm Nov. 27 & Dec. 4
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Join us for these fun family events:

Saturdays	10 am—1 pm	Photos with Santa
Saturdays	10 am—1 pm	Crèche with live animals
Fridays	10 am—4 pm	Christmas in Waquoit Gift Fair
Saturdays	10 am—4 pm	Christmas in Waquoit Gift Fair

100% of profits from tree & wreath sales benefit our local partners:
Boys & Girls Club of Cape Cod • WellStrong • Belonging to Each Other
East Falmouth Elementary School PTO • Racial Justice Falmouth

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT ORDER FORM

Due in Church Secretary's Office

By Sunday, November 27, 2022



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 27th, 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 27, 2022

Please make checks payable to Flower Committee, NFCC

(PO Box 403, North Falmouth, MA 02556)

Questions: 508-563-2177

THANK YOU!



Daily Lectionary Scripture References – November 2022 (Year C)

Tues., Nov. 1

Psalm 142
Habakkuk 3:1-16
Jude 5-21

Wed., Nov. 2

Psalm 142
Habakkuk 3:17-19
Luke 19:11-27

Thurs., Nov. 3

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Zechariah 1:1-17
Acts 22:22–23:11

Fri., Nov. 4

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Zechariah 6:9-15
Acts 24:10-23

Sat., Nov. 5

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
Haggai 1:1-15a
Luke 20:1-8

Sun., Nov. 6

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Haggai 1:15b–2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

Mon., Nov. 7

Psalm 98
Haggai 2:10-19
2 Peter 1:16-21

Tues., Nov. 8

Psalm 98
Haggai 2:20-23
2 John 1-13

Wed., Nov. 9

Psalm 98
Zechariah 8:1-17
John 5:19-29

Thurs., Nov. 10

Isaiah 12
Isaiah 57:14-21
Romans 1:18-25

Fri., Nov. 11

Isaiah 12
Isaiah 59:1-15a
2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

Sat., Nov. 12

Isaiah 12
Isaiah 59:15b-21
Luke 17:20-37

Sun., Nov. 13

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Mon., Nov. 14

Psalm 76
Isaiah 60:17-22
Ephesians 4:25–5:2

Tues., Nov. 15

Psalm 76
Isaiah 66:1-13
1 Corinthians 10:23–11:1

Wed., Nov. 16

Psalm 76
Isaiah 66:14-24
Matthew 23:37–24:14

Thurs., Nov. 17

Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 21:1-14
Hebrews 9:23-28

Fri., Nov. 18

Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 22:1-17
1 Peter 1:3-9

Sat., Nov. 19

Luke 1:68-79
Jeremiah 22:18-30
Luke 18:15-17

Sun., Nov. 20

Reign of Christ
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Mon., Nov. 21

Psalm 117
Jeremiah 30:1-17
Revelation 21:5-27

Tues., Nov. 22

Psalm 117
Revelation 21:5-27
Revelation 22:8-21

Wed., Nov. 23

Psalm 117
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Luke 1:1-4

Thurs., Nov. 24

Thanksgiving
Psalm 122
Daniel 9:15-19
James 4:1-10

Fri., Nov. 25

Psalm 122
Genesis 6:1-10
Hebrews 11:1-7

Sat., Nov. 26

Psalm 122
Genesis 6:11-22
Matthew 24:1-22

Sun., Nov. 27

First Sunday in Advent
Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Mon., Nov. 28

Psalm 124
Genesis 8:1-19
Romans 6:1-11

Tues., Nov. 29

Psalm 124
Genesis 9:1-17
Hebrews 11:32-40

Wed., Nov. 30

Psalm 124
Isaiah 54:1-10
Matthew 24:23-35