

North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC
155 Old Main Road/PO Box 403
North Falmouth, MA 02556-0403

Return Service Requested
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February
2022



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





The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

February 2022

Inside This Issue

- 1 Message from the Pastor
- 2 Upcoming Worship
- 3 February Birthdays
- 4 Outreach
- 5 Annual Meeting Minutes
- 6 February Lectionary

Pastoral Page

When Aaron and the Israelites saw that Moses' face was shining, they were afraid to get too close to him. When Moses finished sharing the words of God with them, he covered his face with a veil.

—Exodus 34:30, 33

Dear Friends,

In Moses' day, God lived on Mt Sinai in a thunderous, fiery cloud that struck terror in the stoutest of hearts. On many occasions, God invited Moses into that terrifying cloud to talk. One day, after talking to God about the Ten Commandments, Moses made his way down the mountain to share them with the Israelites. What he didn't realize was how brightly his face shone from being in God's presence. The people looked at him and were terrified. So, Moses had to wear a veil until the shine wore off.

I have yet to encounter God's presence in a fiery pillar or thunderous cloud with lightning flashing about. Like the Israelites, I'm too busy being scared of thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. I would add erupting volcanos to the list if I ever witnessed one. But there are some who relish going out into thunderstorms or chasing down tornados. It is probably for the thrill of it all. But I wonder, do they encounter God's powerful and fearful presence in them? Do their faces shine?

Early this morning, as I dragged my trash barrels to the curb, I delighted in crispness of the air and the singing of the song sparrow and the Carolina wren. I immediately felt gratitude for God revealing God's living presence through them. I wondered, did my face shine a little brighter afterwards?

Personally, I like my encounters with God to be calm and gentle—none of this fiery pillar stuff for me. Yet, we can meet God in those dark and scary things life throws at us. Think of all the hardships you have encountered and gotten through them with God's grace. Think about the times you walked through a dark period in your life and came out the other side liberated and transformed.

Life *can* be scary and terrifying at times. Yet, in the whirlwind of it all, God is there leading us to the promised land we so long for—to that place of peace and calm where God's abundance flows.

However you encounter God today, in life's fiery pillars or in a sweet bird song—may your face shine a little brighter for having seen God.

May God's blessings flow in your life today,

Pastor Christina

UPCOMING WORSHIP

February and the Season of Lent

Starting February 13, worship services will be in person. Please remember to wear your mask. You can also view our services on Facebook live and Zoom.

February 13 – 10 a.m. – The Gift of Grace & Communion Sunday

We continue our journey with the Corinthians who have much to learn from Paul. After all the terrible things Paul had done in his life, he recognized that who he had become was by the grace of God. How does or has God's grace changed your life? We will be celebrating the sacrament of Communion this Sunday. Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11.

February 20 – 10 a.m. – A Life-Giving Spirit

The Corinthians had a hard time understanding the concept of the resurrection. It was beyond logic and common sense. It still is for many. We don't have to wait until we die to experience resurrection. We get a foretaste of what is to come by God's life-giving Spirit in the now moment. Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:35-50.

February 27 – 10 a.m. – The Unveiling

In the Old Testament, we hear how Moses, after looking upon the face of God, had to wear a veil to hide God's glory from others. But because the Spirit of God now dwells in our hearts—instead of on a mountaintop—the veil has been lifted and God in all God's glory is revealed through us as we live the Way of Christ. Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2.

This Season of Lent – Good Enough

We live in a culture bent on definitions of a good life as continuous upward mobility—climbing ladders of prosperity with increasingly fabulous experiences that we can post to social media. We may comb the shelves of self-help books in search of just the right formula to gain ultimate happiness and success. Perhaps we even gravitate towards spiritual leaders who promise great rewards if we do “the right thing”. But life happens, right? Most times we are not moving upward but trying to repair the rung we've just slipped from. So, what if we stopped climbing and started fertilizing, watering, and blooming right where we find ourselves?

Welcome to this season of Lent affirming a faith in which we are blessed, regardless, and where we can lean into embracing our “good enough” lives.

March 2 – 6:30 p.m. – Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent—a time for introspection and practices that draw us deeper into the love and assurance of our faith. This Lent, rather than change for the best, we will seek one day at a time, “to reach for a faith that is never perfect, but good enough.” Scripture: Isaiah 58:1-12, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21.

March 6 – 10 a.m. – Ordinary Lives Made Holy

What are the temptations that are dangled in front of you that promise a better or more special life? Drawing Jesus' experience with temptations in the desert, we reflect on the temptations that continue to plague us to do better, be better, and enjoy life more. Scripture: Romans 10:8b-13, Luke 4:1-13.



The flyer is enclosed in a double-line black border. At the top right, it reads "CHURCHES UNITED FOR ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP" in blue, with a decorative flourish below. The date and time "March 2nd 2022, 6:30 pm" and the church name "North Falmouth Congregational Church" are listed. The address "155 Old Main Road, North Falmouth, MA" and phone number "508-563-2177" are provided. A central graphic features a black cross on a purple banner that says "Ash Wednesday" in white script, surrounded by purple and pink floral and leaf motifs. Below this, the names of five churches are listed in blue: "North Falmouth Congregational Church", "First Congregational Church, Falmouth", "Waquoit Congregational Church", "Mashpee Congregational Church", and "Christ Lutheran Church". A black cross is centered below the list. At the bottom, it says "Join us at 6:30 pm for Worship, Communion & Imposition of the Ashes".

February Birthdays



- 02/03 **Kalyn Oliveira**
- 02/05 **Dave Allen**
- 02/10 **Beverly Blaine**
- 02/12 **Gregory Young**
- 02/14 **Nolan Clements**
- 02/20 **Rodney Rountree**
- 02/21 **Bianca Greco**
- 02/25 **Marcus Greco**
- 02/27 **Amelia Allen**



Happy Birthday



The 2022 Flower Calendar is up on the door near the church office. Please take a look and select any dates that are special to you for dedicating flowers. Please contact Marsha Martin to make arrangements. willmart41@comcast.net



Faith Duffy, Hope Oliveira, and Pastor Christina attended Youth StreetReach, which is an educational program that introduces youth to the issue of homelessness on the Cape. We met at the First Baptist Church in Hyannis with cookies, scarves, blankets and clothes. After a brief worship service, the guests experiencing homelessness got their lunch and some much needed hygiene supplies and warm clothing.



Sunday Worship

Youth StreetReach



Pastor Christina preaching to the online congregation January 16th. Chris Polloni was the Deacon and Hope Oliveira was a reader.




Pastor Christina preaching, Missy deacon of the day and Dennis as tech Sunday, January 23rd. View from the loft with prerecorded anthem.




January 30th, the day after the blizzard.

Thanks to Our Outreach Committee



North Falmouth Elementary School
 62 Old Main Road, North Falmouth, MA 02556
 (508) 563-2334 ~ fax (508) 564-7525



January 4, 2022

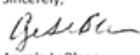
North Falmouth Congregational Church
 155 Old Main Road
 North Falmouth, MA 02556


To Whom It May Concern:


Thank you so much for your incredible generosity once again this holiday season. Your efforts truly made a difference for so many families. The images of children smiling on Christmas morning for the wonderful gifts they received through your dedication to our community is truly heart-warming.

Please extend our gratitude to everyone who participated and donated. All your efforts are truly appreciated.


Sincerely,


 Angela LeBlanc
 School Adjustment Counselor


 Tim Adams
 Principal



FALMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS



FALMOUTH SERVICE CENTER
more than a food pantry

January 11, 2022


North Falmouth Congregational Church, Inc.
 PO Box 403
 North Falmouth, MA 02556-0403

Dear Friends,


The staff and the Board of Directors of the Falmouth Service Center would like to express our sincere appreciation for your very generous contribution of \$110. This donation will help us continue to support our clients by providing them with healthy nutritious food as well as helping them as they struggle to meet their other basic needs. We are particularly grateful for your donation at this unprecedented time as it helps us to meet growing demand for our services.

Our mission is to ease stress, reduce hunger and improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need. The Falmouth Service Center works to increase self-sufficiency by helping to build networks among clients, neighbors and agencies. Thank you for partnering with us to assist those who struggle in our community. We are grateful for your gift and hope that our efforts will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely,


 Kerin Delaney
 Executive Director

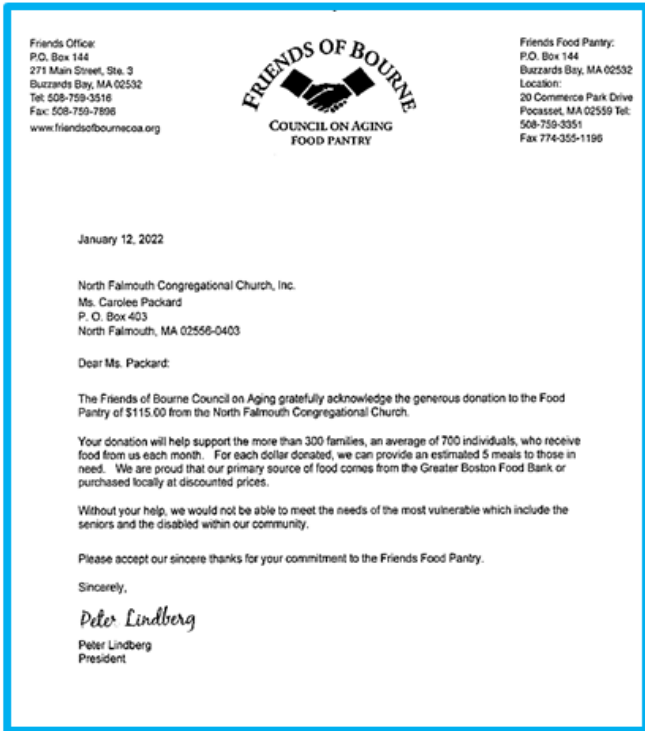
Thank you
for your
incredible support
& partnership!



The Falmouth Service Center welcomes your consideration regarding bequests. Please contact the director or any board member for a confidential discussion.

In accordance with IRS regulations, the Falmouth Service Center declares that it has not provided any goods or services in exchange for this contribution. Please retain this statement for your tax records.

611 Gifford Street Falmouth, MA 02540 Tel. 508-548-2794 www.falmouthservicecenter.org



- c. Christian Education
 - i. New position noted
 - d. Music Committee
 - i. Special thanks noted by Meg, and Rosanne at the time and effort put in by Babette and Sarah.
 - e. Stewardship Committee - 26 pledges, disappointing
 - f. Altar Committee
 - g. Hospitality
 - i. Nothing inside happening
 - h. Pastoral relations
 - i. Thrift shop
 - j. Outreach Committee
 - k. Clerk's report
6. Old Business
 - a. The tech team has been huge help.
 7. New Business
 - a. **Motion** (Alan King/Peter Allenby): to approve the 2022 operating budget (passed anonymously). Budget adopted.
 - b. Officer's oath of office
 - i. Barbara Rountree, Clark swore in the new moderator, Alan King.
 - ii. Alan delegated to Carolee, who then swore in the remaining officers.
 - c. **Motion** (Meg/Barb) to adjourn, passed.
 8. The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Rountree, Clerk

Year 2022 Officers:

President	Alan King
Assistant Moderator	Meg Tivey
Clerk	Barbara Rountree
Assistant Clerk	<i>Open</i>
Treasurer	Hank Bertsch
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Ryan
Collector	John Checklick
Assistant Collectors	Shannon Heino
Council Delegate at large	Jean Holmes
Council Delegate at large	Katie Weldon

Ballot voted and passed all as stated above.

Minutes of the Feb. 6th Annual Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:34 a.m. by Carolee followed by a prayer by Rev. Christina. It was verified by the clerk that a quorum was present (at least 25)
2. Pastor's Report
3. Council Presidents report
 - a. As written, and thanks
4. Board of Finance
 - a. Peter Allenby thanked all members of the BOF, and a special thanks to Hank for his work during the pandemic.
 - b. New income deficit of ~\$17k, taking account of % withdrawal from Latimer bequest, and including the additional of a new position, (Whole Life Learning, \$13-14K/yr.)
 - c. Unknowns include cash flow from the Thrift Shop.
5. Elected Board and committee reports (unless otherwise stated, committee reports stand as stated in the annual report)
 - a. Board of Deacons
 - b. Building and Grounds
 - i. Dennis's position was noted as a great improvement



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References – February 2022 (Year C)

Tues., Feb. 1

Psalm 56
2 Kings 5:1-14
1 Corinthians 14:13-25

Wed., Feb. 2

Psalm 56
Jeremiah 1:11-19
Luke 19:41-44

Thurs., Feb. 3

Psalm 138
Numbers 20:22-29
Acts 9:19b-25

Fri., Feb. 4

Psalm 138
Numbers 27:12-23
Acts 9:26-31

Sat., Feb. 5

Psalm 138
Judges 3:7-11
Luke 4:42-44

Sun., Feb. 6

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Mon., Feb. 7

Psalm 115
Judges 5:1-11
1 Corinthians 14:26-40

Tues., Feb. 8

Psalm 115
1 Samuel 9:15–10:1b
1 Timothy 3:1-9

Wed., Feb. 9

Psalm 115
Isaiah 8:1-15
Luke 5:27-32

Thurs., Feb. 10

Psalm 1
Jeremiah 13:12-19
Acts 13:26-34

Fri., Feb. 11

Psalm 1
Jeremiah 13:20-27
1 Peter 1:17–2:1

Sat., Feb. 12

Psalm 1
Jeremiah 17:1-4
Luke 11:24-28

Sun., Feb. 13

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Mon., Feb. 14

Psalm 120
2 Kings 24:18–25:21
1 Corinthians 15:20-34

Tues., Feb. 15

Psalm 120
Ezra 1:1-11
2 Corinthians 1:12-19

Wed., Feb. 16

Psalm 120
Jeremiah 22:11-17
Luke 11:37-52

Thurs., Feb. 17

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Genesis 43:16-34
Romans 8:1-11

Fri., Feb. 18

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Genesis 44:1-17
1 John 2:12-17

Sat., Feb. 19

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
Genesis 44:18-34
Luke 12:57-59

Sun., Feb. 20

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Mon., Feb. 21

Psalm 38
Genesis 33:1-17
1 Corinthians 11:2-16

Tues., Feb. 22

Psalm 38
1 Samuel 24:1-22
1 Corinthians 11:17-22, 27-33

Wed., Feb. 23

Psalm 38
Leviticus 5:1-13
Luke 17:1-4

Thurs., Feb. 24

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Proverbs 13:1-12
Romans 5:12–6:2

Fri., Feb. 25

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Proverbs 15:1-9
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Sat., Feb. 26

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
Isaiah 30:8-17
John 16:1-4a

Sun., Feb. 27

Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany
Sirach 27:4-7 or Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15
1 Corinthians 15:51-58
Luke 6:39-49

Mon., Feb. 28

Psalm 1
Jeremiah 24:1-10
1 Corinthians 16:1-12

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