

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

**April 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

April 2021

## Pastoral Page

*“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” John 20:21*

*“Don’t just look at the spring, touch it, taste it. Get it inside you.” Vincent Van Gogh*

Dear Friends,

Easter comes at the perfect time of year in the northern hemisphere—when spring is in full swing. It’s hard not to feel hopeful at this time of year—especially now that more of us are getting vaccinated and we can be with people we haven’t seen in a while.

Hope seemed far away for the cowering disciples as they hid away behind locked doors. Sure, they saw the empty tomb—but that only made their hearts heavier. Sure, the women had come back and told them they saw Jesus, but they wondered why had he not shown himself to them first. They had a hard time feeling the hope the women felt. They wanted to “see” hope too. Then Jesus came through those locked doors and stood among them to offer peace and to heal their paralyzing fear. As impossible as it seemed, hope returned.

That is what God’s hope feels like to me. It slips right through the locked doors of whatever is keeping us separated from joy, goodness, thankfulness, abundance, and love. Hope is always a welcome surprise. Sometimes it jolts us

out of the mood we are in. Sometimes it is just a pinprick of light that pierces the darkness in our souls.

Hope, it is said, is the medicine of the heart. It heals, it strengthens, and it makes us more resilient to what life throws at us. We all need it when life gets complicated and stressful. God knows this. Our faith in Christ opens the door of hope every day. Except sometimes we can’t see it or feel it in our hearts. As impossible as life seems sometimes—hope does rise again from the cracks and crevices of our lives to bloom again.

Like the scent of spring flowers, there is a sweetness in hope. Its fragrance fills us our hearts with the sweet assurance that God does not abandon us. Every year, the bursting forth of spring reminds us of this.

May the hope of Easter get right inside you—so that you might see it, touch it, and be healed by it.

Peace and hope be with you,

*Christina*



Pastor Christina

## Holy Week at NFCC

### UPCOMING WORSHIP – APRIL/MAY

Stay tuned to the weekly announcements about worship being outside or inside.

#### April 11 – 10 a.m. Second Sunday of Easter – Doubting Thomas

Who could ever doubt Doubting Thomas? Peter Allenby will join us in worship to preach on the Doubting Thomas story. **Scripture:** Psalm 133 & John 20:17-37.

#### April 18 – 10 a.m. Third Sunday of Easter – Being Mortal

Pastor Christina will be preaching on the book, *Being Mortal*, which is a meditation on how people can better live with age-related frailty, serious illness, and approaching death, and how those nearing death can be given the opportunity to live meaningfully, gracefully, and with purpose. This will be followed up by a *Being Mortal* book group in May and having a grief counselor come and speak with us. **Scripture:** Psalm 71 & John 11:17-27.

#### April 25 – 10 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Easter – Earth Day – “Hey, Save the Earth!”

All ages are welcome to join us for the performance of “Hey, Save the Earth!” by the Just Peace Players on Zoom (which will also be live on Facebook). Imaginary birds and animals join us to tell true tales of people working to tend creation and encourage us to work with them to save our beautiful earth.

#### May 2 – 10 a.m. Fifth Sunday of Easter – Gathering Strength Again

Finding strength through connection in a year that has challenged our ability to connect. **Scriptures:** Psalm 22:25-31 & Acts 8:26-39.

### LOOKING FOR SUNDAY MORNING OUTDOOR WORSHIP HELPERS

If you love coming to the outdoor worship, we could use some extra hands before and after worship to help set up and breakdown. We especially could use some strong arms to help carry the electric piano and the amplifier. If you are interested, and don't mind showing up around 9:15 a.m., we would welcome your help. Please contact Deb at [officenfcc@gmail.com](mailto:officenfcc@gmail.com).



**Palm Crosses by Marcia McLaughlin for the “Count your Blessings” video. One of the many submissions received for the Easter video created by Brian Youmans.**



**The Passion of Christ read by Pastor Christina, Susan Rowitz, Chris Polloni & Melessa Fox.**





**The Seven Actions from the Gospel of John 13 readings given by Pastor Christina, and Deacons Melessa Fox & Susan Rowitz.**



**Signs of Spring**



*Easter Sunday,  
Dance for Joy:  
He Has Risen!*

**Go to the following link to watch the wonderful video "Count Your Blessings" created by Brian Youmans**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxShmclwhl8>



**A beautiful day, OUTSIDE AT LAST!!!**



## Upcoming Events at NFCC

# April Birthdays

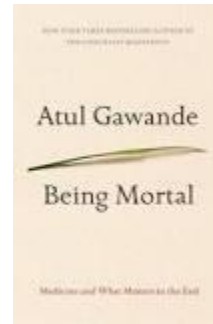


<b>04/05</b>	<b>Cole Allenby</b>
<b>04/05</b>	<b>Laurinda Morway</b>
<b>04/07</b>	<b>Richard Latimer</b>
<b>04/08</b>	<b>Hank Bertsch</b>
<b>04/09</b>	<b>Leslie Murphy</b>
<b>04/12</b>	<b>Ann Lindberg</b>
<b>04/13</b>	<b>Emily Yoerger</b>
<b>04/14</b>	<b>Susan Rowitz</b>
<b>04/15</b>	<b>Kristin Fraser</b>
<b>04/17</b>	<b>Vincent Greco</b>
<b>04/21</b>	<b>Brigid Murphy</b>
<b>04/21</b>	<b>Jan Winslow</b>
<b>04/29</b>	<b>Sarah Oshman</b>
<b>04/30</b>	<b>Bethany Ashworth</b>

# Happy Birthday



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP – BEING MORTAL: MEDICINE AND WHAT MATTERS IN THE END



Through eye-opening research and gripping stories of his own patients and family, Atul Gawande, a practicing surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital, has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. He explains that mortality has become a clinical experience that

robs patients of quality of life. He argues doctors and healthcare facilities need to shift their approach to aging and dying away from a regimented safety focus to one that fully engages the human spirit.

Riveting, honest, and humane, *Being Mortal* shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life—all the way to the very end. This is a timely book for all caregivers and those looking to make end-of-life decisions.

This 6-week discussion group will focus on various aspects of aging and dying, including:

- What is important to us as we age
- Understanding our choices (medical and otherwise)
- Spirituality and mortality

Pastor Christina will be leading this discussion group. You may purchase the book through Amazon or Eight Cousins or borrow it from the library. We will start either Wednesday April 21 or 28 at a time yet to be determined in the late afternoon (4 p.m. or 5:30 p.m.) depending on the schedule of those interested. If you are interested, please contact Deb at [officenfcc@gmail.com](mailto:officenfcc@gmail.com).







**CWS BUCKET  
BRIGADE**  
**NFCC Partnering with  
First Congregational  
Church**

**COLLECTION DATES: 1-2 p.m.**  
**(Not on Easter Sunday)**

**SUNDAYS**    **MARCH 28<sup>th</sup>** at Nfcc  
                   **APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>** at First Cong.  
                   **APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>** at Nfcc  
                   **APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>** at First Cong.

[www.northfalmouthucc.com](http://www.northfalmouthucc.com)  
and click on the [PDF link](#)



**SPRING  
PLANT  
SALE**

**NFCC**  
**Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**  
**More Details to Follow**

***We Need Your Help!***

As many of you know, the church recently invested in an upgrade to the Wi-Fi service in the church and a major upgrade of our video production capabilities. These upgrades have allowed us to enhance the video feed of church services. While important during this pandemic, we hope to continue to broadcast services even when we can host you in the church allowing those unable to travel to the church the opportunity to join us virtually.

Broadcasting services requires a dedicated presence as a laptop computer located in the church office. With a few clicks of the mouse, the broadcast is set up and monitored during the service. It is a simple process that anyone who accesses email can perform.

Like ushering, we hope to enlist a few people to partner with the Deacon’s and perform this task. If you are interested, please contact Debbie ([officeNFCC@gmail.com](mailto:officeNFCC@gmail.com)) to arrange for training. Thank you for your assistance in this exciting new opportunity to bring NFCC to as many people as possible.

***From the Altar Committee***

Since mid-March 2020 we have not had our traditional worship service in our sanctuary. During the time that outside worship was offered, we did have some lovely garden bouquets and seasonal arrangements during the fall. The Altar Committee did purchase a very nice silk arrangement that we have been using now that the service is performed for viewing virtually without a congregation in the sanctuary.

If anyone feels that they would like to dedicate a live plant or cut flower arrangement in memory or celebration, that option is still available. Please contact Marsha Martin to make arrangements.



[willmart41@comcast.net](mailto:willmart41@comcast.net) or 508-759-0857



## Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

### Daily Lectionary Scripture References –April 2021 (Year B)

**Thurs., Apr. 1**

***Holy Thursday***

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**Fri., Apr. 2**

***Good Friday***

Isaiah 52:13–53:12  
Psalm 22  
Hebrews 10:16-25 or  
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  
John 18:1–19:42

**Sat., Apr. 3**

***Holy Saturday***

Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations  
3:1-9, 19-24  
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16  
1 Peter 4:1-8  
Matthew 27:57-66 or John  
19:38-42

**Sun., Apr. 4**

***Easter***

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah  
25:6-9  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts  
10:34-43  
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

**Mon., Apr. 5**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Genesis 1:1-19  
1 Corinthians 15:35-49

**Tues., Apr. 6**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Genesis 1:20–2:4a  
1 Corinthians 15:50-58

**Wed., Apr. 7**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Song of Solomon 3:1-11  
Mark 16:1-8

**Thurs., Apr. 8**

Psalm 133  
Daniel 1:1-21  
Acts 2:42-47

**Fri., Apr. 9**

Psalm 133  
Daniel 2:1-23  
Acts 4:23-31

**Sat., Apr. 10**

Psalm 133  
Daniel 2:24-49  
John 12:44-50

**Sun., Apr. 11**

***Second Sunday of Easter***

Acts 4:32-35  
Psalm 133  
1 John 1:1–2:2  
John 20:19-31

**Mon., Apr. 12**

Psalm 135  
Daniel 3:1-30  
1 John 2:3-11

**Tues., Apr. 13**

Psalm 135  
Daniel 6:1-28  
1 John 2:12-17

**Wed., Apr. 14**

Psalm 135  
Isaiah 26:1-15  
Mark 12:18-27

**Thurs., Apr. 15**

Psalm 4  
Daniel 9:1-19  
1 John 2:18-25

**Fri., Apr. 16**

Psalm 4  
Daniel 10:2-19  
1 John 2:26-28

**Sat., Apr. 17**

Psalm 4  
Acts 3:1-10  
Luke 22:24-30

**Sun., Apr. 18**

***Third Sunday of Easter***

Acts 3:12-19  
Psalm 4  
1 John 3:1-7  
Luke 24:36b-48

**Mon., Apr. 19**

Psalm 150  
Jeremiah 30:1-11a  
1 John 3:10-16

**Tues., Apr. 20**

Psalm 150  
Hosea 5:15–6:6  
2 John 1-6

**Wed., Apr. 21**

Psalm 150  
Proverbs 9:1-6  
Mark 16:9-18

**Thurs., Apr. 22**

Psalm 23  
Genesis 30:25-43  
Acts 3:17-26

**Fri., Apr. 23**

Psalm 23  
Genesis 46:28–47:6  
Acts 4:1-4

**Sat., Apr. 24**

Psalm 23  
Genesis 48:8-19  
Mark 6:30-34

**Sun., Apr. 25**

***Fourth Sunday of Easter***

Acts 4:5-12  
Psalm 23  
1 John 3:16-24  
John 10:11-18

**Mon., Apr. 26**

Psalm 95  
1 Samuel 16:1-13  
1 Peter 5:1-5

**Tues., Apr. 27**

Psalm 95  
1 Chronicles 11:1-9  
Revelation 7:13-17

**Wed., Apr. 28**

Psalm 95  
Micah 7:8-20  
Mark 14:26-31

**Thurs., Apr. 29**

Psalm 22:25-31  
Amos 8:1-7  
Acts 8:1b-8

**Fri., Apr. 30**

Psalm 22:25-31  
Amos 8:11-13  
Acts 8:9-25

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