

**North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC**  
**155 Old Main Road/PO Box 403**  
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**Return Service Requested**  
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# The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ

April 2023

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*“...give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*  
1 Thessalonians 5:18

*“You sanctify whatever you are grateful for.”*  
Anthony de Mello, SJ

Dear Friends,

We see so much written about gratitude these days that it can feel like overload. But that’s a good thing. It means more and more of us are realizing the power of gratitude. We’ve been learning how it is good for our mood and health. It helps us relish good experiences and build strong relationships. Being grateful helps us connect to something larger than ourselves. When we are grateful, we start to recognize the source of goodness lies partially outside ourselves—we start to see the many ways God’s handiwork is woven through our lives.

In a letter to the Thessalonians, Paul tells his flock to give thanks in all things. It is one thing to give thanks when life is going well, but giving thanks when life takes a turn for the worse doesn’t come naturally. When we are in the depths of suffering, mustering an attitude of gratitude is harder. Can suffering and gratitude coexist?

Victor Frankl in his book *Man’s Search for Meaning* so eloquently describes how suffering enabled him and other prisoners to discover what was truly important in life—“We were grateful for the smallest of mercies.” Suffering and gratitude is a pattern repeated over and over in the Psalms—one is never without the other. In one breath, the psalmist writes about their woes. In the next, the psalmist expresses jubilant gratitude for God’s faithfulness.

According to Fr. Anthony de Mello, “we sanctify whatever we are grateful for.” In other words, we make something holy and sacred just by being grateful, whether it is a child’s smile, a gorgeous sunset at Old Silver beach, or the person who made you laugh. When we are grateful, we are attentive to the sacred around us.

Whether your days are bright or dark, may joy of gratitude make the ordinary things of life holy.

Joy always,

Pastor Christina

## UPCOMING WORSHIP – EASTERTIDE

### April 30 | 10 a.m. | The Shepherd's Gate

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who opens the gate and invites us to life abundant. This is an invitation that says, come in, try it out, taste and see. At the heart of this invitation is communion with God and immersion in living the holy life. Being in relationship with God is something we enter into and experience. **Scripture:** Psalm 23 | John 10:1-10

### May 7 | 10 a.m. | Greater Things | Communion Sunday

Jesus tries to reassure his panicked and heartbroken followers that all will be well after he is gone. Wasn't he the Messiah who came to deliver the world? What would happen now? "Believe in me", Jesus says to calm their spirits and lets them know they will do greater things than he did. How has believing in Jesus helped you do greater things? **Scripture:** 1 Peter 2:2-10 | John 14:1-14

### May 14 | 10 a.m. | Lovingkindness – Give a Little Love Away | Mother's Day

Keeping commandments is important, but it's not the most important thing, Jesus says. Having an intimate life with God is most important and "keeping commandments" will follow. Love's symbiosis comes first. Everything else flows from that wellspring. Our good works are expressions of truly living with and in the God of Love. How do you express your love for God? Come, join us as we decorate a tree with prayers of lovingkindness. **Scripture:** 1 Peter 3:13-22 | John 14:15-21

### May 21 | 10 a.m. | Mission Sunday and Picnic

Join us for a shorter service praising, singing, and worshipping God. Then together, we will do mission work around the church—outdoors and indoors. So, wear your most comfortable clothes and bring some rakes and pruners. Stay tuned for more details. **Scripture:** John 17:1-11



*Greetings from  
your new Music  
Director!*

It is with great joy that I write to you. What a wonderful church family you are. I am so happy to be a part of you. Thank you for your warm welcomes and kindnesses you have bestowed on me.

I hope you are enjoying my music!

Choir meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 8:00 pm as well as on Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. we would love you to join us! All are welcome. We meet in the music room.

I have found hand chimes. For those who prefer to help with percussion, I would love you to join on Wednesdays and/or Saturdays so that I can lead you in providing chords, countermelodies and/or ostinati for the choir. We will have a joyful time making music. Please join us. I provide Wednesday eve as well as Saturday to accommodate your schedules. You may come to one rehearsal or the other, or, both.

The choir warms up on Sunday mornings at 9.15 in the music room.

Peace, Stephanie

### PRAYER CORNER

*In this space you are invited to share your joys and concerns for those people in your life you care about, but also for our church. You may submit your prayers to [officenfcc@gmail.com](mailto:officenfcc@gmail.com).*

Christie, Churchhill, Betty Cole, the family & friends of Karen Cole, Daniel, the family & friends of J. Harry Donald, Donna, Emily, Eric, Ken Evans, Pam Fernsebner, Martha & Caleb Fraser, the family & friends of Betty Galbraith, Jack, Jason, Laura, Leslie, Nicholas Manley, Elijah Mainuli, Mandy, Marge Marshall, Melida, Michael, Deb & Tom Morck, Camilla Nevius, Martha Petersen, Rhonwen, Martha Rosewell, Sean, Todd Staples, Susan, Susanne, Marilyn Swain, Brian Youmans, Don Youmans.



*Lenten Season*

# April Birthdays



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



**The egg painting workshop after worship organized by Carolee brought out the inner artist in all..**

# Happy Birthday





**We were thrilled to have our wonderful new Music Director, Stephanie Miles play her first service with NFCC!**



**Bunny Bella accompanying Ms. Stephanie with her maracas.**



**THE PASSION OF JESUS – A Dramatic Reading from the Gospel of Luke. Thank you to all of the readers. Pictured here: Erin Murphy, Carolee, Pastor Christina & Lisa.**



**Soloist Alan King singing “The Palms”.**



**Soup followed by a service in the Covenant room. Jesus’ seven last actions.**





**Thanks go out to Deacon Melessa Fox.**



**Those who braved the seasonally chilly morning began their day of Easter celebration.**



*10 a.m. Easter Service*



**The Sanctuary was full!**



**The 6 a.m. Easter sunrise service at Megansett Beach.**



**So wonderful to have the Choir sing again after the pandemic!**



*April 23<sup>rd</sup> Holy Humor Sunday*



**Flowering the Cross.**



**Pastor Christina & Stephanie led the way with humor & color-coordinated styles.**



**Mary (Bella) had a little lamb.**







*Soup for the Soul  
continues through  
May 4<sup>th</sup>*



**Carolee organized potting pansies for those attending Soup for the Soul.**



**The YMCA children happily joined in!**



**Potted and ready to go out to Meals-on-Wheels recipients and volunteers.**



# **NORTH FALMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH MOTHER'S DAY SALE**

**(HELD IN THE CHURCH COVENANT ROOM)**

**SATURDAY, MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 12 Noon**

## **Collectables**

## **Jewelry Sale**



**Handbags**



**Scarves**

**Plus Many More Gifts For Your Mom**

**Or That Special Woman In Your Life!**

**NORTH FALMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

155 Old Main Road, North Falmouth

508-863-2177





## Daily Lectionary Scripture References – April 2023 (Year A)

**Sat., Apr. 1**

Psalm 31:9-16  
Lamentations 3:55-66  
Mark 10:32-34

**Sun., Apr. 2**

*Palm/Passion Sunday*

*Palms:*

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Matthew 21:1-11

*Passion:*

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14–27:66 or  
Matthew 27:11-54

**Holy Week**

**Mon., Apr. 3**

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 36:5-11  
Hebrews 9:11-15  
John 12:1-11

**Tues., Apr. 4**

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 71:1-14  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
John 12:20-36

**Wed., Apr. 5**

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 70  
Hebrews 12:1-3  
John 13:21-32

**Thurs., Apr. 6**

*Maundy 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. 7**

*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. 8**

*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. 9**

*Easter*

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah  
31:1-6  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts  
10:34-43  
John 20:1-18 or Matthew  
28:1-10

**Mon., Apr. 10**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21  
Colossians 3:5-11

**Tues., Apr. 11**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Exodus 15:1-18  
Colossians 3:12-17

**Wed., Apr. 12**

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Joshua 3:1-17  
Matthew 28:1-10

**Thurs., Apr. 13**

Psalm 16  
Song of Solomon 2:8-15  
Colossians 4:2-5

**Fri., Apr. 14**

Psalm 16  
Song of Solomon 5:9–6:3  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Sat., Apr. 15**

Psalm 16  
Song of Solomon 8:6-7  
John 20:11-20

**Sun., Apr. 16**

*Second Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
Psalm 16  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

**Mon., Apr. 17**

Psalm 114  
Judges 6:36-40  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20

**Tues., Apr. 18**

Psalm 114  
Jonah 1:1-17  
1 Corinthians 15:19-28

**Wed., Apr. 19**

Psalm 114  
Jonah 2:1-10  
Matthew 12:38-42

**Thurs., Apr. 20**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
Isaiah 25:1-5  
1 Peter 1:8b-12

**Fri., Apr. 21**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
Isaiah 26:1-4  
1 Peter 1:13-16

**Sat., Apr. 22**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
Isaiah 25:6-9  
Luke 14:12-14

**Sun., Apr. 23**

*Third Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
1 Peter 1:17-23  
Luke 24:13-35

**Mon., Apr. 24**

Psalm 134  
Genesis 18:1-14  
1 Peter 1:23-25

**Tues., Apr. 25**

Psalm 134  
Proverbs 8:32–9:6  
1 Peter 2:1-3

**Wed., Apr. 26**

Psalm 134  
Exodus 24:1-11  
John 21:1-14

**Thurs., Apr. 27**

Psalm 23  
Exodus 2:15b-25  
1 Peter 2:9-12

**Fri., Apr. 28**

Psalm 23  
Exodus 3:16-22; 4:18-20  
1 Peter 2:13-17

**Sat., Apr. 29**

Psalm 23  
Ezekiel 34:1-16  
Luke 15:1-7

**Sun., Apr. 30**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*  
Acts 2:42-47  
Psalm 23  
1 Peter 2:19-25  
John 10:1-10

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