

North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC
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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

May 2022

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“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.” –Romans 12:12

Dear Friends,

Fred Rogers once said, “When I was a little boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

I read an article recently that dismissed Mr. Rogers’ remark as simple, meant to comfort children and not adults. The author of the article reasoned that adults’ understanding of the world cannot be distilled down to a manageable statement. It is much too complex. I beg to differ. Sometimes the spoken truth needs to cut through all the clutter so that we can see what is essential in life. Fred Rogers was a master of offering the essential truths in our

complicated world in a way that softened many children and adult hearts. Sometimes, simplicity is exactly what we need.

When we look for the helpers in this complicated, messy world, we find hope. I know if I don’t, I’ll get beaten down and depressed by all the horrible things happening. But when I look for the change makers, the innovators, the kindness-generators who are doing what they can to make this a better world—I find hope. For example, some scientists have found a plastic-eating enzyme that could eliminate billions of tons of plastic. In Hawaii, a start-up company has built a machine to inexpensively remove excess acidity from the ocean. And in Buffalo, with the Tops grocery temporarily closed due to the ongoing investigation, it has created a food desert in that neighborhood. And neighbors are rushing to help neighbors by getting food and other essentials to them.

Look for the helpers and you will find hope. That’s true in our church as well. It is easy to notice what is not working. So, I encourage you to read through this issue of the Sandpiper to find the helpers here at North Falmouth Congregational Church who are helping our neighbors. So, when you look for the helpers, you will find the hope that is right in front of you. It is really that simple.

So, be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.

Joy always,

Pastor Christina

**UPCOMING WORSHIP –
EASTERTIDE/PENTECOST**

If we are worshipping outside, we will let you know in Friday's email. For indoor worship, please remember to wear your mask. You can also view our services on Facebook live and Zoom.

**May 15 – 10 a.m. – Good Shepherd Sunday –
Being a Sheep**

Jesus says we are his sheep, and we know his voice. Do we like being thought of as sheep? More than likely we want to be the shepherd rather than the sheep. They do not have the best reputation for being smart. So, how are we like sheep? **Scripture:** Psalm 23 and John 10:22-30.

May 22 – 10 a.m. – Mister Rogers' Sunday

As the first few notes of the television show Mister Rogers' Neighborhood played, viewers were transported from the streets of the neighborhood and into the sacred space of Mister Rogers' living room where they were greeted by a flashing yellow stop light; an invitation to slow down. This is a day to slow down and be fully present with God. **Scripture:** Matthew 22:34-40, Luke 10:25-37.

May 29 – 10 a.m. – Jail Break

A fortuneteller follows Paul and Silas around town yelling that they were men of God. Paul got really annoyed and casted the demon out of her, which meant she could no longer make money for her employer. As a result, Paul and Silas are thrown in jail. Even when we mess up, God still uses our less-than-perfect choices for the greater good. **Scripture:** Psalm 97, Acts 16:16-34.

June 5 – 10 a.m. – Pentecost Sunday

Violent winds here on the Cape usually mean hurricanes. So, we hunker down and wait it out in the safest place in our house and pray for safety. But in Genesis and in the Acts of the Apostles, God lets loose a violent wind to create something new! God doesn't always blow into our lives with a gentle breeze. Come, celebrate Pentecost, and make some noise. **Scripture:** Genesis 1:1-9, Acts 2:1-21.

May Birthdays



05/03	Marjorie Marshall
05/04	Samantha Fraser
05/07	Camilla Nevius
05/07	Pam Oliveira
05/07	Pearl Wright
05/10	Graham Murphy
05/12	Melanie Young
05/13	Gladys Allen
05/16	Megan O'Hara
05/17	David O'Hara
05/20	Patricia Oshman
05/27	John Checklick
05/27	Meri Gilson
05/27	Alexa Willman
05/29	Janet King
05/31	Betty Galbraith

Happy Birthday



Theology Wednesdays

To wrap up the past few month's studies of the series "Vincent Van Gogh and the Beauty of Lent," the Wednesday group held a painting workshop. Conceived and led by Carolee Packard, the group used VanGogh's Starry Night as their inspiration.

As you can see below, the results were amazing.



Starry Night with sunflowers. Below, Pam Fernsebner with her beautiful painting.



Pastor Christina's beauty.



Who knew we had so many talented artists?



NFCC Outreach

Being the Church During a Pandemic:

(When the building was mainly closed;
When folks wanted community here, yet were
uneasy of being in groups)

The Church of Jesus commands that we be a loving community that brings hope, joy and love into the lives of others.

Well folks, we are being that Community of People!
How, you ask?

In the years 2020 - 2022:

1. In 2022 we joined forces with the Rotary Club and the South Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce. Our “Be the Church” folks brought in medical and personal supplies to be shipped to Poland.
2. We partnered with the North Falmouth Elementary 4th grade classes and bought school supplies. These classes filled school bags. These too were shipped to the Ukrainian refugee children in Poland.
3. We partnered with the wonderful people at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Falmouth and served a genuine Polish dinner. This was a drive-by, pick-up only event. We raised \$3,500 and sold 166 meals were picked up. Money continues to come in.
4. A community “Spring Celebration” was held in our beautiful garden space in the back of the church . The beautiful space where our outdoor worship services are held! Kids and families hunted for eggs, visited with one another, made crafts together, and enjoyed the lovely day!

More to come, this year is young!

In the year 2021:

1. We partnered with the North Falmouth Elementary School and bought Christmas wish list-gifts for their school families.
2. A drive-by, drop-off white sock collection was held. These socks went to organizations serving the Cape’s homeless population.

3. We purchased new bed linens for a local transitional homeless shelter.

In March of the year 2020, the world shut down rather quickly.

1. Our church became virtual. Sunday services and meetings were held via Zoom and Facebook. People were checked on by Zoom, Facetime, and text messages. We participated in drive-by visitations, and started outdoor worship – wearing your masks, bringing your chairs and coming as we are.
2. The building remained open for the Early Education Center and Emergency workers child care services. Thank you to the YMCA!
3. Elder Services continued distributing meals. Their deliveries went from 45 to 100 meals per day during the year.
4. Our church invested in media equipment to broadcast worship.
5. Our first “drive-by collection” was held. Personal items were collected for a group serving the homeless.

Yes, folks, we are being the church of love and care. We are the community Jesus commands us to be.

Thank you all!

SOLD OUT

**April 30th Polish
Take-out Dinner**



**Carolee & Hope boxing the dinners.
All proceeds benefited the Ukrainian people.**



Sue, Marcia & Saramaria outside of the kitchen as they checked in the many people picking up their dinners.



The perfectly organized partnership between NFCC and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship sold 166 dinners for a total of over \$3,500.

Upcoming Events with Rev. Saramaria Allenby

A Thursday walk, May 26th at 10:30 a.m. at the Mock Moraine Trails West Falmouth.

see: <https://300committee.org/conservation-lands-2/mock-moraine-trails/>

A Sunday stroll, May 29th at 12:30 p.m. Santuit Pond loop Mashpee Ma (Santuit Pond wildlife easement) 117 Main Street, Mashpee, MA 02649

In person and online – Reading Recovery, the Sacred Art by Rami Shapiro with Wellstrong (please come in-person only if you are in active recovery). To be held at 4 p.m. on Sundays May 22nd and June 5th. Deepen your capacity to live free from addiction and from self and selfishness. Learn not only about addiction to substances but to anger, greed, and selfishness. Draw on many of the world’s practices and traditions, and working with the 12 step program to draw insight and hope.

****Penikese Island retreat**** Tuesday May 31st / rain date – June 20th. This is a day trip, \$75 per person 10-person minimum (18 maximum). Join us to enjoy the beauty of this historic and wonderful island and bird sanctuary. We will reflect on and practice beauty. To learn more go to: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penikese_Island To join us email me at Sallenby48@gmail.com.

Join us May 26th at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Watch the Movie Baraka. *Baraka* is a [documentary film](#) with no [narrative](#) or [voice-over](#). “A world beyond words” explores themes via a compilation of natural events, life, human activities and technological phenomena shot in 24 countries on six continents over a 14 month period. It is a visually, musically and inspirational “beauty”. The film is named after the [Sufi](#) concept of [baraka](#), meaning blessing, essence, or breath. To read and see more, go to: <https://www.barakasamsara.com/samsara/about>



Photo by Gene Marchand used with the permission of Bill Hough, editor, the Enterprise Newspaper.

The Reverends Nell Fields and Christina Williams enjoyed a lovely dinner with Gina Torielli, Executive Director of BTEO at the recent Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting held at the Seacrest Resort in North Falmouth.



Upcoming Events

NO PLACE FOR HATE FALMOUTH
 No Place for Hate-Falmouth
 Racial Justice Falmouth present...

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion:
 What Is It and What Does It Mean?**

Free, online presentation (via Zoom)
Monday, May 23, 6-7 PM

Presenters:
Dr. Seyana Mawusi
 DEI consultant, NPFH Steering Committee
Meghan Hanawalt
 Falmouth Affirmative Action Committee, RJF
Stephen Tom
 Community activist, business executive

Register: tinyurl.com/3jte26a8

Questions? npfhfalmouth@gmail.com

The North Falmouth Village Association Presents

**The First Annual
 North Falmouth Porchfest**

August 6th, 2022
 Old Main Road, N. Falmouth
1pm to 4pm

Sign up to volunteer at
northfalmouthporchfest.com

Or scan the code below



Supported, in part, by a grant from the MCC  **Mass Cultural Council**

 [/northfalmouthporchfest](https://www.instagram.com/northfalmouthporchfest)

Thrift Shop Gift Cards



Are Now Available for Purchase!

The perfect gift for your friends & family members who love to shop at the NFCC Thrift Shop.

508-564-4075



From the Altar Committee

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 or 508-759-0857



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References – May 2022 (Year C)

Sun., May 1

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

Mon., May 2

Psalm 121
Ezekiel 1:1-25
Acts 9:19b-31

Tues., May 3

Psalm 121
Ezekiel 1:26–2:1
Acts 26:1-18

Wed., May 4

Psalm 121
Isaiah 6:1-8
Luke 5:1-11

Thurs., May 5

Psalm 23
Ezekiel 11:1-25
Revelation 5:1-10

Fri., May 6

Psalm 23
Ezekiel 20:39-44
Revelation 6:1–7:4

Sat., May 7

Psalm 23
Ezekiel 28:25-26
Luke 12:29-32

Sun., May 8

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Mon., May 9

Psalm 100
Ezekiel 37:15-28
Revelation 15:1-4

Tues., May 10

Psalm 100
Ezekiel 45:1-9
Acts 9:32-35

Wed., May 11

Psalm 100
Jeremiah 50:17-20
John 10:31-42

Thurs., May 12

Psalm 148
Ezekiel 2:8–3:11
Revelation 10:1-11

Fri., May 13

Psalm 148
Daniel 7:13-14
Revelation 11:15

Sat., May 14

Psalm 148
Daniel 7:27
Revelation 11:16-19

Sun., May 15

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Mon., May 16

Psalm 133
1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42
Acts 11:19-26

Tues., May 17

Psalm 133
2 Samuel 1:4-27
Acts 11:27-30

Wed., May 18

Psalm 133
Leviticus 19:9-18
Luke 10:25-28

Thurs., May 19

Psalm 67
Proverbs 2:1-5
Acts 15:36-41

Fri. May 20

Psalm 67
Proverbs 2:6-8
Acts 16:1-8

Sat., May 21

Psalm 67
Proverbs 2:9-15
Luke 19:1-10

Sun., May 22

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5
John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9

Mon., May 23

Psalm 93
1 Chronicles 12:16-22
Revelation 21:5-14

Tues., May 24

Psalm 93
2 Chronicles 15:1-15
Revelation 21:15-22

Wed., May 25

Psalm 93
2 Chronicles 34:20-33
Luke 2:25-38

Thurs., May 26

Ascension of the Lord
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93
Ephesians 1:15-23
Luke 24:44-53

Fri., May 27

Psalm 97
Exodus 33:12-17
Revelation 22:6-9

Sat., May 28

Psalm 97
Exodus 33:18-23
John 1:14-18

Sun., May 29

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

Mon., May 30

Psalm 29
Exodus 40:16-38
Acts 16:35-40

Tues., May 31

Psalm 29
2 Chronicles 5:2-14
Acts 26:19-29