

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

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The Reverend Christina Williams, Pastor (508) 563-2177, www.northfalmouthucc.com





The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

June 2025

Dear Friends,

My cat is very good at resting. He knows how to stretch out in a patch of sun and let its warmth lull him to sleep. He grooms himself without a care in the world. And when he's finished, he yawns and stretches to his full length, content simply to *be* in his world. In his own quiet way, he has become one of my teachers in the art of rest — and even sabbath.

As I prepare for my sabbatical this July, I find myself reflecting on the gift and the practice of holy rest. Sabbath is a time when we step back from wrestling with the world, from crossing off to-do lists, and from filling every empty moment with busyness. It is a time to tend to the seed of eternity planted deep within the soul. My hope for this sabbatical is to care for my soul as one tends a garden — gently weeding, watering, and turning it toward the light. Like my cat, I hope to receive the nourishment that true rest offers.

Rest, of course, comes in many forms. It is far more than simply getting a good

night's sleep. Mental rest comes when we practice being present, allowing our minds to grow still. Emotional rest helps release the anxieties and worries we carry. Social rest invites us into unhurried time with friends, family, and moments of joy. Sensory rest calls us to step away from constant stimulation and go analogue for a while. Creative rest renews us by inviting us into new projects, hobbies, or experiences. And spiritual rest invites us daily into prayer, meditation, and moments in nature, where we open ourselves more deeply to God's abiding presence.

As I step into this sabbatical season, my prayer is simple: to empty myself of all but God, to create space for God to act, to surprise me with wonder, to stand again on holy ground— and to rest as easily and fully as my cat in a patch of sunlight.

In faith and hope,
Rev. Christina

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Greetings from the Music Director

We would love to have you join our small but mighty choir. You do not have to read music. We rehearse during the week in order to prepare for Sunday's service. I often engage the choir in choosing pieces that they enjoy and believe the congregation will enjoy.

Adult choir will continue to practice until the end of July and will resume the first week of September.

If you have a musical talent as a guitarist, singer, or woodwind player, and would like to share your musical gifts with the congregation on a particular Sunday service that works best for you, please contact me so that we can rehearse together.

Cherub choir would love to have more cherubs join us. We meet on Sundays after church service, from 11:15 to 11:45. Please consider having your child/grandchild be a part of our group. Ages for cherub choir are 3 to 8 (or age 9 if that is needed).

Junior choir will resume in late August. Teenagers are needed! The children can choose from a variety of suggestions what they would like to learn.

Bell choir stops as of June 29th. We will resume in the late August. How wonderful it would be if you joined this small but mighty group. We meet on Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. and usually perform for the church once a month (sometimes twice).

Music is such a wonderful way to share God's love with others. I hope you will consider joining one of the many groups we have here at NFCC.

Peace, Stephanie

Take Two Conversations

The summer topic in our Take Two conversations will be Hearing the Voice of God. We will draw from various stories in the Bible including Elijah and Moses as well as other literary sources and video presentations.

Please join us on: July 6, 20, August 3, 17.

We meet in the Sunday School room at about 11:15 after everyone has had a chance to enjoy some refreshments and fellowship. Everyone is ALWAYS welcome!

Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday alterscape



Pastor Christina & cast offering A Dramatic Reading of Jesus' Last Week

Maundy Thursday



Soup followed by a service in the
Covenant room.



The Bell Choir accompanied the Choir in
Ring the Easter Bells

Easter Sunrise Service



Flowering the cross!

10 am Easter Sunday



The Sanctuary was full!



The Cherub Choir sang
This Little Light of Mine

Easter Egg Hunt



Congratulations to Recent Falmouth High School Graduates!

Theo Allenby

Hello! My name is Theodore Allenby. I am a recent Falmouth High School graduate and a member here at the North Falmouth Congregational Church. A little bit about me is that, in the classroom, I am a high-honor roll student and in the top five percent of my graduating class of 2025. I am a member of the National Honor Society and Math Honor Society with over 100 volunteer and tutoring hours logged for both. In addition to academics, I was the former two-year captain of the Falmouth High School soccer team. Furthermore, I also enjoy playing soccer competitively, and just recently finished the season as one of the top scorers for my highly ranked team called Seacoast United.

Future Plans: In the fall of 2025, I plan to attend the Commonwealth Honors College at the University of Massachusetts Amherst to potentially study Psychology. However, I am still undecided as of right now.

Nolan Clements

Hello, my name is Nolan Clements and I have been a member of NFCC since I was a baby. I recently graduated Falmouth high school in the senior class of 2025. I am involved in Boy Scouts and I work at Parker's Boat Yard in Cataumet. At school I participated in concert band and I am a member of the Tri-M music honor society, along with mentoring students in grades K- 8th grade. Next year I am attending the University of Oklahoma with plans to study meteorology.



Rising Cornell Sophomore Scholarship Recipient, Marcus Greco

Outreach



May 4th Church World Services
Melessa & Kay assembling the buckets



Carolee receiving her award from the
YMCA Barnstable for her outstanding
service to the organization.



Linda, Scott & all participated



The Promise Garden with the
YMCA children



Packed and Ready to go to Brockton
for Shipment



May 17, Falmouth Historical Society tour of North Falmouth



Carolee presented a beautiful display of the rich history of NFCC



Upper Cape Chaplaincy

The Upper Cape Chaplaincy fundraiser for chaplains providing emotional and spiritual support to patients, families of patients as well as staff at Falmouth Hospital and JML Care Center raised \$688.00 on a stormy Nor'easter night. We, the Board of Director members representing NFCC, wish to thank all who attended and hope to repeat the event with Stir Crazy in the fall.

Kristin Fraser, Joyce Kenneally, & Marsha Martin, Rev Saramaria Allenby, Chaplain @ FH

The Thrift Shop



A major snafu with the septic!



Thank you to our buildings facilitator Bryan for getting Septic Solutions on board.



Paving to Begin June 17



Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References –June 2025 (Year C)

Sun., June 1

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17,
20-21

John 17:20-26

Mon., June 2

Psalm 29

Exodus 40:16-38

Acts 16:35-40

Tues., June 3

Psalm 29

2 Chronicles 5:2-14

Acts 26:19-29

Wed., June 4

Psalm 29

Ezekiel 3:12-21

Luke 9:18-27

Thurs., June 5

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Isaiah 32:11-17

Galatians 5:16-25

Fri., June 6

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Isaiah 44:1-4

Galatians 6:7-10

Sat., June 7

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

2 Kings 2:1-15a

Luke 1:5-17

Sun., June 8

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 or

Genesis 11:1-9

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17 or

Acts 2:1-21

John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Mon., June 9

Psalm 48

Joel 2:18-29

1 Corinthians 2:1-11

Tues., June 10

Psalm 48

Ezekiel 11:14-25

1 Corinthians 2:12-16

Wed., June 11

Psalm 48

Numbers 24:1-14

Luke 1:26-38

Thurs., June 12

Psalm 8

Proverbs 3:13-18

Ephesians 1:17-19

Fri., June 13

Psalm 8

Proverbs 3:19-26

Ephesians 4:1-6

Sat., June 14

Psalm 8

Proverbs 4:1-9

Luke 2:41-52

Sun., June 15

Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

Mon., June 16

Psalm 124

Proverbs 7:1-4

Ephesians 4:7-16

Tues., June 17

Psalm 124

Proverbs 8:4-21

Ephesians 5:15-20

Wed., June 18

Psalm 124

Daniel 1:1-21

Luke 1:46b-55

Thurs., June 19

Psalm 42 and 43

Genesis 24:1-21

Romans 2:17-29

Fri., June 20

Psalm 42 and 43

Job 6:14-30

Galatians 3:15-22

Sat., June 21

Psalm 42 and 43

Proverbs 11:3-13

Matthew 9:27-34

Sun., June 22

Second Sunday after

Pentecost

1 Kings 19:1-4 [5-7] 8-15a

Psalm 42 and 43

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 8:26-39

Mon., June 23

Psalm 59

2 Kings 9:1-13

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Tues., June 24

Psalm 59

2 Kings 9:14-26

Ephesians 2:11-22

Wed., June 25

Psalm 59

2 Kings 9:30-37

Luke 9:37-43a

Thurs., June 26

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

1 Kings 22:29-40, 51-53

2 Corinthians 13:5-10

Fri., June 27

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

2 Kings 1:1-12

Galatians 4:8-20

Sat., June 28

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

2 Kings 1:13-18; 2:3-5

Luke 9:21-27

Sun., June 29

Third Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Luke 9:51-62

Mon., June 30

Psalm 75

2 Kings 2:15-22

1 John 2:7-11

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