

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

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Dated Material

July 2021



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





The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

July 2021

PASTOR'S PAGE

Summer Day

Who made the world?
 Who made the swan, and the black bear?
 Who made the grasshopper?
 This grasshopper, I mean—
 the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
 the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
 who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up
 and down—
 who is gazing around with her enormous and
 complicated eyes.
 Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly
 washes her face.
 Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
 I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
 I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
 into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
 how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the
 fields,
 which is what I have been doing all day.
 Tell me, what else should I have done?
 Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
 Tell me, what is it you plan to do
 with your one wild and precious life?
 —Mary Oliver

Dear Friends,

As a kid, I was a great idler and an excellent daydreamer, as my elementary report cards can attest. In her mission to set me on the right path, my grandmother made sure I was kept busy around the house and in the gardens. She was rarely idle. When she watched TV, she was always doing something with her hands like knitting, writing letters or shucking peas. Her thinking was tempered by her

father's puritan belief that one should never be idle because it could only lead to trouble. Despite my puritan roots, I enjoy being idle at times.

With adulthood, idleness and daydreaming mostly disappear from our lives. As productive as we like to be, research shows that both things can have real benefits. Idleness allows our ideas to incubate and gives us time to recover. Rather than doing nothing when we are idle, our brain becomes more active, increasing blood flow and becoming more organized. This resting of the mind is more likely to produce creative ideas or 'a-ha moments' than when we are plugging away at a task. Daydreaming has its benefits too. Letting our thoughts wander can foster greater creativity and invite inspiration. Being idle or daydreaming is good for us.

These dog days of summer are the perfect time to slow down the pace of your life and mind. As you read Mary Oliver's poem, let it inspire you to think of idleness and daydreaming as a form of prayer that brings you into God's presence. In this way, you can turn your thoughts away from the hecticness of life and enjoy the blessings God has for you in every season.

May your summer be full of blessings.

Happy dog days of summer,

Pastor Christina

UPCOMING WORSHIP – JULY

July 11 – 10 a.m. – Renewal

David is now king and wants to renew the people's hope. He brings the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem—a symbol of God's presence. David leads a big parade that turns into merrymaking, and dancing, but not everyone is happy. **Scripture:** 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19, Ephesians 1:3-14

July 18 – 10 a.m. – Building Without Walls

David promises to build a house for God, but God promises to make him the house. What does God build in you and through you? **Scripture:** 2 Samuel 7:1-14a, Psalm 89:20-37

July 27 – 10 a.m. – Risus Paschalis – Holy

Humor Sunday: Intergenerational Worship Holy Humor Sunday or Bright Monday is an 800-year-old tradition that is normally celebrated the Sunday or Monday after Easter. It is a celebration of the resurrection in which God has the last laugh over death and evil. You are invited to wear your zaniest outfit in celebration. **Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 3:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

August 1 – 10 a.m. – Bread of Life – Communion

Jesus cannot get away from the hungry crowds wanting to be fed. He tells them he is the imperishable bread they should be seeking. What kinds of things do we look to, hoping they will mediate God's presence? Church, prayer, sacraments, relationships? **Scripture:** John 6:24-35, Ephesians 4:1-16

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.

wilmart41@comcast.net or 508-759-0857

July Birthdays



07/02	Keira Murphy
07/05	Saramaria Allenby
07/05	Dick Meyer
07/06	Bill Fenstermaker
07/08	Sally Eldridge
07/08	Lukas Sievert
07/09	Kay Johnson
07/09	Harry Thomas
07/11	Samuel Barrett
07/14	Babette Bach
07/14	Mike Ryan
07/15	Austin Gray
07/16	Sandra Checklick
07/18	Max Rafferty
07/20	Anna Dunphy
07/24	Brita Dupuis
07/24	Jenna Leigh Wright
07/25	Theo Allenby
07/30	David Larouque



Happy Birthday

NEWS FLASH

Reimagining NFCC Getting Underway

On June 30, 2021, Church Council approved a new project that will begin soon. As we move into the fall and beyond, we plan to reimagine what NFCC will be. In an effort to engage our congregation and the surrounding communities, Council approved the creation of a Reimagining NFCC team; our goal is to re-engage, invigorate, energize, and stimulate the congregation to do some creative thinking about how we can become a vibrant part of the community. The possibilities are almost limitless.

In the next few weeks, we will send out a letter to a few people inviting them to serve on this team. If you receive a letter, please give it serious thought as we embark on this important journey. We will follow up with phone calls to answer any questions you might have and to encourage you to accept team membership.

The proposal presented to Council follows. Thank you.

Katie Weldon for Reimagining Advisory Group
Jean Holmes, Carolee Packard, Pastor Christina

Proposal to Church Council, June 30, 2021

Project Name: Reimagining NFCC

Background

- How this started: Jean Holmes sent an email to Christina, Carolee and Katie Weldon (Advisory Group) expressing concern for the loss of membership and lack of responses to the surveys sent out over the last six months. The four of us met to discuss what we might do about it. This is the result of that meeting. As members at large, Jean and I agreed to take on this project.
- To become to remain a vibrant faith family we need to re-engage our entire membership, many of whom were not involved in the church during the last 15 months, and find ways to attract new members.

- Our hope is that involving members and the community together in this project would stimulate an exchange of ideas on how we could become a place where youth and adults mingle for fellowship. We could become the community center for North Falmouth—a fun place to go where you are welcome and safe. Really, the sky’s the limit—just need to imagine what could be.

Motion

- I move that Council approve the creation of a Reimagining NCFE team to identify and conduct multigenerational activities of interest to our congregation and the surrounding communities.

Discussion

We propose to form a Reimagining NFCC team to:

- Identify multigenerational activities of interest to our membership and the North Falmouth community with the intent to expand our reach into the community. Success could lead to our ability to increase church membership.
- Involve the community in identifying these activities and enlist their support in promoting them.
- Reinvigorate, excite, and increase enjoyment among our members in such activities

Advisory Group

- Select a 7-member Reimagining NFCC Team that is multigenerational and geographically diverse
- Send letter explaining project,
- Follow up letters with phone calls


Process for how this Reimagining NFCC Team would work:

- Conduct a brainstorming session with larger group from church and community, led by a UCC facilitator
- Determine potential activities or events of interest and select a few to start
- Report to Church Council with progress updates
- Communicate with congregation on findings and decisions

- Develop calendar of events; advertise events (locally and in Sandpiper)
- Conduct activities/events
- Assess effectiveness of events
- Prepare report for annual meeting



**FROM THE
OUTREACH
COMMITTEE**
June Thank You letters



P.O. Box 343
Falmouth, MA 02541
www.bteofalmouth.com
bteofalmouth@gmail.com

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CEO Martha's Vineyard
Community Services

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Valle Group

David Vieira
State Representative
Falmouth Town Meeting
Moderator

Allan Wilson
Wilson Consulting

BELONGING TO EACH OTHER
helping Falmouth men and women experiencing homelessness

June 14, 2021

North Falmouth Congregational Church
Rev. Christina Williams, Pastor
P.O. Box 403
North Falmouth, MA 02556

Dear Rev. Christina,

On behalf of Belonging to Each Other, Inc. (BTEO) I am writing to thank you and members of the North Falmouth Congregational Church for your kind donation of \$200. Thanks to generous congregations like yours, we were able to reach our \$25,000 matching grant target before June. That triggered an additional \$2,000 challenge grant giving BTEO the opportunity to raise \$54,000 this year!

These funds will be used in support of our 7th season of providing temporary housing and social services to our homeless neighbors here in Falmouth. This means that individuals who are homeless in Falmouth will be protected and safe during the harsh winter months and have the opportunity to regain their footing and their dignity. Your donation will also allow us to expand our services after the season concludes. Our clients will receive ongoing case management services to help ensure that they move forward successfully as they transition out of homelessness. The steadfast support of congregations like yours has meant the world to men and women in Falmouth who are homeless as well as to all of us at BTEO. We are eternally grateful for your ongoing support. May we ask you to share this letter with your congregation?

Equally important Christina, please accept my sincere thanks for the considerable time and passion as the Vice Chair of the Board and the multiple other contributions you have provided. The steadfast support of individuals like you has meant the world to men and women in Falmouth who are homeless as well as to all of us at BTEO. We are eternally grateful for your ongoing support.

May we ask you to share this letter with your congregation?

With gratitude,
Lynn O'Neill
Lynn O'Neill
BTEO, Board Chair



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Kristin O'Malley

June 14, 2021

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

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your donation of \$125.00 to the No Place for Hate Falmouth Fund, administered by The Cape Cod Foundation. Your gift is deeply appreciated and will certainly have a positive impact in the community.

The Foundation was established in 1989 with a single fund. Today, we administer more than 300. Each one was created by an individual or a group who wanted one thing: *to make a difference*. Individually, our funds have accomplished great things. Collectively, since inception, we have distributed more than \$85 million in grants and scholarships back into the community. Where it belongs.

When you support a single fund, you support an entire philanthropic network. For good.

Once again, thank you for your gift.

Sincerely,
Kristin O'Malley
Kristin O'Malley
President and CEO

Check Number: 5526
Check Date: June 4, 2021
Amount: \$125.00



Under the requirements of the Internal Revenue Service, we must inform you that we have provided no goods or services to you in return for your gift. In addition, you have not received any direct benefit from your contribution to The Cape Cod Foundation except the satisfaction of knowing that through your gift you have helped us to carry out our mission. The Cape Cod Foundation has exclusive legal control over the assets contributed.



WORSHIP IN JUNE



June 6th – Hope Oliveira & Pastor Christina setting up for Facebook live.



Ice Cream after the service.



June 27th – Soloists in the garden were Sarah Bach, Meg Tivey and Pastor Christina Williams. Marsha Martin brought the basket of petunias.



June 20th – gorgeous flowers celebrating Toby & Mike Ryan’s Wedding Anniversary.



They are here the...



Our first Sunday with live singing from a soloist.





Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References –July 2021 (Year B)

Thurs., July 1

Psalm 48
2 Samuel 2:1-11
1 Corinthians 4:8-13

Fri., July 2

Psalm 48
2 Samuel 3:1-12
2 Corinthians 10:7-11

Sat., July 3

Psalm 48
2 Samuel 3:31-38
Matthew 8:18-22

Sun., July 4

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
Psalm 48
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

Mon., July 5

Psalm 21
2 Samuel 5:1-10
2 Corinthians 11:16-33

Tues., July 6

Psalm 21
2 Samuel 5:11-16
James 5:7-12

Wed., July 7

Psalm 21
2 Samuel 5:17-25
John 7:1-9

Thurs., July 8

Psalm 24
Exodus 25:10-22
Colossians 2:1-5

Fri., July 9

Psalm 24
Exodus 37:1-16
Colossians 4:2-18

Sat., July 10

Psalm 24
Numbers 10:11-36
Luke 1:57-80

Sun., July 11

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

Mon., July 12

Psalm 68:24-35
2 Samuel 6:6-12a
Acts 21:27-39

Tues. July 13

Psalm 68:24-35
2 Samuel 3:12-16
Acts 23:12-35

Wed., July 14

Psalm 68:24-35
2 Samuel 6:16-23
Luke 7:31-35

Thurs., July 15

Psalm 89:20-37
1 Chronicles 11:15-19
Colossians 1:15-23

Fri., July 16

Psalm 89:20-37
1 Chronicles 14:1-2
Acts 17:16-31

Sat., July 17

Psalm 89:20-37
1 Chronicles 15:1-2, 16:4-13
Luke 18:35-43

Sun., July 18

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Mon., July 19

Psalm 61
2 Samuel 7:18-29
Hebrews 13:17-25

Tues., July 20

Psalm 61
2 Samuel 8:1-18
Acts 20:17-38

Wed., July 21

Psalm 61
2 Samuel 9:1-13
Luke 15:1-7

Thurs., July 22

Psalm 14
2 Samuel 10:1-5
Colossians 1:9-14

Fri., July 23

Psalm 14
2 Samuel 10:6-12
Colossians 3:12-17

Sat., July 24

Psalm 14
2 Samuel 10:13-19
John 4:31-38

Sun., July 25
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14
Ephesians 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

Mon., July 26

Psalm 37:12-22
2 Samuel 11:14-21
Philippians 4:10-20

Tues., July 27

Psalm 37:12-22
2 Samuel 11:22-27
Romans 15:22-33

Wed., July 28

Psalm 37:12-22
2 Chronicles 9:29-31
Mark 6:35-44

Thurs., July 29

Psalm 51:1-12
Exodus 32:19-26a
1 Corinthians 11:17-22

Fri., July 30

Psalm 51:1-12
Joshua 23:1-16
1 Corinthians 11:27-34

Sat., July 31

Psalm 51:1-12
Judges 6:1-10
Matthew 16:5-12

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