

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

**Return Service Requested
Dated Material**

September & October 2024



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





The Sandpiper

North Falmouth Congregational Church

Little church  Big heart

September & October 2024

Let nothing upset you; let nothing frighten you. Everything is changing; God alone is changeless. Patience attains the goal. Who has God lacks nothing; God alone fills every need. – St. Teresa of Avila

Dear Friends,

I can't tell you how many people have told me recently how worried they are about what the future holds for us in this country and for all of humanity. Oh, how I wish as your pastor, I could wave God's magic wand over you and release you from the anxiety, from the worry, from the growing tenseness in your body and spirit. How I wish I had the right words to comfort you, to give you peace of mind, and to settle your spirit.

While I may not be able to release you from pressures of the world, I do know we have each other in this church—to be God's presence for one another through our love and care. To be together in community, worship, song, and prayer. To strengthen each other's faith in God when our own faith wobbles. To help one another

remember God's promise to never fail us or abandons us—even in the darkest times.

God never promised to shield us from hardship, but God does promise to walk by our side through it. So, look around you—who is being God's presence for you? How is God showing up? Be attentive to God—especially now in these tumultuous times.

I invite you to read the following poem by Steve Garnaas-Holmes. May you find it reassuring.

In hope and faith,
Rev. Christina



Please, God...

We plead for God to intervene,
even "just this once..."
But I don't think that's how God works:
the Holocaust would have been a good time
to do so.
No, God doesn't stop the tyrant,
or nudge the car on the icy road.
God is not a Big Guy with a magic finger
he deploys now and then (but not always).

God is the Love at the heart of all being,
as constant as gravity, infinitely attentive,
and can't be more present or active than
right now.

When we ask for God's help,
what we mean is to align ourselves

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with the great power of God's grace already at work.

Like musicians in perfect tune, we create harmonics, notes that sound though none of us is producing them. Our harmony with God creates an energy field that does indeed change things.

In troubled times it takes great concentration to align ourselves with grace instead of force, with love instead of fear. We begin by allowing ourselves to be loved, along with all the rest of Creation, and then we fall into that love, and let that love flow through us into the world.

I think that's what we mean when we pray, "Please, God..."

From the Music Director

We have exciting music news about our music program! On Sundays October 13th and 20th, our talented bell ensemble played, and the gifted violinist Deborah Bradley joined us on October 20th.



Our junior choir began fall rehearsals on Monday evenings from 5-6pm. They will present a special performance on November 17th, which will be a perfect celebration for the Thanksgiving season. Flutist Evelyn Schetzer, will return to play on November 24th.

The excitement continues as our choir prepares for an extraordinary performance at Carnegie Hall on December 2nd, 2024. Under the brilliant direction of Joel Raney, four of our own—Linda Thomas, Alan King, Stephanie Miles, and Denise Sullivan—will join a magnificent ensemble of 200 singers to debut "Have You Heard."

We warmly invite both seasoned and new voices to join our choir, which meets every Tuesday from 7 to 8:15 PM. We warmly welcome Ray Rowitz who has recently rejoined the choir. Our bells ensemble is eager for more participants. They practice on Tuesdays from 6 to 7 PM.

Let's come together in joy and harmony. Peace, Stephanie

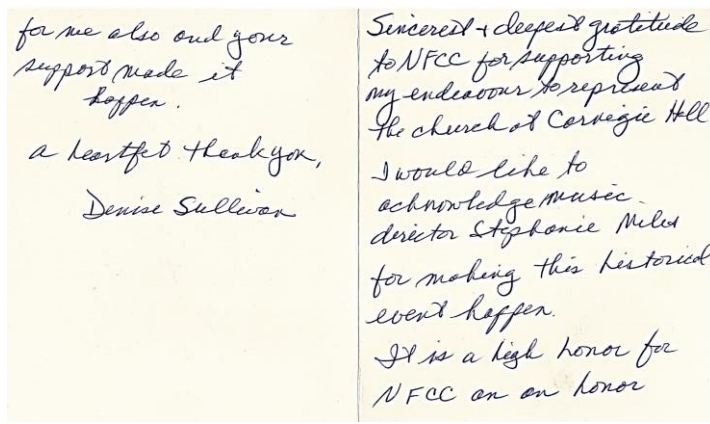
Our Music Director, Three Current Members & One past Member will Perform at Carnegie Hall on December 2, 2024!

Stephanie Miles, Alan King, Linda Thomas and Denise Sullivan have been busy rehearsing their choral parts every Saturday morning in preparation for joining a 200-person choral group who will perform Joel Raney's 31-minute Christmas piece entitled "Have You Heard" at Carnegie Hall. Our choir was accepted because of the quality of their musicality. This is a great honor! Composer Joel Raney will direct the chorus.

Stephanie, Alan, Linda and Denise's participation reflects the musicianship not just of NFCC, but also the Falmouth Public School system. Both Alan and Linda sang together in the Lawrence High School chorus. Stephanie spent the majority of her 34 years teaching music at North Falmouth Elementary School, as well as Falmouth High School, Morse Pond, Teaticket and East Falmouth elementary schools.

To think that Linda and Alan, as teenagers, through their love of singing, sang in the Lawrence High School chorus, and now, 50 years later, will have the opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall. This is a tribute to all those who have music in their spirit. Denise, Stephanie, Linda and Alan are overjoyed to be a part of this fantastic opportunity to sing with Joel Raney at Carnegie Hall!

For those interested in supporting these and other NFCC music activities, donations to the Best Music Fund are welcome! (By check to NFCC with "The Best Music Fund" in the memo line). A benefit concert to support the Best Music Fund is planned for mid-winter and will include pieces performed by the Chancel Choir, the Bell Choir, Stephanie Miles (piano), Deborah Bradley (violin), and Evelyn Schetzer (flute).



Church Life

Take Two



Our Take Two series continues with three more videos based upon the book *Grateful: The Transformative Power of*

Giving Thanks by Diana Butler-Bass. Ms. Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture.

These films contain conversations inspired by Ms. Bass’s book and not only offer us an opportunity for personal transformation, but also welcomes us into her own personal journey with gratitude. “My hope and prayer is that these films lead you to a deeper truth in your spiritual growth and inspire you to move outward into the world with the kind of generosity and gratitude that defies systems of scarcity and brings healing to the world.”

For this series our Take Two conversations do not require any advanced preparation. If you cannot attend all of our gatherings, please don’t let that stop you from attending when you can. We will meet on Sundays after our service with some time for fellowship according to the schedule below. We have had many very enlightening and enjoyable conversations on other topics and new participants are always welcome.

Join us: November 3, November 10 & November 24

Intergenerational Christmas Pageant & Candlelight Service

Our annual Christmas Eve Intergeneration Pageant / Candlelight service is once again on the horizon. This has become a treasured family memory for many of our participants. Please let me know if you would like to participate. There are roles for all ages!

Our rehearsal schedule is as follows: Sunday, December 8, 15, after the service and Saturday morning December 21.

We ask that participants attend all rehearsals but if you have a scheduling problem and want to join in please speak with Lisa.

College Care Packages

This year, once again, we will be sending care packages to our college students for the holidays. Boxes will be available to fill in the

Covenant Room beginning Sunday, November 3 through December 1. Students look forward to all of the little gifts we send. Bring in some snacks, homemade treats, gift cards, post-its or other homework supplies, ornaments, etc. We will also accept cash donations to help defray the cost of postage. Help to brighten the end of this first semester and remind our college students how important they are to us.

Giving Tree



Our Giving Tree tags will be available beginning on Sunday, November 24 and our collection will continue through Sunday, December 15. As always, our gifts will help local families in our community have a brighter Christmas. When you choose a tag please remember to **attach it to the wrapped gift** and place it under the tree in the Covenant Room. If we have extra, unclaimed tags, a digital option to receive them will be available. The generosity of our congregation in support of this program is always inspiring

Christmas Sale

The Thrift Shop will hold its annual Christmas Sale in the Covenant Room on Friday, November 8, 4-6 pm and Saturday, November 9, 9am – 12pm.

The sale will feature Christmas items, jewelry, a bake sale, and a silent auction. On Friday evening, lobster rolls to-go will be sold on a first come basis.

Anyone wishing to donate items for the silent auction may contact Sue Long at 774-392-3782 or clboat24@comcast.net

We would happily accept your homemade quilt, vintage train set, collectibles or any desirable items that would appeal to a bidder.

Donations are needed for the bake sale table. Those wishing to bake cookies, candy, breads, pies, preserves, etc., please contact Marsha Martin or Kay Clark.

**NORTH FALMOUTH
THRIFT SHOP
CHRISTMAS**

NOVEMBER 8 4-6 PM
NOVEMBER 9 9AM-12PM

AT THE NORTH FALMOUTH CONG. CHURCH
COVENANT ROOM

LIMITED LOBSTER ROLLS NOV. 8 ONLY

- JEWELRY
- BAKE SALE
- BOUTIQUE
- DECORATIONS

155 OLD MAIN RD. NORTH FALMOUTH
508-563-2177

**CALLING
ALL BAKERS!**

**NEED DONATIONS
FOR OUR BAKE TABLE!**

NOV. 8-9

**Cookies / Candy / Pies / Preserves /
Breads / Etc.**

Contact Marsha Martin or Kay Clark

From Our Leadership Team

On October 10th the Rev. Claire Bamberg joined and participated in our Sunday service. Afterwards, in the Covenant Room we enjoyed a variety of soups, wonderful breads and delicious desserts. All the fare was provided by our talented in-house chefs.

The Rev. Bamberg gave a beautifully detailed slideshow presentation of our current accomplishments and future goals. Her program was received with much enthusiasm as creative thoughts and energy flowed throughout the room.

Claire made the point that our church had received the most likes and positive comments on the article she posted on her Potentials website about what are church is doing.

The church collectively decided to not only build upon its recent accomplishments but to also increase its commitment to future success.

Kay Clark



Our Beautiful Ladies, wearing the new church t-shirts at Homecoming Sunday, Sept. 8th.

Outreach Turkey Drive

NOVEMBER 24
TURKEY SUNDAY
BRING TO CHURCH OR DROP OFF AT THE FALMOUTH SERVICE CENTER

Frozen Turkeys

10 - 14 POUNDS, FROZEN ONLY!

WE WILL HAVE A WAGON BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE FOR THAT SUNDAY

The whole North Falmouth Community is invited to participate

NORTH FALMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
155 OLD MAIN ROAD, NORTH FALMOUTH

NOVEMBER COLLECTION FOR THE BOURNE FOOD PANTRY

ITEMS NEEDED
Packaged Mixes

- CAKES
- COOKIES
- MUFFINS
- BROWNIES
- PUDDINGS
- FROSTINGS OR FROSTING MIXES

NO ALREADY MADE BAKED GOODS PLEASE!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP



The Altar Committee wishes to thank all those who supplied altar flowers from their gardens and elsewhere during the summer. It is so nice to see the creativity and to share the beauty of God's work in our gardens.

The fall calendar has some available Sundays. Please consult the calendar if you wish to donate flowers.

Potted mums and other fall flowers are welcome. If you have an interest in providing flowers for the altar or have any concerns, please contact Marsha Martin.

**SOUP WITH A PURPOSE
ALL ARE WELCOME!
THURSDAYS**



**OCTOBER 24 THRU DECEMBER 19
STARTING AT 12:00 pm
(NO SOUP NOV. 7, NOV. 28, DEC. 26)**

**INCLUDED WILL BE SMALL
PROJECTS & INFORMATIONAL
PROGRAMS**

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COME
CASUALLY DRESSED**

SOUP LUNCH AROUND 12 NOON

AFTER LUNCH - IT IS HOME AND NAP TIME

**SPONSORED BY THE OUTREACH
COMMITTEE OF NORTH FALMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Live Outdoor Christmas Tree

Once again, this year we are going to light up the outside of our beautiful church with a special Christmas tree which will be decorated with scallop shells bearing the names of loved ones. **There is a \$5.00 donation each year to have a shell placed on the tree.** Many people from the community commented positively on the lighted tree in past years including the children in the "Y" day care program. Forms can be downloaded from the church website and are available on the counter outside the office and page 8 of this newsletter.

In past years, a live tree has been generously donated in memory of a loved one. If you would like to contribute the live Christmas tree this year or have questions about the shell decorations, please contact Marsha Martin.

willmart41@comcast.net

(508) 759-0857 Call (508) 274-9395 Text

Letters of Gratitude For Our Outreach Donations



261 Whites Path, Unit 2
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
p. 508 790 3040
f. 508 790 4069
capecodfoundation.org

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Kristin O'Malley

September 4, 2024

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.

This year marks The Foundation's 35th Anniversary. We started 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 \$100 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
President and CEO

Payment Method: Check 6639
Date: 08/30/2024
Amount: \$125.00

HANDS OF HOPE OUTREACH CENTER
49 RT 28 PO BOX 387 WEST HARWICH, MA 02671
508-432-1312 churchesoh@comcast.net

September 12, 2024

North Falmouth Congregational Church

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the donation of \$250.00 to Hands of Hope Outreach Center and Food Pantry.

We acknowledge and appreciate all your efforts to help the folks who contact us throughout the year for food and financial resources. Many thanks for your generosity.

Hands of Hope assists over 4500 individuals and families throughout the year with food in the Pantry, food cards, personal care items, financial support for rent, utilities, and heating oil, school backpacks, and new toys, clothing, and gifts for children under 18 at the holidays. That assistance would not be possible without the help of our many friends and donors like you. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Catherine
Catherine Driscoll, Director
Hands of Hope Outreach Center



Executive Director

Gina Torielli

09/10/2024

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North Falmouth Congregational Church
Rev. Christina Williams
155 Old Main Rd
North Falmouth, MA 02556-0403

Dear Christina,

On behalf of all of us at Belonging to Each Other, Inc. (BTEO) please accept our thanks for your generous donation of \$200.00 received 09/03/2024. It will be used during our ninth season of providing temporary housing and loving support to our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness.

Your support is more valued than ever as we continue to face the dual challenges of extraordinary increases in rent and heating, as well as an increase in applications for our program. You have joined hands with us as we provide housing and case management services to those who are so vulnerable in our community. Never before has our organization's name carried such meaning. We are separate, but together, and we all truly belong to each other.

Again, our sincerest thanks for your donation and kind support.

With gratitude,

Gina Torielli
Executive Director

Thank you
Christina for
all you do
for BTEO

Belonging to Each Other, Inc. (BTEO), Tax ID #31-3692267 did not provide any goods or services in exchange for the above-mentioned contribution. Donations to BTEO are deductible as charitable contributions in accordance with Federal tax law.

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Contact

P.O. Box 343
Falmouth, MA 02541
508-444-6360
info@bteo.org



United Church of Christ
CT Office - 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
MA Office - 1 Badger Road, Framingham, MA 01702

September 20, 2024

North Falmouth Congregational Church
PO Box 403
North Falmouth, MA 02556-0403

Dear Leadership of North Falmouth Congregational Church,

Thank you for your Proportional Giving contribution to the SNEUCC Conference.

With your congregation's Proportional Giving we can continue to inspire disciples, transform our communities through justice work, and spread the spirit of radical welcome. You know the comfort of God's transforming love. You know the kindness that grows through acts of grace. You know the power of compassionate justice work done in community.

Collectively with your contribution to Proportional Giving- churches and Conference- we can lift our voices in chorus; to paraphrase Rev. Goodwin's good word on Super Saturday we increase our capacity to "let people know a church a like yours exists" through the covenant partnerships and community engagement work of the Conference.

Thank you for your recent contribution of: **\$5310.39**

Please note that the above number is your most recent contribution(s) we have on file and may or may not match the total received this calendar year.

If you have not made a 2024 pledge, but know your congregation's intentions for this year, I invite you to make a pledge now. If you have made a pledge, thank you. If you need assistance in calculating your Proportional Giving amount, your records do not match ours, or you have any other questions about Proportional Giving, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by email andreoilsteinberg@sneucc.org or phone 508-244-4083.

Thank you for your generosity to our shared ministry responding to God's call to live the love and justice of Jesus.

Blessings,

Lisa Maria Andreoli Steinberg



Framingham Phone: 508-875-5333
Rocky Hill Phone: 860-233-5564
Fax: 866-367-0860

www.sneucc.org



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT ORDER FORM

Due in Church Secretary's Office

By Sunday, December 1, 2024



**Payment must accompany order. Please mail, attention Church Secretary,
or place in Secretary's mailbox or on her desk. The Christmas Tree will be lighted
on Sunday, December 1st, the beginning of Advent and continue until Epiphany.**

I wish to give _____ scallop shells @ \$5.00 each

In loving memory / in honor / in celebration (Circle One).

Given by

Phone #

Payment must be in with your order by Sunday, December 1st, 2024

Please make checks payable to Flower Committee, NFCC

(PO Box 403, North Falmouth, MA 02556)

Questions: 508-563-2177

THANK YOU!



Daily Lectionary Scripture References –October 2024 (Year B)

Tues., Oct. 1

Psalm 140
Esther 5:1-14
1 John 2:18-25

Wed., Oct. 2

Psalm 140
Esther 8:1-17
Matthew 18:6-9

Thurs., Oct. 3

Psalm 26
Job 2:11–3:26
Galatians 3:23-29

Fri., Oct. 4

Psalm 26
Job 4:1-21
Romans 8:1-11

Sat., Oct. 5

Psalm 26
Job 7:1-21
Luke 16:14-18

Sun., Oct. 6

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Job 1:1; 2:1-10
Psalm 26
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

Mon., Oct. 7

Psalm 55:1-15
Job 8:1-22
1 Corinthians 7:1-9

Tues., Oct. 8

Psalm 55:1-15
Job 11:1-20
1 Corinthians 7:10-16

Wed., Oct. 9

Psalm 55:1-15
Job 15:1-35
Matthew 5:27-36

Thurs., Oct. 10

Psalm 22:1-15
Job 17:1-16
Hebrews 3:7-19

Fri., Oct. 11

Psalm 22:1-15
Job 18:1-21
Hebrews 4:1-11

Sat., Oct. 12

Psalm 22:1-15
Job 20:1-29
Matthew 15:1-9

Sun., Oct. 13

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

Mon., Oct. 14

Psalm 39
Job 26:1-14
Revelation 7:9-17

Tues., Oct. 15

Psalm 39
Job 28:12–29:10
Revelation 8:1-5

Wed., Oct. 16

Psalm 39
Job 32:1-22
Luke 16:19-31

Thurs., Oct. 17

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b
Job 36:1-16
Romans 15:7-13

Fri., Oct. 18

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b
Job 37:1-24
Revelation 17:1-18

Sat., Oct. 19

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b
Job 39:1-30
Luke 22:24-30

Sun., Oct. 20

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
Job 38:1-7 [34-41]
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

Mon., Oct. 21

Psalm 75
Job 40:1-24
Hebrews 6:1-12

Tues., Oct. 22

Psalm 75
Job 41:1-11
Hebrews 6:13-20

Wed., Oct. 23

Psalm 75
Job 41:12-34
John 13:1-17

Thurs., Oct. 24

Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]
2 Kings 20:12-19
Hebrews 7:1-10

Fri., Oct. 25

Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]
Nehemiah 1:1-11
Hebrews 7:11-22

Sat., Oct. 26

Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]
Job 42:7-9
Mark 8:22-26

Sun., Oct. 27

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

Mon., Oct. 28

Psalm 28
Isaiah 59:9-19
1 Peter 2:1-10

Tues., Oct. 29

Psalm 28
Ezekiel 18:1-32
Acts 9:32-35

Wed., Oct. 30

Psalm 28
Ezekiel 14:12-23
Matthew 20:29-34

Thurs., Oct. 31

Psalm 146
Ruth 1:18-22
Hebrews 9:1-12