

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

**Return Service Requested
Dated Material**

January 2021



The Sandpiper is a monthly 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,
United Church of Christ

January 2021

Pastoral Page

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” –Isaiah 43:18-19a

Dear Friends,

As we cross the threshold into the new year, many of us are glad to shut the door on 2020 and forget all about the turmoil and challenges it brought. As Isaiah says, it isn't wise to dwell on the past, because we may miss the next new thing God is up to in our lives and communities.

During January and early February, we celebrate the season of Epiphany when God begins to reveal Jesus as the Messiah and Savior of the world. It is a time to pause and take stock of how God is manifesting and being revealed in our hearts, lives, and the world.

On the first Sunday of Epiphany, some churches celebrate with Star Words. The premise is this: the magi followed the star of Bethlehem across the desert to meet the baby Jesus offering gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We are also seeking Jesus and trusting that God can and does use many signs (or stars) to guide us closer to the Divine presence. During worship, people are invited to take a star. Each star has a word on it. People are encouraged to trust the Holy Spirit when selecting their star word—letting the star word choose them.

This year, since we can't be together in worship, in the back of this newsletter you'll find a list of star words. I invite you to peruse them and ask the Spirit to guide you in choosing a word to carry with you

throughout the year. Once your word has been chosen, post it in a spot where you'll see it. Get creative with it—journal and pray about it, create some artwork, help others find what you are finding in your word. And feel free to share your word and in what ways you are experiencing it on Facebook, in the Sandpiper, or in an email to me. How will God be revealed in your life this year?

When I prayed for a special word that would guide my journey this coming year, the word 'wonder' bubbled up. This struck a chord because in Matthew 18 Jesus encourages us to become like children. Wonder comes so easily to children. Perhaps I am to become more childlike and look upon the world, the people in it, and all God's creatures with more wonder than judgment. Perhaps I am to wonder more about the people in my life and how to care for them. Perhaps, I am to even wonder about my fears and worries, what is driving them, and find positive ways to move forward. How will God be revealed in my life this year through the practice of wonder? These kinds of questions are good to ask yourself when you have chosen a star word.

Jesus' star shines brightly in the East beckoning us forth into a new year. The old has passed away and God is doing a new thing, can you not perceive it in your life and in our world?

May Jesus shine brightly through your life this year,

Pastor Christina

ability	abundance	accept	acceptance	action	adoration	affection
alert	amaze/amazement	anticipation	aspire	astonish	awake/awakening	
aware	balance	beauty	beginning	blessed	boldness	breathe
brilliant	calling	caring	celebrate	challenge	change	charity
cheerfulness	choice	coherence	comfort	commitment	communion	compassion
complete/completeness		concern	constant	courage	create/creativity	dare/daring
dazzle		delight	determination	devotion	discipline	dream
embracing	energy	enlightenment	excellence	expectant/expectation		
explore/exploration		exuberance	faith	festivity	forgiveness	freedom
fun	gentleness	glory	gratitude	harmony	holy/holiness	hope
humility/humble		imagination	invitation	joy	knowledge	
laugh/laughter	liveliness	maturity	meaning	memory	mercy	miracle
mystery	nourish/nourishment	offering	opportunity	overflowing	passion	patience
perception	perspective	plenty	possibility	precious	promise	provide
quietness	radiant	ready/readiness	receive	recreate	refine	release
renewal	restoration	sacred	satisfaction	seeing	service	simple/simplicity
sincerity	sparkle	stillness	surrender	teaching	tenderness	testimony
thanksgiving	thoughtful	together	triumph	trust	understanding	vision
whole/wholeness		wisdom	zeal	abide	abound	accomplish
activity/active	advantage	adventure	affirmation	alive	amazing	anchor
angel	announce	anoint	answer	approval	assurance	attend
attitude	awe	baptism	belief	belonging	beloved	blessing
bloom	bounty	break away	brightness	build	buoyant	calm
captive	carry	center	certain	cherish	childlike	clarity
coming	community	companionship	confession	confident	connect	contentment
continuity	creation	dawn	decision	deliberate	direction	discern
eager	ease	encouragement	endurance	enjoy	enough	equality
eternal	experience	family	favor	feeling	fellowship	finding
fly	focus	fulfillment	gathering	gift	gladness	godliness
grace	graciousness	growing	healing	hear	helping	honesty
honor	hospitality	humor	innocence	insight	inspiration	integrity

justice	kindness	leadership	leading	light	listening	love
loyalty	marvel	meditate	meeekness	mild	mindful	ministry
nature	newness	now	nurture	obedience	observe	offer
openness	pardon	participation	peace	perceive	persistence	pleasure
power	praise	prayer	preparation	presence	proclamation	profound
protection	provide	pure	purpose	questioning	quiet	reach
redeem	redirect	acclaim	accord	acknowledgement		agreement
allure	animate	authority	blend	breath	build	character
chorus	closure	coexist	combine	competence	comprehension	
consecrate	contemplation	counsel	covenant	curiosity	dedicate	depth
discipleship	distinction	essence	esteem	everlasting	exaltation	expand
express	fidelity	foresight	foundation	friendship	goodness	guide
happiness	heart	helpfulness	immerse	intent	interest	intuition
jubilant	keen	language	law	liberty	life	lighting
mediate	music	optimism	passage	peacemaking	penitence	perfection
persevere	persuade	prepared	present	principle	process	prophecy
prudence	receptive	recreation	refresh	refuel	rejoicing	relationship
remembrance	repentance	respect	respite	responsibility	rest	resurrection
revelation	revive	rich	righteousness	ritual	Sabbath	sacrifice
salvation	sanctify	seek	self-control	sensing	serene	servanthood
share	shine	silent	sing	soar	soft	song
spirit	splendid	splendor	start	steadfastness	strength	stretch
treasure	waiting	welcome	whimsy	will	witness	wonder
worship	worth	yes	zealous	zest	altruism	assemble
atonement	Bible	birth	cast	cognizant	deep	discretion
flex	heavenly	juicy	repose	sanctification	speech	success
support	sure	surprise	tender	test	think	tithe
touch	touch	tranquil	transformation	transition	travel	truth
unity	utterance	valor	value	venture	victory	virtue
vitality	wonder	word				

UPCOMING WORSHIP – JANUARY

Worship services will be live from the sanctuary this month. Because of state regulations, our sanctuary is too small to have in-person worship at this time.

God created the heavens and the earth... and called it all good! – Genesis 1

On January 3 we started a new worship series on being drawn into God's creativity. We talked about the first wave of creativity—dreaming. Creativity as a big part of our spiritual lives and God invites us to be co-creators in making a better world for all. We'll explore ways to nurture this foundational aspect of who we are so that we might find renewed energy and joy. We'll continue with this theme on January 17.

January 10 – Epiphany Sunday –

Arise, Your Light Has Come

Both the Gospel of Matthew and Isaiah talk of a light appearing over us. In this coming year how will we be led by that light? How will we continue radiate that light during the pandemic? Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12

January 17 – Second Sunday of Epiphany –

Second Wave: Hover

Hovering is the creative posture of taking a moment to see the big picture as God did when God hovered over the water in Genesis. In our world of busyness we usually want to skip this step of quiet attention and reflection. Both creativity experts and Jesus' ministry points to the importance of taking time to reflect. Scripture: Luke 4:1-13 – 40 days in the Desert

January 24 – Third Sunday of Epiphany –

Third Wave: Risk

God's act of creating all that is, God's act of entering our lives through Jesus, God's everyday act of creating new life are acts of bringing something into being that didn't exist before. Creating is to assert ourselves in risk-taking ways as we step into the unknown. When we take a risk giving with our talents multiply our gifts in the world. Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30– Parable of the Talents

January 31 – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany –

Fourth Wave: Listen

Listening as part of creativity is about perceiving. We open all our senses to see and hear what is emerging. Once the act of creating begins, we listen to how the Spirit is guiding our next steps and the unfolding possibilities we were unaware of before—just as it invited Paul and his cohorts to set out on a different path. Scripture: Acts 16:6-15

January Birthdays



01/02	Thomas Heino
01/06	Eleanore Scavotto
01/06	Patricia Peterson
01/08	Jan Deacon
01/11	Chuck Teixeira
01/12	Robert Bock
01/13	Martha Rosewell
01/13	Jackson Weseman
01/14	Marsha Martin
01/15	Thomas Gawarkiewicz
01/20	Toby Ryan
01/21	Caroline Scavotto
01/21	Candace Teixeira
01/24	Maia Ledwell
01/25	Lois Kristiansen
01/27	Tim Sawyer
01/28	Trevor Tivey

Happy Birthday



Advent & Christmas at NFCC



We were fortunate to have several nice, but a bit chilly Sundays in which to hold outdoor worship.



Bags of greens with all the decorations needed to make your own Christmas centerpiece were also provided by Carolee.



Belonging to Each Other donations on December 6th helped supply much needed items for those experiencing homelessness in Falmouth.



December 13th, Babette keeping her hands warm while playing at the keyboard.



December 20th, the 4th Sunday of Advent
back indoors in the beautiful sanctuary.



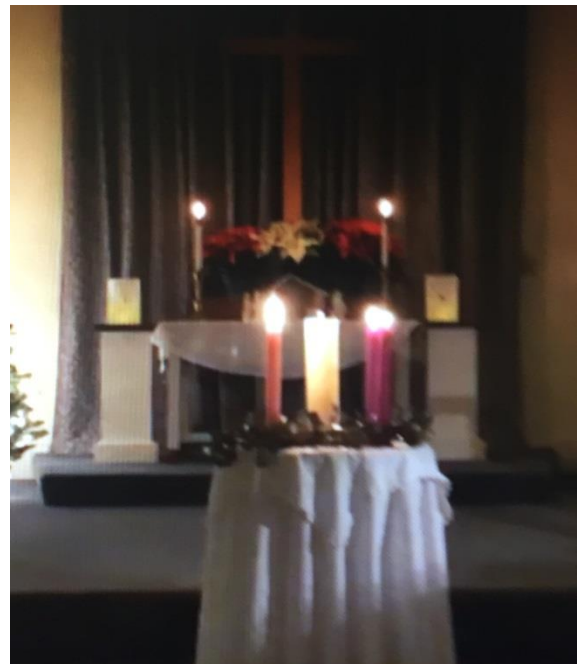
O Holy Night



Christmas Eve



Pastor Christina and Deacon Melessa Fox confer before the beginning of worship.



DOCUMENTARIES USED DURING ADVENT

Each of the four Advent Sunday sermons were inspired by music documentaries. Some of you expressed interest in wanting to watch them. Here's a list of where to find them. May they inspire you as much as they inspired me. Pastor Christina



Babette warming up before the service.



Advent 1: Hope for Tomorrow

Defiant Requiem watch the entire movie here: [Included with Amazon Prime video](#)



Advent 2: Love: Daring the Right Relationship

Girls on the Wall

Watch the entire movie here:

Rent 1.99 on [Amazon Prime Video](#)
[Buy DVD](#) for 9.99

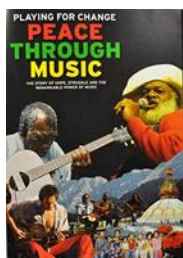
Warning: Strong language



Advent 3: Ode to Joy

Following the Ninth

You can [Watch](#) the film for free in its entirety on the director's YouTube channel.



Advent 4: Illuminating Peace

Peace Through Music: Playing for Change

You can buy this in DVD format for as low at \$2.39 on Amazon.

<https://www.amazon.com/Playing-Change-Peace-Through-Music/dp/B002NN7F4G>



From the Choir Director

Looking back at the month of December, Advent leading to Christmas was a busy time for the music department. We were lucky to have a few outside garden services in December. I am thankful for the musicians continuing to offer their time and talent to offer solos throughout Advent and we were able to have a few women sing an ensemble piece for December 13th. I also want to offer my thanks and praise to the NFCC choir for all their efforts to create the beautiful music we heard at our Christmas Eve service. In these trying times singing in a choir setting is not as easily accomplished as is usually the case. It was a tremendous effort to accomplish the recording of all the music required for the service of lessons and carols. Our reliance on two devices: smartphones, laptop or desktop computers and/or tablets/iPads has become a necessity in order to render a recording of a voice

part that is sent along to Sarah Bach to knit together into a choral recording either with or without an accompaniment. It is a challenge! I extend my gratitude to my daughter Sarah for offering her time and expertise as a willing volunteer. It was a lot of work and she graciously took on the challenge.

We were saddened to not have the Christmas Carol Sing and Swedish smorgasbord this year but it is still on our radar and we hope to see its return either in 2021 or 2022.

Stay tuned for more NFCC Choir music!

Happy New Year!

Babette



The Altar Committee

The Altar Committee would like to thank all who helped to decorate the shell Christmas tree this year. There were 98 shells at last count. Many more than anticipated. We especially want to thank Laura Murphy and her brother for donating the tree. It is a wonderful way to remember our loved ones at Christmas in a year when we were not able to enter the church for services.

The Altar Committee will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary on Friday, Jan 8th @ 9:30 AM. All are welcome to assist in this process. We especially need a few strong men to carry the plastic containers back down to the basement for storage.

Offering Envelopes: The 2021 numbered offering envelopes are available. However, given the current COVID-19 pandemic restrictions we will be distributing them differently this year. **If you regularly used envelopes this past year, a 2021 box of numbered envelopes will be delivered to your home over the next week or so.**

If you do not receive a box of 2021 numbered offering envelopes by January 15th and you would like to have the envelopes please contact John Checklick by email (john.checklick@gmail.com) or by phone (508-299-8232) and he will make arrangements for you to receive them.

ARE YOU STUCK AT HOME?



**ARE YOU GOING THOUGH THINGS AND
CLEANING OUT?
IF SO, PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING
THE FOLLOWING TO THE CHURH:**



**OLD SILVER, REAL OR PLATED
COPPER ITEMS
PEWTER ITEMS
BRASS ITEMS
THE CONDITION DOES NOT MATTER.
THE CHURCH WILL BENEFIT FROM THE
CASH RECEIVED WHEN THESE ARE
TURNED IN. MYRNA HAS A CONTACT
TO DO THIS. THANK YOU!**



**FALMOUTH
SERVICE CENTER**
more than a food pantry

December 1, 2020

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

Dear Friends,

The staff and the Board of Directors of the Falmouth Service Center would like to express our sincere appreciation for the very generous holiday gift card contribution of \$300. This donation will assist us in meeting the increased need we are experiencing for the services we provide. It will also help to ensure that our clients, who are our friends and neighbors here in Falmouth, are more fully able to participate in and enjoy the holiday season.

Our mission is to ease stress, reduce hunger and improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need. The Falmouth Service Center (FSC) works to increase self-sufficiency by helping to build networks among clients, neighbors and agencies. Thank you for partnering with us to assist those who struggle in our community. We are grateful for your gift and hope that our efforts will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely,

Kerin Delaney
Executive Director

From Outreach

Friends Office:
P.O. Box 144
271 Main Street, Ste. 3
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Tel: 508-759-3516
Fax: 508-769-7896
www.friendsofbournecca.org



Friends Food Pantry:
P.O. Box 144
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532
Location:
20 Commerce Park Drive
Pocasset, MA 02559
Tel: 508-759-3351
Fax 774-355-1195

December 2, 2020

North Falmouth Congregational Church, Inc.
Ms. Carolee Packard
P. O. Box 403
North Falmouth, MA 02556-0403

Dear Ms. Packard:

The Friends of Bourne Council on Aging gratefully acknowledge your generous donation to the Food Pantry of \$250.00.

Your donation will help support the more than 300 families, an average of 700 individuals, who receive food from us each month. For each dollar donated, we can provide an estimated 5 meals to those in need. We are proud that our primary source of food comes from the Greater Boston Food Bank or purchased locally at discounted prices.

Without your help, we would not be able to meet the needs of the most vulnerable which include the seniors and the disabled within our community.

Please accept our sincere thanks for your commitment to the Friends Food Pantry.

Sincerely,

Peter Lindberg

Peter Lindberg
President





Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Daily Lectionary Scripture References -January 2021 (Year B)

Fri., Jan. 1
Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8
Revelation 21:1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46

Sat., Jan. 2
Psalm 148
Proverbs 1:1-7
James 3:13-18

Sun., Jan. 3
Second Sunday after Christmas
Jeremiah 31:7-14 or Sirach 24:1-12
Psalm 98 or Wisdom 10:15-21
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

Mon., Jan. 4
Psalm 110
Proverbs 3:1-12
James 4:11-17

Tues., Jan. 5
Psalm 110
Proverbs 22:1-9
Luke 6:27-31

Wed., Jan. 6
Epiphany of the Lord
Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Thurs., Jan. 7
Psalm 29
1 Samuel 3:1-21
Acts 9:10-19a

Fri., Jan. 8
Psalm 29
1 Samuel 16:1-13
1 Timothy 4:11-16

Sat., Jan. 9
Psalm 29
1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12
Luke 5:1-11

Sun., Jan. 10
Baptism of the Lord
Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Mon., Jan. 11
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Genesis 17:1-13
Romans 4:1-12

Tues., Jan. 12
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Exodus 30:22-38
Acts 22:2-16

Wed., Jan. 13
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36
Isaiah 41:14-20
John 1:29-34

Thurs., Jan. 14
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Judges 2:6-15
2 Corinthians 10:1-11

Fri., Jan. 15
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
Judges 2:16-23
Acts 13:16-25

Sat., Jan. 16
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Samuel 2:21-25
Matthew 25:1-13

Sun., Jan. 17
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

Mon., Jan. 18
Psalm 86
1 Samuel 9:27—10:8
2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1

Tues., Jan. 19
Psalm 86
1 Samuel 15:10-31
Acts 5:1-11

Wed., Jan. 20
Psalm 86
Genesis 16:1-14
Luke 18:15-17

Thurs., Jan. 21
Psalm 62:5-12
Jeremiah 19:1-15
Revelation 18:11-20

Fri., Jan. 22
Psalm 62:5-12
Jeremiah 20:7-13
2 Peter 3:1-7

Sat., Jan. 23
Psalm 62:5-12
Jeremiah 20:14-18
Luke 10:13-16

Sun., Jan. 24
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

Mon., Jan. 25
Psalm 46
Genesis 12:1-9
1 Corinthians 7:17-24

Tues., Jan. 26
Psalm 46
Genesis 45:25—46:7
Acts 5:33-42

Wed., Jan. 27
Psalm 46
Proverbs 8:1-21
Mark 3:13-19a

Thurs., Jan. 28
Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 3:23-29
Romans 9:6-18

Fri., Jan. 29
Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 12:28-32
Revelation 2:12-17

Sat., Jan. 30
Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 13:1-5
Matthew 8:28—9:1

Sun., Jan. 31
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

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