

North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC
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The Sandpiper is a monthly publication of the North Falmouth Congregational Church, UCC.
The Reverend Nancy W. Strickland, Interim Pastor (508) 563-2177, www.northfalmouthucc.com





The Sandpiper



North Falmouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

October 2017

Pastoral Page

Dear friends,

October is the season of generosity! As the leaves turn brilliant hues of orange, red and yellow we are constantly reminded of the glory and generosity of God's creation. This beauty is all around us. Generosity lightens our step and puts a smile on our faces. Think about all those pumpkins in the fields and markets that generously spill out over the landscape. Then too think about all the generosity of time given to volunteer work at this church whether it is in outreach to the community or service to the church through the various boards, committees, Sunday school, or music program. We are indeed a generous people!

October is also the season of stewardship where we take a look at both our own resources of time, talent, and treasure and decide how we can share all of that with this church that we so love. This year the theme for the stewardship drive is "Journey to Generosity, The Way of Jesus." During October, there will be many opportunities to explore what generosity means to each of us. We will hear from church members as to why they support the church. This is a time to listen, to reflect, and to act on continuing to build up the church in this time and place. Stewardship Sunday is October 29th.

During October, please be generous with your time and plan to attend the very important Interim Visioning sessions planned. Two remain, one after church on October 1, 'Imagining our Church's Future: Hopes, Dreams, And Concerns.' The other session will be held after church on October 15, "What kind of leadership qualities and skills do we need in our next pastor?" The information gathered at these meetings will help the transition team to write the church profile that will be used in the search and call process for the new pastor.

As we move through this fall season, may this be a time of strengthening our ties to one another and deepening of commitment to God, whose generosity to us knows no bounds.

In Faith,

Pastor Nancy



WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

THEME FOR OCTOBER IS GENEROSITY

- **October 1st**
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, 10 am worship only, Intergenerational worship, “God’s Generosity to Us.” Genesis 1:1-28.
Interim Pastor Visioning session after church.
- **October 8th**
8:30 worship and 10 am worship and Sunday School, “Responding to Gods Generosity: Earth Care”, Genesis 2:4b-15, Matthew 25:31-46, Stewardship Speaker in Worship.
- **October 15th**
10 am Worship only and Sunday School
“The Tax Collector and the Pharisee”
Psalm 84:1-7, Luke 18:9-14, Stewardship Speaker in Worship.
Interim Pastor Visioning session after church,
- **October 22nd**
8:30 and 10 am worship and Sunday School
“The question of Taxes” Psalm 96:1-9, Matthew 22:15-22, Stewardship Speaker in Worship.
- **October 29th**
8:30 and 10 am worship and Sunday School,
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, “Delight in Giving” Psalm 65, 2Corinthians 9:6-15.

October Birthdays



10/02	James Graham
10/04	James Modic
10/05	Louise Graham
10/05	Christel Sievert
10/06	Jean Work
10/08	Leila Elguessab
10/08	Lindsey Oliveira
10/08	Ashley Yoerger
10/11	Kaitlin Cook
10/12	Kathryn Teixeira
10/17	John Scavotto
10/19	Erin Murphy



Happy Birthday



So far, we have orders for 32 large print NRSV Bibles for our sanctuary. Our goal is 100. We are almost there. We can reach our goal if more of you fill out a form either in honor of or in memory of a dear one. The forms are in the office! The hope is to have the bibles in the pews for the first Sunday in Advent. Be a part of this exciting new venture.

Christian Education News

Youth Group Schedule

Sunday, September 24 – 4:30-6:30 Cooking for the Village, making applesauce for the church supper, have dinner together.

Sunday, October 22 – Leave church at 1:30, return approximately 5:00 (will call parents when we are leaving) Youth Group Trip to Yarmouth to visit Whydah Pirate Museum followed by miniature golf at Pirate's Cove. CE will be funding this trip – kids should bring spending money if they would like ice cream or souvenirs.

DRIVERS NEEDED!

Sunday, October 29 – 4:30 – 6:30 Cooking for the Village, dinner and pumpkin carving. Bring a pumpkin or two, we will provide everything else.

Sunday, November 12 – 4:30 – 6:30 – Games, dinner and conversation – We will need a parent to attend and cook dinner.

Sunday, November 26 after the 10:00 service – Advent Workshop – We'd love a parent or two to help in the planning!

Sunday, December 10 – 4:30 – 6:30 Bring-a-Friend Christmas Party – Gift Exchange, Pot Luck Supper (more info to come) games and fun. Parent needed.

Remember - Friends are always welcome!!

Children and Worship

A sign-up sheet is available on the CE office door for kids to usher, ring the bell and help straighten the Sanctuary after services. There is also a column for high school readers. We want our kids to know that they are an important part of the life of our congregation. If your child is interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please sign-up or speak with Lisa.

Rally Day

Thanks to all the kitchen volunteers for feeding us so well on Rally Day! It was a lively and special

day. Our school year is off to a great start. We are also welcoming two new teachers. Thank you to Leslie Murphy and Meegan Hatch!

*******RALLY DAY 2017*******



The Oliveira Sisters helping in the kitchen.



Leslie Murphy at the Sunday School Table.



Meegan Hatch with the Children.



Save the Date

Advent Workshop and Potluck – **Sunday, Nov. 26,**
after the 10:00am service

College Care Packages

This year, once again, we will be sending care packages to all of our college students for the holidays. Boxes will be available to fill in the Covenant Room beginning Sunday, November 5, through the end of the month. (Boxes are always kept in a safe place during the week.) Students look forward to all of the little gifts we send. Bring in some snacks, homemade treats, 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.

Church Read

The next book we will be reading as a congregation is *Breakfast With Buddha* by Roland Merullo:

When his sister tricks him into taking her guru on a trip to their childhood home, Otto Ringling, a confirmed skeptic, is not amused. Six days on the road with an enigmatic holy man who answers every question with a riddle is not what he'd planned.....Gradually, skepticism yields to amazement as he realizes that his companion might just be the real thing.

In Roland Merullo's masterful hands, Otto tells his story with all the wonder, bemusement, and wry humor of a man who unwittingly finds what he's missing in the most unexpected place.

On Wednesday, October 25, from 5:30-7:00 pm we will discuss this book over a light dinner. Our last book conversation was enlightening and fun and hopefully the start of many more to come.

HAVE YOU MARKED YOUR CALENDAR ???

HOLIDAY FAIR at NFCC Saturday, Nov. 18th, 2017

Is everybody under the sun coming to YOUR house this year for Thanksgiving? Pick up some NFCC baked goods and freeze them so you won't have to work so hard during Thanksgiving week. Need a special Christmas item for your auntie, or stocking stuffers for the kids or grandkids? Maybe you need a lovely touch of jewelry for the Mrs.? Well, don't forget our **BIG CHURCH HOLIDAY FAIR ISN'T FAR OFF** and you can get any of those things and more by shopping at NFCC Saturday November 18th from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Don't forget to stop by the Attic Treasures Rooms, for that special little item for hubby. Be sure to take home some of the Best Homemade Baked Goods on Cape Cod and put in some bids for the wonderful Silent Auction & Raffle Items. Our Luscious Lobster Roll & Chowder Lunch can't be beat, served from 11-1!! There is something for everybody. Tell all your relatives, co-workers and friends about our wonderful Holiday Fair.

If you haven't signed up to volunteer your time or donate something please check out the sheets in the Cov. Room. They will be there for you to sign up starting in mid -October. We hope that the weekend BEFORE Thanksgiving will be a good one for everyone to attend, help, pitch in or just come and have fun during our church's largest fundraiser of the year. We have Thursday evening Nov. 16th, and all day and evening Friday Nov. 17th to set up the rooms. Help, help, help is needed by all. Do you have some Attic Treasures or Jewelry that are just sitting around your house? We could use them at the fair. Bake, bake, bake, bake and bake some more. We didn't have enough baked goods at the Spring Fair so we hope all of you will want to warm up your houses in November by baking for the Holiday Fair's bake table. We don't want to run out of items. The more we have the more we sell.

Bring in any jewelry, attic treasures, baked goods, baskets with a theme for the raffles, gift certificates or really nice things for the Silent Auction during

the week before the fair. Attic Treasures need clean items that will sell, so we won't have to take them to the dump at the end of the fair. Items should not be too big for one person to carry. (If you bring items in please put them in the basement of the church marked HOLIDAY FAIR. The more we have, the more we can sell!!! The more we sell..... well you can finish that sentence. Maybe we can get above last year's numbers.

Please put up fair posters around town, post offices, bulletin boards at work, grocery stores, etc. and tell all of your friends and relatives. Maybe you could fill a basket that we could use in the Silent Auction or Raffle. Try something new and different. Please put a basket form on the donated filled basket and have them in by Thursday Nov. 17th . You can get empty baskets to fill at the Thrift Shop. Send our fair poster and info out to everyone on your email lists. Get the word out early so people can mark their calendars and reserve that date.

This is one of the largest events that helps our finances at NFCC. A church family needs to work together. If you have any other suggestions or great new ideas don't hesitate to contact us. See you there !!!!!

Thanks,

Meg Tivey, Myrna O'Hara, & Carolee Packard



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO JOHN AND SANDY
CHECKCLICK ON THE
BIRTH OF THEIR
GRANDDAUGHTER!**

**LILY AYANA
CHECKCLICK SMITH**

**BORN THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21ST 2017
AT 1:39 PM.**

The First interim visioning session took place September 17. As recorded by Barbara Rountree, please read the summary of what was said as Pastor Nancy led the discussion.

All church discussion #1: WHO WE ARE NOW 9/17/2017. Number in attendance: 35

1. Three words I'd use to describe my church to someone who didn't know about it...

Friendly, caring, loving; Generous, active, open; Friendly, small, supportive, hard- working; Small, warm, inviting, welcoming; A great opp to serve others, small enough to know everyone's name; Sharing, flexible, loves children; Beautiful sanctuary, community, focused, location and history; Divided: 2 services; Good sermons; Educating; Opportunity to serve others; Variety of faiths coming together; Hospitable, hardworking, flexible.

2. Tell of a time you were most proud of this church...

When it decided to support the abused women's shelter; Christmas and Easter; Stood up against bigotry in a committee; helping rebuild home in Biloxi MI; Thurs. soup; Mission trips; Care and love for each other; Rev. Nancy as interim; Being heard and respected; Living your faith; Stand behind previous ministers' family after bad press; reacted when hotel refused check-in for Jewish family- put support sign out front; Hospitality and smiling faces; Free thanksgiving dinners; Help people no matter what religion; Thankful for transportation to church after loss of car; 8:30 startup is supported by church; Came to house to check on me when sick; Accepting people with open arms; Completed Vision/2020 and implemented recommendations; We listen to each other; Every Sunday morning message; Pull together for memorial services "Be like Brit" Outreach program in Haiti.

3. Tell of a time you felt regret about something this congregation did or did not do...

Have more pot luck type social evenings; Communication issue- Parent of member passed away, not supported, and estranged member; Lacking transparency in decisions; Defibrillator not put on maintenance agreement; Lack of ongoing CPR classes; Visitation lacking at times; Need to become O&A; Younger families – need to accommodate their needs/ schedules; Desir to follow lectionary; Not honor water ban in Falmouth; Not fully embracing LGBT; No regrets.

4. Three most significant church events in the past...

Hunger feast; 175th anniversary (2007); Served thanksgiving dinner to local community; Christmas Eve service; Care packages for college students; 1959 became part of UCC; Call of woman pastor; Holiday fair; spring plant sale; Building the addition; Getting new ministers; YMCA, Meals on wheels; Youth confirmation; Mission trips for youth; Family trips (camping, skiing); Support for disaster events in other communities; Activities for local community (teas); Work with children; Ash Wed service with 3 UCC churches; Maundy Thursday; Split of N. Falmouth from First Congregational; Lobster lunches/dinners; Parade of brides; Pastor Nancy.

5. This church values...

Community and mission...youth...worship...faith...love...music...faith into action; All of the above; Its members; individuality, lifestyle choice, humor, laughter, compassion, gratitude and appreciation; Food.

6. This church struggles with...

Committee participation; Finances; Sunday school attendance; Lack of diversity; Elderly support; Governing structure; Identity- spiritual direction; Declining membership and families; Seasonality of members; Lack of youth activity –trips- skiing, camping; Lack of young people; Sports' schedule interferes; People sometimes need to be asked individually, not respond to broad announcement.

7. This is a church that is grateful for...

Each other and spirit; Meaningful worship; Longevity; Access; 8:30 worship; Anyone would help in times of need; Financial support; Fellowship; Active congregation; Beauty of facility; Tolerant of differences and foibles; Strong core group of devoted people.

8. I love this church because...

It's a second home and an extended family; It welcomes me; Its quality energy devotion; God's spirit evident; Kids feel safe and loved.

Checkout the comments posted on the bulletin board by the back door; I Love This Church.

OUTREACH NEWS:

OCTOBER IS BUCKET LIST MONTH



NORTH FALMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC HAS A BUCKET LIST. We are inviting you to help us make our Bucket List a reality.

We are teaming up with Church World Service and The United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries to restock the CWS warehouse in Maryland with Clean up Buckets.

WHAT IS OUR WISH?

We would like to fill at least fifteen 5 gallon buckets with basic cleaning supplies. You are invited to help us make this a reality. These filled buckets will be shipped to the CWS warehouse in Maryland. Church World Service will then distribute them to families in need after natural disasters. The recent hurricanes, floods and tornadoes have drawn down the warehouse supply of buckets. These buckets are often the first item a family will receive upon returning to their home.

WHO IS INVITED TO HELP?

All are invited. We would like to give not only church members an opportunity to help but give the whole community an opportunity. Please include relatives, friends, and coworkers.

HOW DO I HELP FILL A BUCKET?

There is a list of needed items posted in the covenant room along with a sample bucket. You do not have to provide a bucket. You are invited to purchase one item on the list, fill a whole bucket or contribute cash toward filling a bucket. The list is very specific as to item and size. Please do not vary from these specifications.

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY DONATIONS?

You may leave donations in the boxes at church. They are in the covenant room. Any cash donations should be made out to NFCC and marked very clearly Outreach/buckets. Please place cash donations in the collection plate, or give to Lisa or Carolee. Do not place these in the boxes. The Bucket List Team will do any shopping with these donations.

WHAT IS THE TIME FRAME?

All items should be at the church by October 15th. The bucket will be assembled on the 22nd and driven to the central pick up point on the 24th. Thank you for your help.

Hurricane Emergency Relief

The NFCC Outreach Committee has voted to send a portion of this year's outreach funding to the Emergency USA Fund of the UCC. The committee encourages each of you as individuals to consider supporting this fund. 100% of the donations go to those in need as a result of the recent hurricanes which have devastated parts of Texas, Florida as well as most of Puerto Rico and other US islands.



Transportation is available

for those needing a ride to church activities including Sunday morning worship. We can accommodate individuals who use a walker or cane and can transfer themselves into and out of a car. The driver will stow the walker for you. We have had an uptick in people requesting rides and could use additional drivers especially on Sunday mornings. It can be on a regular or occasional basis and can also be just one way. If you are in need of a ride or would like to provide a ride, please contact Marsha Martin 508-759-0857.

SUPER SATURDAY OCTOBER 21 Keefe Center, Framingham, MA

Join other members of UCC churches for a full day of worship, workshops, and networking. There are many workshops to choose from. A sampling of various offerings are: Building relationships with the Elderly, Simplifying your Church Structure and Growing your church, Christian Education and Formation in the 21st century, introduction to racial justice, environmental ministry, Your Church's budget: we need to talk, Creative Worship. For a complete list go to www.MACUCC.org and click on Super Saturday.

We will have at least five attendees qualifying us for the group rate of \$44 per person which includes a choice of many workshops, continental breakfast, and lunch. **Registration is due by October 2.** The Deacons are ready to cover 50% of each person's cost, which means the cost to the individual is \$21! This is an excellent value for what you will receive!! Contact Debbie in the office to sign up.

The Altar Committee

If you would like to dedicate altar flowers, there are openings November 12th December 24th & 31st. Please sign up on the Flower Calendar hanging outside the office.

The Altar Committee annual meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 12th following the 10 AM service.** All Committee members should try to attend and bring a friend who may be interested in helping with committee duties during the year.



In memory of devoted servants of our Lord

Sara (Sally) Morner 10/9/1921 – 9/22/2017

North Falmouth Congregational Church
155 Old Main Road - North Falmouth, MA

HOLIDAY FAIR

Thanksgiving & Christmas
Jewelry – Hand Crafts
Attic Treasures – Raffles
Baked Goods – Silent Auction
SAT. November 18th
9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Snacks and coffee served all morning.

LOBSTER ROLL LUNCH

11:00a.m. – 1:00 PM

Take outs available.

More info call 508-563-2177

Daily Lectionary Scripture References October 2017 (Year A)

Sun., Oct. 1

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Mon., Oct. 2

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:1-12
Philippians 1:3-14

Tues., Oct. 3

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:13-27
Philippians 1:15-21

Wed., Oct. 4

Psalm 42
Exodus 19:9b-25
Matthew 9:2-8

Thurs., Oct. 5

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:1-9
Colossians 2:16-23

Fri., Oct. 6

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:14-19
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

Sat., Oct. 7

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:10-13
John 7:40-52

Sun., Oct. 8

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Mon., Oct. 9

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:1-21
1 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Oct. 10

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wed., Oct. 11

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 6:10-25
John 11:45-57

Thurs., Oct. 12

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:1-8
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

Fri., Oct. 13

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:9-11
James 4:4-10

Sat., Oct. 14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:12-18
Mark 2:18-22

Sun., Oct. 15

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Mon., Oct. 16

Psalm 97
Exodus 32:15-35
Jude 17-25

Tues., Oct. 17

Psalm 97
Exodus 33:1-6
Philippians 3:13-4:1

Wed., Oct. 18

Psalm 97
2 Kings 17:7-20
John 6:25-35

Thurs., Oct. 19

Psalm 99
Exodus 33:7-11
3 John 9-12

Fri., Oct. 20

Psalm 99
Exodus 31:1-11
1 Peter 5:1-5

Sat., Oct. 21

Psalm 99
Exodus 39:32-43
Matthew 14:1-12

Sun., Oct. 22

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Mon., Oct. 23

Psalm 63:1-8
Exodus 40:34-38
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

Tues., Oct. 24

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 12:1-9
Revelation 18:21-24

Wed., Oct. 25

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9
Matthew 17:22-27

Thurs., Oct. 26

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 31:14-22
Titus 1:5-16

Fri., Oct. 27

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

Sat., Oct. 28

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
John 5:39-47

Sun., Oct. 29

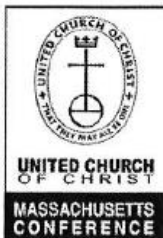
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Mon., Oct. 30

Psalm 119:41-48
Numbers 33:38-39
James 2:8-13

Tues., Oct. 31

Psalm 119:41-48
Exodus 34:29-35
James 2:14-26



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