



# THE CONGREGATOR

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Dear Falmouth Congregational Church,

Do you ever wish that life gave you less opportunities for spiritual growth? I do. I have been getting my butt absolutely kicked spiritually this month, and I'm ready for God to be done teaching me things.

This fall we are centering ourselves around the question Why Worship. There are many answers to this question. Pragmatically, research consistently finds positive associations between worship and wellbeing, including increased physical and mental health, life satisfaction, and happiness. Those of us who come to worship consistently notice that it often creates "set apart" space in our week which allows us to reset, regroup, and center.

But one could say the same about therapy, yoga, running, etc—so what sets worship apart?

Worship is fundamentally different because worship is not all about us. We gather to worship God, a higher power who is not us. And, we gather to worship with other people. People who have different needs, different perspectives, even different favorite hymns. Of all the ways we take care of ourselves worship is one of the few where we also take care of one another. This is no accident: the Christian tradition teaches that our healing and wholeness does not happen alone. Healing and wholeness are always a group project. We worship together because we belong to each other. We worship together because we are called to care for one another. I believe this and preach this, but it turns out that I have a hard time practicing it. I have been sick for four weeks now. I have gone through a series of different diagnoses and it turns out that I have acute Lyme disease (yes, I am still also testing positive for the mono virus). I have days I can't get out of bed, and nights that I am in too much pain to sleep. I have brain fog and confusion. I never know what tomorrow will be like. I am on

antibiotics and I will get better, but the off ramp could still be weeks long. I am so sad to be missing so much. I have so many things I want to be doing with you, and I hate being confused and incapable. And yet, while I have been ill, the church is flourishing. You are planning events and worshipping God. You are visiting each other and sending cards. You are planning the Stewardship Campaign, baking bread, raising money for the Food Pantry.

It is almost as if worship is not, actually, all about me. As if Church and the Christian life is a relay race across the generations, and no one needs to be running all the time or doing all the things. As if God is saying that this is not my church, or your church; it is our church. As if God is reminding us that the church has been here for over 300 years, and will be just fine if someone needs to quit a committee or the Pastor needs to take a nap. As if church is a group project, and that's the point.

I'm proud, and humbled, and grateful to be learning with you. And, I'm still the grumpiest and least graceful convalescent around. God's not done with me yet. Praise be to God.

With you in Christ,

Pastor Amelia

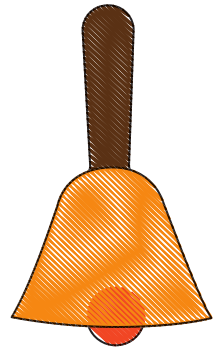
## MINISTRY OF

## *Music*

## Upcoming Music and Worship Opportunities:

There is room for alternate bell ringers at rehearsals; this is a great chance to come and learn how to ring the bells without performing right away.

Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM



### Pop-Up Choir

Pop-Up Choir is a one-time commitment for singers middle school age and up.

Rehearsal: Wed., Oct 26, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

Worship: Sun., Oct 30, 9:00 AM

We will be singing a wonderful arrangement of "For All the Saints" with bells and organ.

Advent starts early this year on Sunday, November 27.

Are you interested in joining the choir to sing during Advent?

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, November 2 at 7:30 PM.

The Choir will sing on the following Sundays: November 27, December 4, 11 and 18. The finale will be the 7:00 PM candlelight Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve.

Contact our Music Minister, Jan, if interested: [janiceleastover@gmail.com](mailto:janiceleastover@gmail.com)



COUNCIL  
*Corner*

Hi,

The Council resumed its monthly meetings in September. We discussed our plans for the fall with our review of the by-laws being one of our most important initiatives. Laurie Davis, Sarah Davis, Carol Kaufman and I will be working on the by-laws and we'll have an updated version to review and approve at the Annual Meeting in January.

We also discussed recruitment for the Council for new members for 2023. We will be looking for a new Vice Moderator to replace Anne Coleman whose term will be up at the end of the year. And we will also need a new Clerk as Laurie Davis will also be stepping down. Both roles are extremely important to the Council and the church so please consider taking on one of these roles. Ideally the person who steps in as Vice Moderator will succeed me as Moderator when my term is up at the end of 2023.

We will kick off our Stewardship Campaign in November. Our theme this year is "From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving" and you will hear more about this theme as we continue through the campaign. We will kick it off on November 6 and conclude on November 20. During the three or so weeks, you will hear from several members of our Congregation about what stewardship means to them and why they choose to give to our church. Pledges make up approximately 75% of our annual income so they are critical to us being able to plan our budget for the upcoming year. If you have questions, please contact me or Paul Davis.

Our financial performance is holding steady. We are about \$4,000 behind budget through August but we have our largest fundraiser, the Holly Days Fair, still to come which will help boost income. Please keep those pledges coming in. Let's pray for a warm fall to keep our heating costs down!!

Many blessings,

Kim Hendry

Moderator

khendry1972@gmail.com



# MINISTRY OF *Worship & Covenant*

The Ministry of Worship and Covenant is in the process of taking stock of its role in the life of the church. as we continue to carefully work our way back into pre-pandemic church rhythms, we are going to start "passing the plate" again.

We are trying to figure out how to do this efficiently, so if you see us trying different systems, that's why.

If anyone is interested in helping out with this, please let Larry Perry or Virginia Eddy know. We could really use the help, and it is a chance to get up and stretch your legs in the middle of the service. There is a sign up sheet for ushers in Fellowship Hall.



The Let's Gather meals brought us together for food and community.



MINISTRY OF  
*missions*

After two years without our beloved Community Supper, we are providing a safer alternative with an outdoor cookout! And it's FREE!! We will have an attendance limit of 300 to be mindful of everyone's health and safety, so people will need to sign up. Join us to eat, sing, and enjoy our Falmouth community. Free-will giving is available for the Falmouth Food Pantry. Hope to see you there!



# OUTDOOR FALMOUTH COMMUNITY COOKOUT

Thursday, October 6th 4:30pm - 6pm (Free)

Rain or Shine

Hosted by Falmouth

Faith Communities

Please Register Online

[tinyurl.com/zwybk4rf](https://tinyurl.com/zwybk4rf)



You Are Invited to enjoy

~Chicken/Hot Dogs/Veggie Burgers~

~Salads ~ Apple Crisp ~ S'mores~

Where: Falmouth Congregational Church's Backyard  
267 Falmouth Road

## "Neighbors in Need" Special Offering

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ (UCC) that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministries. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. This year October 2, 2022, has been chosen as our Neighbors-in-Need Sunday. Please consider making a contribution to this far-reaching ministry of the UCC.

The Ministry of Missions has set a goal of being a "5 for 5 Church." This means that our congregation stands with many other Maine churches as a true advocate of selected national and worldwide United Church of Christ missions. Because our church contributes to all four special mission offerings in the UCC (One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and The Christmas Fund) and also gives to Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support, we are a 5 for 5 church.

MINISTRY OF  
*missions*



Thank you for continuing to donate food for the Falmouth Food Pantry, even though the bin has now been moved to the back hall. Many families in our community are appreciative of all those cans of tuna fish and now the soups!

During October and November our church will be collecting SOUP for the Food Pantry! If you would like, please put cans of soup (but NOT cream soups) into the Food Pantry Bin inside the church, and the soups will be given to very grateful Food Pantry families.

Remember, however, that soup and stew are very different:

While one is STEW-PENDOUS, the other is SOUP-ER.

You are SOUP-ER if you are able to bring a can of soup for the Food Pantry!

If you have questions about the Falmouth Food Pantry or know someone with an urgent need, please call Nancy Lightbody at 776-0081. Thank you for your continuing strong support.

## School Kits: Back to School Sales

It is time to catch last-minute, back-to-school sales!

We still need:

Blunt children's scissors, Rulers that include cm. and in., Unsharpened pencils, Boxes of 24 crayons, Erasers and School Bags

These can be left in the bin in Fellowship Hall under the Missions Bulletin Board. Thank you!



## Pastor's Discretionary Fund

If you or someone you know has a financial need in a difficult time, please contact the church office. There is limited funding in this account for just such a purpose.

## Love the Loaves?

Loaves of Love will be returning for the fall! Starting October 1, we will be baking for Communion Sunday and all who wish to take a loaf home. We will also be baking November 5 and December 3.

Loaves of Love is a community effort. Even if you have no baking experience, please consider donating four hours of your time on a Saturday for this mission. The aromas are wonderful, and the fruits of our labor speak for themselves.

Please speak to me at church or send an email if you would like to join in the fun.

- Alyce Graves, [Alycegraves8@gmail.com](mailto:Alycegraves8@gmail.com)



MINISTRY OF  
*Community Life*

Women's  
Spiritual Book  
Group



September found us gathered both in person and on-line for an enthusiastic sharing of summer adventures and a discussion about reading selections for the year ahead.

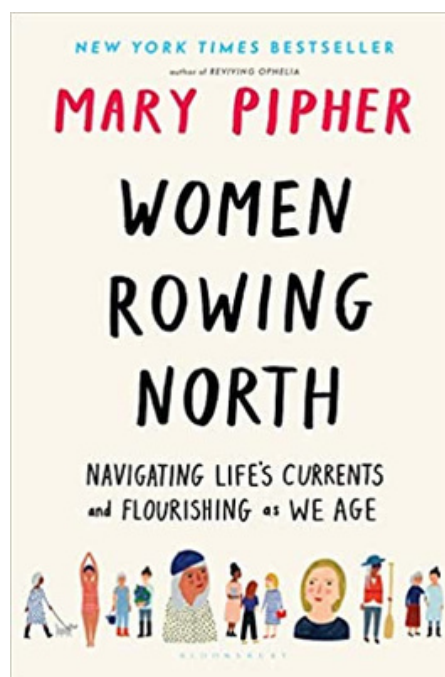
For our next meeting, October 5 at noon, we will be reading 'Women Rowing North: Navigating Life's Currents and Flourishing As We Age' by Mary Pipher. In this book, Pipher offers a timely examination of the cultural and developmental issues women face as they age while drawing from her own experience as a daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, caregiver, clinical psychologist and cultural anthropologies. She explores the ways women cultivate resilient responses to the life challenges they face.

Moving forward, it was decided to continue with a hybrid meeting model. Those in-person will gather in the Grant Room, while those joining by Zoom can use [THIS LINK](#). This will be the link to access all our future meetings, so take the time to save it to your desktop for easy access.

We did not generate a complete list for the coming year, but decided to return next month to look at titles and discern interest. Feel free to contact me with any questions you have and please forward this email to anyone you think might be interested in joining our lively group.

See you in October!

Cathy Bowden  
cathybbowden@gmail.com





# HOLLY DAYS FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2022

**\* Volunteers Needed \***

Donations accepted through November 10

## BOUTIQUE

Lightly worn clothing,  
jewelry and scarves!  
Please, no underwear,  
children's clothes or  
outdated items.

Place items in the coat room  
off Fellowship Hall.

FMI: [lydiahill802@gmail.com](mailto:lydiahill802@gmail.com)

## ANTIQUUE TREASURES

Household and decorative  
glass, ceramics, linens,  
kitchen goods, small lamps,  
etc. No outdated computers,  
tech gear, fitness machines,  
or upholstered furniture.

Place items on stage.

FMI: [eunice.w75@gmail.com](mailto:eunice.w75@gmail.com)



## SILENT AUCTION



Gift cards, services (maybe a home-cooked meal?), leaf  
raking, baked goods or other items monthly for a year,  
tickets to local events, and themed fabric bags.

Other ideas welcome!

FMI: [kathylizwhitmore@gmail.com](mailto:kathylizwhitmore@gmail.com) or [alycegraves8@gmail.com](mailto:alycegraves8@gmail.com)

\*

Fair Co-Chairs: Steve Hendry: [stevrunn@gmail.com](mailto:stevrunn@gmail.com)  
and Matthew Strobel: [mstrobel66@yahoo.com](mailto:mstrobel66@yahoo.com)



MINISTRY OF  
*Christian  
Education*



Dear Falmouth Congregational Church community,

This has been an exciting time for our young people as they have been transitioning into a new year of school, and a new year of Kids' Church! We had a wonderful first day this past week. The kids spent time getting to know one another (and me!) over art and popcorn, and they were especially thrilled to witness and participate in baby William Edson's baptism. If this first day is any indicator of how the rest of our year will go, it is going to be one for the books!

Our combined Youth Group and Confirmation Class with Foreside Congregational Church also met for the first time this past Sunday evening. We were delighted to host the meeting here, and look forward to many more meetings (both at our home church and theirs) throughout the year. During the meeting, we played games, ate pizza, discussed what is important to them as a group, and brainstormed ways in which they could give back to their communities, both immediate and wide. We are blessed to have such compassionate, intelligent, and fun-loving tweens and teens in our midst, and I look forward to sharing all their accomplishments with you as the year progresses. Our next youth group meeting will be October 16 at Foreside Community Church. If you have a middle school-aged child who is interested in joining us, please email me at [hannah@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](mailto:hannah@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org).

As always, we need volunteers for Kids' Church on Sundays! If you are interested and have not already let me know, please send me an email at

[hannah@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](mailto:hannah@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org).

Thank you,

Hannah Daly  
Director of Youth and Family  
Ministries



**[Click Here to Register for Kids' Church School](#)**

**CHURCH***family news*

- Kathleen, Bill and James Henderson as they grieve their precious 13 ½ year old dog, Lola, who has gone into her eternal rest. Cards of comfort may be sent to: 10 Lower Falls Road Falmouth, Maine 04105
- We praise God that dear William Edson was baptized with Rev. Dr. Nancy Taylor who presided on Sunday, Sept. 25th with many admiring family and church family!
- Val Gray, in gratefulness for driving Erlon Varney to church.
- Joan Jensen who is suffering from back pain and is having an MRI today, Sept. 28th to provide diagnostic clarity. Cards may be sent to Ashton Gardens 830 Ocean Ave. Apt 217 Portland, Maine 04103
- Judy Crosby's father, who is living in the Maine Veterans' Home in Scarborough and has just been transferred into dementia care.
- John Graustein who has covid and is receiving care at home. He continues to benefit from care from his dear wife Barbara.
- Pastor Amelia and her family as they recuperate. Please send cards of care to: 267 Falmouth Road Falmouth, Maine 04105.
- Sarah Lyons, Mike Guippone, Fred and Susie who are expecting a baby girl on October 4th! Cards of congratulations can be sent to: 19 Bluebird Trail in Falmouth.
- Ted Vail had a cardiac pacemaker placed and is temporarily back in the hospital. Please send cards to: Apt. 1103 777 Stevens Avenue Portland, Maine 04103.

**We Lift in Prayer...**

- Randy Boardway's father, Paul, is fighting liver cancer.
- Katie Howison's family as they travel with and support her mother through her cancer diagnosis.
- James Smith is still in a lot of pain and needs positive thoughts and prayers for healing and guidance on how to help him heal. Pray for comfort for his parents, Jim and Kaye. Send cards of encouragement, but no phone calls please: 127 Winn Road Falmouth, Maine 04105.
- Norm O'Brien, who is 92 and in hospice care within his home. Please send cards to: 130 Winn Road Falmouth, ME 04105.
- Bee, Norm's wife of 67+ years, who continues to live at Falmouth-By-the-Sea and will also benefit from cards. Bee's address is: Room 103A 191 Foreside Road Falmouth, ME 04105.
- Ginny Hamilton who continues to enjoy hearing from you where she lives at her nursing home. You may share your love by sending cards to her at: 300 Spring Street Room King 4A Springbrook Center, Westbrook, Maine 04092.
- Sally Emery who is cared for in her home. Sally loves getting cards and displays them in her room. Please give her joy by sending a card to: P.O. Box 102 Gray, ME 04039.

**Ushers**

- 2 - Jim Parr & Randy Boardway
- 9 - Lydia Hill & Kim Mason
- 16 - Jo & Joe Blinick
- 23 - Karin Kurry & Lauren Jordy
- 30 - Sue & Larry Perry

**Liturgists**

- 2 - Jim Scherer
- 9 - Lydia Hill
- 16 - Jim Scherer
- 23 - Mark Horton
- 30 - Cathy Bowden

**October Birthdays**

- 1 - Maureen Grubb
- 9 - Laurie Davis
- 19 - Karin Kurry
- 20 - Diane Mathieu
- 23 - Lukas Herzog
- 25 - Beatrice Davis
- 25 - Matthew Stobel
- 25 - Laurie Logan



# October 2022 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Rev. Amelia away 10 AM Leaves of Love Bread Baking
2 Rev. Amelia away 10 AM Worship with Communion 11 AM Men's Group 6 PM Kevin Medema concert 7 PM Troop 93	3 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Worship & Covenant 7 PM Cub Scouts 7 PM Fiddle-icious	4 11 AM Staff Mtg. 6 PM The Family Restored	5 12 PM Women's Spiritual Book Club 6:30/7:30 PM Choirs 6:45 PM Private Group	6 4:30 PM Community Cookout 6:30 PM Ministry of Missions 7 PM Troop 93	7	8
9 10 AM Worship In-person or Online	10 <b>Indigenous Peoples' Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 12 PM Bible Study	11 10 AM Bible Study (Oceanview) 11 AM Staff Mtg. 6 PM The Family Restored 6:30 PM Cub Scouts.	12 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Private Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	13 6 PM Let's Gather Meal 7 PM Finance Committee 7 PM Troop 93	14	15
16 10 AM Worship In-person or Online 11:30 AM Council of Ministries 4 PM Youth Group	17 Congregator Deadline 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Fiddle-icious	18 11 AM Staff Mtg. 6 PM The Family Restored 6 PM Cub Scouts Adult Training	19 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Private Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	20 6:30 PM Writer's Group 7 PM Troop 93	21	22
23 10 AM Worship In-person or Online 4 PM Youth Group	24 12 PM Bible Study	25 11 AM Staff Mtg. 6 PM The Family Restored	26 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Private Group 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	27 7 PM Troop 93	28	29 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM UCC Vitality Event 4 PM - 7 PM Eagle Scout Ceremony
30 Remembrance Sunday 9 AM Pop-Up Choir 10 AM Worship 4 PM Youth Group	31 12 PM Bible Study <b>HALLOWEEN</b>					

Falmouth Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
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Falmouth, ME 04105  
Phone: 207-781-3413  
Email: officemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org  
Website: www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

## Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

### Ministries

Kim Hendry  
Chair, Council of Ministries

Kristen Tripp  
Chair, Ministry of Christian  
Education

Jane Stegemann  
Ministry of Community Life

Matthew Strobel  
Chair, Ministry of Facilities

Steve Hendry  
Chair, Ministry of Missions

Virginia Eddy & Larry Perry  
Ministry of Worship & Covenant

### Church Staff

Rev. Amelia Edson, Settled Pastor  
Katharina Roderick, Office Manager, Newsletter Editor  
Laurie Logan, Office Assistant  
Matthew Strobel, Sexton and Property Manager  
Hannah Daly, Director of Youth and Family Ministries  
Jane Stegemann, Minister of Visitation  
Jan Stover, Minister of Music  
Anna Dube, Nursery Caregiver  
Jack Gervais, Tech Assistant

### Officers

Kim Hendry, Moderator  
Anne Coleman, Vice Moderator  
Laurie Davis, Clerk  
Paul Davis, Treasurer  
Gini Medford, Financial Secretary  
Carol Kauffman MSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse