



The Lantern

A Light unto our Path...

November 2019

The United Church of Christ in North Hampton

Monthly Musings From Your Pastor

“Most of us were taught that God would love us if and when we change. In fact, God loves you so that you can change. What empowers change, what makes you desirous of change is the experience of love. It is that inherent experience of love that becomes the engine of change.” - Richard Rohr

How many of you like change? I can see the looks on some of your faces right now. Not too many of us do. I think that many times, not always, but many times, we view change with a negative connotation. When we hear change do you hear comments like, “Why, what is wrong with the way things are now?”, “You want this to change which means the way we were doing it before wasn’t right?”, “Change, we can’t, we need to honor those before us by doing things the way we always did.”, or “You must not love me if you want me to change.”

Change, change can be hard it means looking at things through a different set of lenses and seeing them in a new life-giving way. I love this quote from Richard Rohr. It helps to remind me that, in fact, change is a good thing, especially when it comes from a place of love and for love and that love gives life! Yes, that’s right, change can be life-giving. It can help us to live into our best selves.

Love experienced becomes the engine for change. An engine powers things, it drives them, it is what allows them to move. God loves us, God wants to move us beyond where we are to where we can be so that we can be the best versions of ourselves. Driven by love. Imagine if we looked at everything in our lives, in the life of the church and the world that way. What would be possible, what new life would come forward if we allow ourselves, our belief systems, the way we interact with the world and our actions to be driven by this transformative love? Would things be different? Would they allow us, our community of faith and the world to grow in ways that God is guiding us? I dare say yes, for God so loved the world.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Mike

November Events

11/2	Ladies Union Fair	11/15	Open Mic Night
11/3	Daylight Savings Time ends	11/16	Game Night
11/6	Prayer Shawl Ministry	11/24	Thanksgiving Sunday
11/9	Movie Night	11/24	Greening the Church
11/13	Ladies Union		

From the Vitality Team

Did you know that the church has a Vitality Team? The mission of the Vitality team is "To spread Christ's love by creating opportunities that bridge church and communities".

You may have seen events like, Open Mic Night, Selling Watermelon at the Bandstand, Participation in Parades, Blessing of the Pets and so on. Those are all events organized and created with the idea of building bridges between the church and community. Our next big event will be participation in this year's Christmas parade on December 7th at 1 PM. The theme of this year's parade is Main Street. Like last year, we are asking that you save and or buy Halloween candy as it goes on sale so that we can pass it out as we march. We will start collecting it after the Ladies Union Fair. Stay tuned for more details on this and other ways that you will be able to get involved with this important mission of the church.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Wednesday, November 6th at 1 PM in the O'Connor Vestry.

If you know of someone who might be in need of a shawl, please let us know.

Gail Hiltunen: 964-6909 Carol McCarthy: 772-3692 Judy Hawes: 964-2247

UCC Book Group

The book club enjoyed good food and a great discussion on Pachinko by Min Jin Lee. Gail Hiltunen was our gracious October host. Lots and lots of book suggestions were presented. We welcome new members so if you are interested, contact Nancy Bergeron. Here is our upcoming schedule.

- November 16th at Jane Morse's home - A Terrible Country by Keith Gessen
- December 14th at Jane Boesch's home - Nomadland by Jessica Bruder
- January 18th meeting in the Budd Room at the church, Nancy Bergeron hosting - A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline
- February 15th at Mary Myers' home - Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of WWII by Liza Mundy
- March 21st at Gale Lyon's home - Amercanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Church Hours in November

The church building will be closed:

November 11 for Veteran's Day

November 28 for Thanksgiving

Office Hours week of Thanksgiving are: Monday - Wednesday, 8 AM - 1 PM

All bulletin/weekly email news due Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, Nov. 26

Faith+Finders

November is here and so is the “Holiday Rush” that seems to chase us like a creature from October’s Halloween. November is a month of Thanksgiving and appreciation. One of the reasons I love teaching the children this time of the year is it holds me accountable to strive to practice what I preach. For all those readers who do not know me well, I am often running about with many things on my plate. I need to slow down to prepare my lessons.

I often ask the children what they see around them during the seasons that we are grateful for, such as the changing of the leaves. What clues of change does God’s nature give us, such as the stripes on the woolly caterpillar. Is there a new person in their classroom at school? How may we help the new child feel welcomed? How are we part of this community? What would Jesus do? Who do we give thanks for? How can we thank God for all His beauty around us?

First we need to:

Slow down, notice our surroundings, then let God know how much we appreciate it.

Slow down, notice our surroundings, let God know we notice that person who needs to feel welcomed.

Slow down, notice the joy of the food we eat and the comfort of a full belly.

Slow down, and notice the feeling of awe when you help another human being.

Slow down, and know that we are all in God’s surroundings. He loves us all.

New:

Often in class I get questions from the children that I am not sure how to answer. We have started a “let’s ask Rev. Mike“ question list. Instead of Dear Abby I would like to start a Dear Rev. Mike letter.

This month’s letter:

Dear Rev. Mike,

Is it okay to finish a prayer with “high five” to God instead of “Amen”?

Important!

Registrations

There are many registration forms that have not been completed and returned to me. I need to have this updated information every year. Past year registrations are filed away at the end of the year. I need to have the new registrations so I can do my job in assuring a safe teaching environment. I have copies in the Garden Room if anyone needs another form.

Volunteers

Thank you to all those who have shown interest in volunteering. This month I will be meeting with new volunteers for orientation after coffee hour on Sundays. There is a sign up list at the Faith Formation Board in the O’Connor Vestry.

Blessings,

Pamela Sullivan

Faith Formation Coordinator

Just a little note:

In September and early October the woolly caterpillars were showing me that there is to be a massive winter to come!!!! I even came across a woolly caterpillar with no brown stripe!!!! Now they have been changing their minds as for the last few weeks caterpillars are a little more brown than black. I never had this happen before!! :o)

Ladies Union News

Ladies Union Fall Fair November 2, 2019, 9 AM - 2:00 PM

The Ladies Union is looking for volunteers to help the day of the fair to support each table. Please consider helping at one of the tables and at the same time enjoying each other's company. Other ways you can help: donations of handcrafts, jewelry, silent auction items, Choice Treasure items, Soup-to-Go, gently used puzzles, food items for the kitchen luncheon. There will also be wrapped Gift Baskets.

All tables will be in the O'Connor Vestry. This year you will order your lunch as usual in the OCV, walk to the Budd Room where you will sit and be served. Come for lunch as you shop.

Ladies to contact for each table:

Handcrafts-Carolyn Brooks. **Jewelry**-Joanne Dewhurst. Silent **Auction**-Anna Pike. **Soup-to-Go**--Margaret Gray. **Baked Goods**-Marty Pound. **Cookie Walk**--Karen Jones. **Kitchen**-Betsey Davis and Lydia Estey. **Choice Treasures**-Deb Armstrong, Gale Lyon.

The Ladies Union appreciates any and all contributions and donations. Donations of home baked goods as well as jams and pickles, cookies (for cookie walk), and items for silent auction will be gratefully accepted Friday, November 1, after noon in the OCV. Choice Treasures can be left, AFTER the church service on October 27 in the front entry way of the church, being careful not to block doorways and stairs. Crafts can also be left there but PLEASE label them for the Craft Table. Soup-To-Go accepts any type of soup. Please label. Food donations for the kitchen can be left in the container outside the office, or if perishable, labeled and left in the refrigerator the week before the Fair.

If you own a business or feel comfortable in asking, gift certificates for the Silent Auction would be greatly welcomed along with special items.

In addition to fair hours, we would like help taking down some tables after 2 PM on fair day as well as after Coffee Hour on Sunday, the 3rd.

The fair will be a wonderful opportunity for all the church and community to take part in. Please put November 2 on your calendar and join the fun.




Please speak to Joan Cuetara or Hope Miller if you would be willing to help in any way.



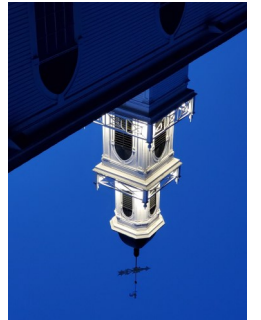
2019 November

Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 3!

UCC North Hampton

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	Oct 31	1	2
					Pastor's Sabbath	
					10:00 AM Kitchen Table Group (OCV) 1:00 PM LU Fair Set	9:00 AM Ladies Union Fall Fair
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (OCV) 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal (S) 10:00 AM Worship (S) 11:15 AM Coffee Hour (OCV)	5:00 PM Gentle and Wellness Yoga (OCV) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (C)	9:00 AM AI-Anon (OCV) 7:00 PM Seacoast Brain Injury Support Group	1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry (V)	9:00 AM Fitness Group (V) 4:00 PM End 68 Hours of Hunger (C) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	
					10:00 AM Kitchen Table Group (OCV)	6:30 PM Movie Night (OCV)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (OCV) 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal (S) 10:00 AM Worship (S) 11:15 AM Coffee Hour (OCV) 11:30 AM Worship Committee Mtg. (B)	Church Closed 	9:00 AM AI-Anon (OCV) 6:45 PM Blue Note Big Band Rehearsal	10:00 AM Ladies Union	9:00 AM Fitness Group (V) 4:00 PM End 68 Hours of Hunger (C) 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (M)	Pastor's Sabbath	
					10:00 AM Kitchen Table Group (OCV) 6:45 PM Open Mic Night (OCV) 	6:30 PM Game Night (OCV)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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					10:00 AM Kitchen Table Group (OCV)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Thanksgiving Sunday	5:00 PM Gentle and Wellness Yoga (OCV) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (C)	9:00 AM AI-Anon (OCV) 6:45 PM Blue Note Big Band Rehearsal		Church Closed 	Pastor's Sabbath	
8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (OCV) 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal (S) 10:00 AM Worship (S) 11:15 AM Coffee Hour (OCV) 11:30 AM Greening the Church (S)					10:00 AM Kitchen Table Group (OCV)	
Dec 1	2	<p>Bulletin & Weekly E-News Announcements due weekly on Wednesdays Lantern Articles Due Nov. 18</p> <p>Legend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B: Budd Room • C: Charrier Hall • G: Gold Classroom • GR: Garden Room • M: Music Room • OCV: O'Connor Vestry • PR: Prayer Room • P: Pastor's Office • S: Sanctuary 				

The United Church of Christ
295 Atlantic Avenue
North Hampton, NH 03862
603-964-8687
adminassistant@uccnorthampton.org



“No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are on Life’s Journey You are Welcome Here”

The Lantern is published monthly to keep our church community informed of ministries and programs of UCC NH and also to report upon our life together. The deadline for the Lantern is the third Monday of the month and submissions can be in the form of email (adminassistant@uccnorthampton.org) or a typed/handwritten note.

Staff	
Rev. Michael Gelsomini	Pastor & Teacher
Mary Oliver	Music Director
Pamela Sullivan	Faith Formation Coordinator
Ellen Dozet	Administrative Assistant
Joanne O'Connor	Treasurer
Hope Miller	Assistant Treasurer