

# THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT



Volume 33, No. 11

Special offering this month: "Hunger"

November 2011



**Center Harbor  
Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

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*The Rev. Carol Snow-Asher,  
Pastor ~ Tel. 744-7864  
Nancy Turziano, Music Director  
Nancy Lemieux, Office Secretary  
All Members: Ministers*

**The Village Preschool**  
Sally Mann 455-6322

**Altar Flowers**  
Pastor/Poster in Gilpatric Hall

**Deacon of the Month**  
Nancy Leighley 253-9827

**Trustees**  
Kent Warner 253-4342

**Board of Christian Education**

**Board of Christian Mission**  
Mary Alice Warner 253-4342  
Submissions & calendar events  
due by the 15th each month.

## MISSION:1 November 1-11, 2011

This is our ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice. Our national UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST hopes with Mission: 1 to make an impact on the hunger issues of our country and we are each one of us called to be part of this MISSION.

In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will collect more than 1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD and other household items for local food banks and outreach services.

In 11 days, the UCC will make an extra-special push to gather online contributions of more than \$111,111 for NEIGHBORS IN NEED, to share with hunger-action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

In 11 days, the UCC will offer more than 11,111 LETTERS TO CONGRESS asking for reform in U.S. foreign assistance to more effectively benefit hungry and poor people worldwide, providing a major push to Bread for the World's "Offering of Letters" campaign.

### **HERE IS HOW OUR CHURCH WILL HELP THIS MISSION: 1**

The Mission Board is asking each person to bring to church on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, one can or box of food which we will report to the national campaign, before delivering to our local food pantry in Meredith.

Our October Mission was NEIGHBORS IN NEED, and that offering total will be reported to add to the goal of \$111,111 total NIN offerings.

The Mission Board will have a sample letter and paper and pens for people to write a note supporting Bread for the World's "Offering of Letters" to Congress.

Continuing until the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will again have our ANNUAL FOOD FIGHT to again collect food for the local pantries—the need this year is growing, and pantries are running out.

Though our denomination is not the largest in the U.S., we can show by Mission: 1 that we are a people who believe in Christ's prayer "That they all may be one". May we join our hearts and prayers to make life more abundant for those Neighbors in Need around us.

## Out of My Mind... and Heart

Carol Asher, ...Pastor

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, we see the symbols appear around us—the fruits of a fine harvest along with pilgrims and Native Americans... and we realize (with appropriate gratefulness) that Thanksgiving has not been secularized over the generations.

We also forget that the pilgrims did not “invent” that first Thanksgiving celebration, but rather followed the Old Testament command from the book of Leviticus. The Hebrews had been slaves in Egypt, and God chose Moses to help set them free and lead them into the freedom of the Promised Land. As they traveled along, they faced many difficulties and stayed in temporary shelters. Those people long ago were very thankful that God had helped them get free. They were thankful for God’s care when they did not have homes or means to grow food. They were thankful that God still took care of them as they established themselves in the new land. They were thankful that they finally could grow grains, fruits and vegetables to eat. They were most grateful that they had arrived in the land of freedom promised to them.

As we think of the Pilgrims who established the first “modern” Thanksgiving Day, we need to recall the reasons they left the land of their birth and came to the New World. The Puritan separatists were not allowed to worship freely in England according to the dictates of their hearts and minds. In August of 1620, they boarded two small ships, the *Speedwell* and the *Mayflower*, in search of religious freedom in undeveloped America.

The *Speedwell* soon sprung leaks and most of the crew and passengers transferred to the *Mayflower* before the *Speedwell* turned back. There were 102 Pilgrims who suffered the 67 days of rough sailing before they finally landed in Plymouth Bay in November 1620.

Their troubles were just beginning. No housing awaited them. No reception group. No medical facilities. No stores. A cold winter lay ahead with sickness for most of them. At one point, only six people were well enough to help the sick and the dying. By March 1621, less than six months after arriving, only 51 of the original 102 remained alive. It would be another two years before a ship arrived with supplies to help them. They were compelled to live off the land in whatever way they could.

Fortunately, some Native Americans taught the Pilgrims how to plant corn, how to fish the waters, how to hunt and preserve game, and how to live without the comforts of England or Holland.

The newcomers built houses. They filled their storehouses with corn and other foods. At the end of the first harvest, they decided to respond to God’s leading and hold a feast of celebration in thanksgiving to God for their freedom to worship as their hearts desired, just as their Hebrew forebears had done so many centuries ago.

They invited their Native American friends to enjoy the occasion with them. Ninety came and stayed for three days. They must have enjoyed the worship, feasting and merrymaking.

The main point to remember is that the Puritans were willing to pay an enormous price for the privilege of freedom of worship. (*We will have to forgive them that they did not extend that freedom to others who came to America in search of that same thing!*). They were profoundly grateful to God! Here, in America, no established church harassed them, no government agency restricted them, and no one ridiculed them. They were free to worship in the manner they chose. And they did just that!

On Thanksgiving Day we take time to be grateful for our abundance; thankful for our manifold blessings in spite of many difficulties. Let us also be profoundly appreciative of our freedom to worship according to our hearts and minds. Especially in these times, let us be thankful for ALL the freedoms we enjoy; let us thank God... and the many men and women who continue to pay the price for those freedoms.

At a time of stalemate and confusion in our government, let us step up to be more aware of the price we each need to pay for the freedoms that we enjoy (and NO, I am NOT talking simply about the taxes!). Just as did those ancient Hebrews and then those brave Pilgrims, let us become more informed and involved in the future of our freedoms to worship, to work and play, to live together and to thrive in this wonderful world, as God has certainly planned for us all.

May God’s blessings be yours!

*Sharon*  
*Pastor Carol*

## From the Board of Deacons

### “We are all part of the Family”

As I prepared the Deacons report for the Annual Report this month, I was amazed by the many varied activities and programs we are involved in as a church. We are a busy church, striving to do God’s work not only within our four walls but also in the community and the wider world. We are a caring congregation as evidenced by our generous giving to many worthwhile causes.

During Pastor Carol’s absence following her knee replacement surgery, several people offered to share their faith journeys during the worship services. In spite of some fear and trepidation, their messages were heartfelt and touching. It is good to know we can pull together when called upon to do so. Thanks to Honey Evans, Thom Winslow, and Ann Libby for sharing their stories

A few months ago there were three funerals held at the church in three weeks. The Deacons were asked to provide food and set up for a reception following each service. Many in the congregation cooperated by preparing food and helping serve. Notes of appreciation were received from the families involved.

In many ways, we who belong to this church are a family of sorts and as such bear some responsibility for sharing on different levels, with each person doing a task they feel comfortable doing. In the near future a list of tasks will be identified and we hope each and every member will consider where they can be of help and volunteer to be part of our helping family.

The future of our church is up to each and every one of us!

Nancy Leighley, Deacon for the month

## COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

On Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00pm in our sanctuary. All are invited to come and give thanks.

## Christian Education News

A huge THANK YOU to all who supported the annual Cookie walk held on October 2, 2011. Because of your generosity, \$164 was raised to help support our sponsored child, 5 year old Talin Mani, who attends the Rawdat-El-Zuhur School in Jerusalem, Israel.

The Church School is off to a great start. We continue to use and enjoy the Faith Alive curriculum “Walk With Me” for the lessons held on Sunday mornings.

A new Christian Education program called OWL (Our Whole Lives) is being coordinated by Carrie Crosby and Norman Larson. A weekend retreat was held for the students at Geneva Point on October 1st and 2nd . More news to come.

The next Joint BOCE/Teacher meeting will be held in the parlor at the church on Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 8:30 am. Coffee will be served, so come and enjoy.

## *News from the Mission Board!*

### **MISSION NEWS: FINAL TALLY ON COATS FOR KIDS DRIVE**

Sally Humer, with sons Daniel and Matthew, delivered to Inter Lakes Elementary School: 50 coats, 11 fleece jackets, 8 snow pants, 6 pairs of boots, 22 pairs of gloves, 9 new hats, 6 scarves.

What a wonderfully generous church you are to respond so quickly to help keep some of our neighbor children warm! Thank you to all, and especially to Sally who conceived of and organized the Coats for Kids.

The Missions Board:

Ruth Costello, Sally Humer, Joyce Larson, Robin Weeks & Mary Alice Warner, Chair

### **CHCC 2011 Missions**

January	The Christmas Fund (UCC)
February	Mission Trust Fund
March	One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC)
April	New Beginnings
May	Blankets & Tools of Hope (Church World Service)
June	United Campus Ministry
July	Strengthen the Church (UCC)
August	Habitat for Humanity
September	Focus on Africa
October	Neighbors in Need (UCC)
<b>November</b>	<b>Hunger</b>
December	Alternative Christmas & Angel Tree

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE UCC ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The Annual Meeting of the NH Conference UCC was held in Concord on Saturday, October 22nd. We attended as delegates from our church. As in years past this was an exciting and informative meeting. The highlight for us was the presentation of our church's submission for the program "Imagine what's Possible". CHCC was one of six churches chosen to have our programs shown to the entire meeting. Nancy Leighley and the Deacons put together the information on how, in 1998, our church started the very successful CHMM Community Caregivers, which has grown into an independent ministry that continues to serve our surrounding communities.

Out of 85 churches attending the meeting, our church also stands out for our mission giving. We stood up with about 17 other churches for our giving to "5 for 5". If you don't know what this is ask a member of the Mission Committee. We all can be proud to be members of a church that looks outside itself, both near and far.

Mary Alice and Kent Warner

# Center Harbor Congregational Church, UCC      November 2011

**Visit us online: [www.chccucc.org](http://www.chccucc.org)      You may request the newsletter by e-mail.**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>This month's mission: "Hunger"</b>						
<b>Boldface = Church-sponsored events</b>						
6 8:30am Joint teacher & BOCE meeting 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments 5-8:30pm OWL meeting	7 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	8 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen 7:30 pm Trustees	9	10 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	11	12 8:00 AL-Anon
13 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments 11:30 Missions Board	14 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	15 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen 5:45 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Cabinet	16	17 Set-Up Holly Fair 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	18 Set-Up Holly Fair	19 8:00 AL-Anon 8:30-3pm Holly Fair
20 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments	21 NO Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	22 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen 7:00pm Community Thanksgiving Ser- vice	23	24 6:00 pm T'ai Chi	25	26 8:00 AL-Anon
27 10:00 am Worship & Church School 11:00 am Fellowship & Refreshments	28 5:30 & 8:30 am Boot Camp (M-F) 9:00 am T'ai Chi	29 5:30 pm Soup Kitchen	30	<b>Questions? Call the secretary during Office/Sanctuary Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm or leave a message: (603) 253-7698 or 253-8668 E-mail: <a href="mailto:chccucc@myfairpoint.net">chccucc@myfairpoint.net</a></b>		

## Treasurer's Report

Year to date, the income received is right on target with the budget. Expenses are currently less than budget by approximately \$7500. However, this is only temporary due to the timing of bills to be paid. What we need to hope for is that we don't exceed our budget for winter time expenses such as heating and snow plowing.

Many thanks for your continued good stewardship.

Respectfully submitted Jason Hicks.

Year to date expenses vs. income received As of Sept. 30, 2011		
Expenses	Income	Income Over/ (Under) Ex- penses
\$ 85,829	\$ 70,758	\$ (15,071)

## Birthdays



*This information is not available online.*

*For updates, members may request a printed sheet from the secretary.*

## Anniversaries



*This information is not available online.*

*For updates, members may request a printed sheet from the secretary.*

*We apologize if we missed anyone. Please let us know if you want to be added to the list(s).*

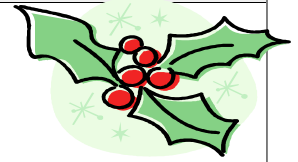
## Worship Volunteers for the Month *Please share your time and talent!*

November Deacons Responsible: **Nancy Leighley 253-9827**

	Ushers	Liturgist	Acolytes	Greeters	Fellowship Host
<b>6</b>	Hannah & Ben Crosby	Mary Alice Warner	Madison & Kaylee Smith	Mary Moore	Dorrie Palmer
<b>13</b>	Dave & Lynne Sias	Barb Edwards	Hannah Crosby Daniel Humer	Patte Morrow Charlotte Morrow	Diane Crawford
<b>20</b>	Nancy Leighley	Dave Sias	Nick & Nate Manville	Lynne Sias	Kent & Mary Alice Warner
<b>27</b>		Jan Galezian			

# ANNUAL HOLLY FAIR

*Saturday, November 19 - 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*



As always, this year's Holly Fair will feature hand-made crafts (made by members and friends), decorated tabletop trees, wood crafts, and stitched items. Traditional Holly Fair favorites will be made by the congregation's baking elves: home-made baked goods, jams/jellies, and a cookie walk. There will also be gift baskets and a special corner with craft supplies. A morning coffee break will be served upstairs, and a luncheon served downstairs. Again this year will be "Trifles and Treasures," which will be headed up by Rose Marie Phillips and Sally Humer.

*If you or your family would like to help with this fundraiser...*

- ◆ Donating "Trifles and Treasures" — see details below
- ◆ Donating home made baked goods, cookies, etc.
- ◆ Donating handmade crafts: stitched, knitted, crochet, wooden, and tree decorations
- ◆ Helping to make candy and gift baskets
- ◆ Posting flyers around the Lakes Region
- ◆ Setting up on Thursday & Friday, Nov. 17 and 18
- ◆ Preparing the luncheon
- ◆ Working at the Holly Fair on Sat., Nov. 19, and clean-up afterwards and on Mon., Nov. 21

*A sign up sheet for volunteers will be in Gilpatric Hall.*

**Questions?** Please contact the church secretary, Nancy Lemieux 253-7698, or a member of the committee: Steve & Ellen Weeks, 476-8404; Dave & Lynne Sias 279-4553.

## "Trifles and Treasures"

We are collecting items to go into the Trifles & Treasures shop. Please check your attics and basements. You probably have things that are too good for a white elephant sale; here is your opportunity to sell them. We are looking for china, glass, pottery, pictures, frames, old linens, old jewelry, etc. Please check your bulletin the week before the sale for information on when the items can be dropped off. We will have a pick up service if that would be helpful.

If you have any questions please call Sally Humer (253-4882).

## SEE US ON "YOU TUBE"

This is one way for us to introduce our church to prospective members.

I would hope we could do more, better videos.

Check it out! Google:  
"You Tube chccucc out door worship"

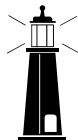
## Thankfulness Comes From the Heart

A young girl sat at the counter of an ice cream store.

"How much is an ice cream sundae?" she asked. "Fifty cents," the waitress said with hardly a glance at the child. The girl opened her fist and looked at her coins.

She then asked, "How much is a dish of just plain ice cream?" Annoyed at the questions, the waitress snapped, "Thirty-five cents!" The girl counted out 35 cents and handed it to the waitress. "I'll take the dish of plain ice cream. Chocolate, please."

The waitress took the money without a word and brought the ice cream. After the small customer had eaten and left, the waitress, cleaning up, suddenly flushed with shame. There, neatly placed beside the empty dish were two nickels and five pennies—her tip.



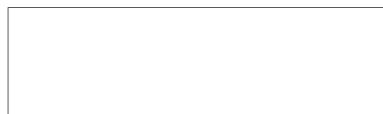
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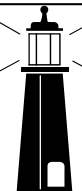


FIRST CLASS

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 e-mail list**

by calling the church office (603) 253-7698



<p>THE          CENTER HARBOR          LIGHT          November 2011</p>		<p>We are a church whose members love and value each other. Our faith community is a force for caring and sharing God's love in local and wider communities. As members, we learn, grow and serve together to do God's work with faith, compassion and respect.</p>
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**All are Welcome on Sundays**  
 10:00 a.m. Worship and Church School  
                   —all children welcome  
 11:00 a.m. Fellowship in Gilpatric Hall

**The Thankful Heart**      (Henry Ward Beecher)

If one should give me a dish of sand and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes, and search for them with my clumsy fingers and be unable to detect them. But let me take a magnet and sweep through it, the magnet would draw to itself the almost invisible particles by the mere power of attraction. The unthankful heart, like my fingers in the sand, discovers no mercies, but let the thankful heart sweep through the day and as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find in every hour, some heavenly blessings, only the iron in God's sand is gold!

<p>In This          Issue...</p>	<p><i>Mission:1 (May we all be one)..... Page 1</i>  <i>Community Thanksgiving Service ..... Page 3</i>  <i>Church Activity Calendar..... Page 5</i>  <i>All-Church Holly Fair ..... Page 7</i></p>
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