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# THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT

Special Offering this Month: Horton Center

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## Pastor's Message

In late winter we sang “In the Bulb There Is a Flower,” also known as “Hymn of Promise.” Well, now those bulbs have flowered. Some are even past and the new round of perennial blooms have opened. We have also been gearing up for end-of-season plays and concerts; hours of preparation culminating in just a few, or even a single, performance and then that’s it. We have, or will soon have, graduations; an end to an entire rhythm of life. And fingers crossed we have seen the last of cold weather and can finally put our heavy coats away in winter storage. There are a lot of endings. Here at CHCC we celebrated our teachers and youth on our last day of Sunday school for the year. Our choir members will soon get to rest their voices during a summer hiatus.

I am thinking of another line from “Hymn of Promise”: “In our end is our beginning.” Indeed, every ending offers a new beginning. One season of performances is over, but eventually we will participate in another season and create something brand new. The school year is ending, but summer adventures are just beginning. Some endings are painful: the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, the loss of how things used to be. The beginnings associated with those kinds of endings may not be readily apparent. That is where trust in the Resurrection is so important. It doesn’t mean knowing what’s next. It doesn’t even mean being sure that there will be something next. Maybe it just means looking around at the seasons carrying on. Bulbs pushing out greenery to absorb the sun’s light, and then pulling back and storing energy for next season, resting so deeply they almost look dead.

Even celebratory endings can precede beginnings marked with fear, apprehension, and uncertainty. Most graduates don’t know what the future holds. That can be scary. Any time we learn new things that change our worldview, that can leave us feeling unmoored and confused. But even in those moments of fear and confusion, there is a promise of something new that we couldn’t even imagine before. Personally, my favorite line in “Hymn of Promise” is “From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery.” My prayer for you, Beloveds, is in this time of transition – in your personal life, in the church, in the season – that you may lean into the mystery. Know that the future will not be the same as the past, but it will always be inspired by the past. Know that there is something new and exciting out there that we haven’t even imagined yet. And let the Resurrection promise give you courage and hope. ~Pastor Alison

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Center Harbor  
 Congregational Church,  
 United Church of Christ  
 An Open and Affirming  
 Congregation

PO Box 229, 52 Main Street  
 Center Harbor, NH 03226  
 Tel: (603) 253-7698  
 Website: [www.chcucc.org](http://www.chcucc.org)  
 Tuesday 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM  
 Thursday 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM



**S** Pastor Alison Thatcher  
 CHCCpastor@chcucc.org  
**t** Nancy Stannas, Music Director  
**a** Louisa Cartier, Office Secretary  
**f** CHCCsecretary@chcucc.org  
**f** All Members: Ministers

## Music Gives Us Play for All Ages

On Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> we had lots of laughs at fellowship playing music games led by Patty Finn. There was a Ugandan game requiring rocks to be passed around to the rhythm of a song, passing and shaking egg shakers to the tune of the Pink Panther, and a thrilling tennis ball game that had everyone up and bouncing balls (and chasing balls across the room). The activity proves music and games are good at any age.

If you have an idea for a fellowship activity that you would like to lead, reach out to someone on the Cabinet!



## Church Life

### Summer Ice Cream Socials

Weekly ice cream socials will start up again in June. Join us Wednesdays throughout the summer for ice cream and fellowship at various area ice cream stands. Ice cream socials in June will be at 6 PM.

- June 3 - Skelley's, Moultonborough
- June 10 - Town Docks, Meredith
- June 17 - Ben & Jerry's, Meredith
- June 24 - Center Harbor Scoops

## Holly Fair 2026

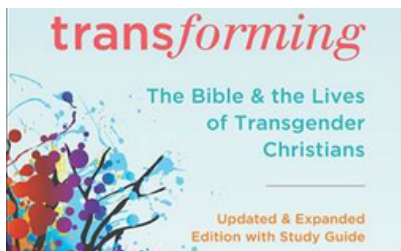
Holly Fair crafters met in May for a productive day of card-making. It was a time of fellowship and creativity ending with lots of holiday and winter cards ready for our customers in November.

Join us in June for crafting with window shutters. The group will be meeting June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. All are welcome!



June 26 Window Shutter Snowmen (or Santas or Elves)  
August 7 Jewelry Making with Patty McQuone

## This Month's Events



### Book Study

Tuesdays, 9:30 AM by Zoom  
 June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>

Join us for a discussion of Austen Hartke's *Transforming*.

Book available on Amazon or by special order at your local bookstore



### Thursday Bible Study

With Pastor Alison  
 June 4, 11, and 18

9 AM by Zoom

Check weekly e-mail for Zoom link!



### Books & Bites

Come share what you've been reading!

June 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM in parlor

Contact: Jill Morton or Diane Crawford

# Sunday School Lessons

Our annual Youth Sunday was a big hit on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The youngest members of our church led us in the call to worship, gathering prayer, and scripture followed by a beautiful reenactment of the Prodigal Son and a thoughtful post-skit discussion on the story. Great job students!



It has been a fruitful Sunday School year. Thank you to all of the Sunday school teachers who have volunteered their time to plan and teach lessons! Our Bliss Fund will be helping five of our students attend Horton Center during the summer. Maris will be attending Elementary Eco-Campers, Gil will be attending Camp M.O.R.E., Emma and Nadia will be attending Adventure Camp Jr., and Bea will be attending Middler Mix-Up and Pride on the Mountain. After many years of attending Horton Center as a camper, Eric will be working on the Horton Center Staff this summer. We look forward to hearing all about their adventures up at Pine Mountain!

Have a great  
Summer vacation!!

**Looking for some Summer fun for you or a family member?  
Check out these opportunities at Horton Center!**

## RETREATS 2026

<p><b>JUNE 6-7</b> WILDERNESS FIRST AID COURSE</p> <p><b>JUNE 13</b> OPEN HOUSE W/OPTIONAL OVERNIGHT</p> <p><b>AUG. 10-13</b> MEN'S FELLOWSHIP RETREAT</p> <p><b>AUG. 28-30</b> MINISTRIES AND MISSION GROUPS WEEKEND</p> <p><b>SEPT. 4-7</b> FAMILY &amp; FRIENDS WEEKEND</p> <p><b>SEPT. 25-27</b> AVAILABLE FOR CHURCH RETREAT BOOKINGS</p> <p><b>SEPT. 26</b> "APPLE CRISP DAY" FALL OPEN HOUSE!</p> <p><b>OCT. 3-5</b> WORK IN PROGRESS WKND PIECEFUL QUILTING &amp; YOGA → MEDITATION ON THE MT. CONFIRMATION RETREAT</p>	
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WEEKDAYS AVAILABLE FOR RENTALS AS WELL PLEASE INQUIRE FOR MORE INFO - TPARE@HNCUCC.ORG

## SUMMER 2026

<p><b>WEEK 1</b> (JUNE 21-27) HC SERVES', LEADERS IN TRAINING', GETTING STARTED'</p> <p><b>WEEK 2</b> (JUNE 28-JULY 4) ELEMENTARY ECO-EXPLORERS, MIDLER ON THE MT., SENIOR HIGH. CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE</p> <p><b>WEEK 3</b> (JULY 5-11) CAMP M.O.R.E. (ALL AGES!)</p> <p><b>WEEK 4</b> (JULY 12-18) NEW THINGS, ADVENTURE JR., ADVENTURE SR.</p> <p><b>WEEK 5</b> (JULY 19-25) HOGWARTS ON THE MT., MIDLER MIX-UP, UP-OUT-ON!</p> <p><b>WEEK 6</b> (JULY 26- AUG. 2) GRANDPARENTS'/CHILDREN', PEACE, FAITH, REJUVENATION</p> <p><b>WEEK 7</b> (AUG. 2-6) PRIDE ON THE MT.' HALF-WEEK SESSION</p>	
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## May Mission of the Month: Horton Center

The Mission of the Month for June is Horton Center. Horton Center, a camp on beautiful Pine Mountain, is a ministry of the NH Conference of the United Church of Christ where everyone is loved and accepted for who they are. People of all ages are welcome: there is a session for grandparents and their grandchildren, for women, a men’s fellowship weekend, and family camp. For kids, there are sessions like Elementary Eco-Explorers, Hogwarts on the Mountain, Adventure camp, and more! No matter which session you choose, you can count on games, silly songs, yummy meals, ice cream, skits, laughter, and reflection on the impact of



### News from the Board of Missions

God in our lives as a guitar strums quietly in the background and the breeze carries our thoughts to the valley floor. People return from their time at camp more confident, more knowledgeable

about themselves, more connected with God, and as the song says (there are LOTS of songs at camp) ready to “go out from the mountain and turn the world around”.

Horton Center does all this and strives to make it so that cost does not prohibit anyone attending camp. A donation of \$25 will provide a new lifejacket for a canoeist, \$150 could mean a training course for a staff member, and \$200 could cover the gap with a camper scholarship. Please consider a donation to June’s Mission of the Month to support the life-changing experiences offered by Horton Center.

Missions Collections as of May 28, 2026

Mission Name	Total Collected
Backpack Mission	\$513.00
Christmas Fund	\$190.00
Community Caregivers	\$140.00
Habitat for Humanity	\$280.00
Horton Center	\$70.00
Hunger	\$290.00
Ministry of Space	\$20.00
Neighbors in Need	\$60.00
New Beginnings	\$764.00
OCWM	\$690.00
OGHS	\$1,025.00
Strengthen the Church	\$20.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,062.00</b>



### The Music of Dance

Join us for a concert of dance music featuring the Tre Voci Piano Trio and CHCC Handbell Choir. We will travel the history of dance music from court dances to tangos!

Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

4 PM

Center Harbor

Congregational Church

## Seeking Craft Fair Volunteers

We have been scheduling vendors for our July event, set to take place on Saturday, July 11th. We will again have a church run yard sale area. If you are doing some spring cleaning and have items to donate, please set them aside and plan to bring items to church either the day before the event or sooner (items brought in prior to the event can be placed in the garage).

In the next few weeks we will also be looking for volunteers to help set up/clean up the fair, run the yard sale, and donate/prepare/sell food for the church food stand where we will again serve our famous strawberry short cake.

Be on the lookout for sign up sheets.



## Property Update

The property committee has been busy since the April 2026 Cabinet meeting. The trash and recyclables were taken care of - thank you to Michael Smith for agreeing to handle the trash and recyclables over the summer. Fiberglass poles were set up along the parking lot to block access and ensure boat trailers from the Center Harbor Inn park at the far end of the field. Cook Country Property Management was contracted to mow the church lawn once per week at a 50% discount of their usual rate, and Jeff Koniszewski met with them to review the mowing process. A big thank you to Cook Country Property Management for offering us this discount! Please consider this great community company for your landscaping projects!

Other tasks completed to get ready for summer were closing up the winter sand barrels and marking them with "No Garbage" signs, putting away shovels, taking out hoses, cleaning up the garage, opening storm windows, bringing fans up to the sanctuary, and resetting light timers to account for the later sunset. A broken flapper on one toilet was also fixed and internet routers were returned to Fidium since we are now using the routers installed by Mango Security as part of the building's security upgrades.

As Jeff steps back from property tasks we are so thankful to all the work he has put in here at CHCC. He has done a thorough job of putting together a property task list that covers all the jobs throughout the year. We are still looking for people willing to volunteer to take on some of the property related work. The many jobs that Jeff and before him the Trustees were handling have been broken down into several smaller task lists grouped by type of task to make the jobs manageable for a few volunteers to cover. For example, if you are someone who likes to work outdoors, you could be in charge of the outdoor tasks or if you know something about heating and plumbing, you could take on just the tasks related to that category. Please consider offering your time and talents to the maintenance of our building and grounds. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Janet Gulezian or contact the church office.



# Happy Birthday

- 6/1 Lynne Sias
  - 6/10 Steve Dwyer
  - 6/14 Kyle Libby
  - 6/14 Neal McQuone
  - 6/18 Ann E. Willett
  - 6/18 Vanessa Knight
  - 6/19 Pam Brown
  - 6/20 Donald Morton
  - 6/27 Fred Doscher
  - 6/30 Gilbert Cartier
- 
- 6/09 Dick and Libby Tuttle
  - 6/10 Brian and Nicole Knight
  - 6/15 Pam and Dave Brown
  - 6/17 Margee and Fred Doscher
  - 6/21 Donald and Jill Morton
  - 6/28 Donald and Barbara Edwards





Are you a Hannaford shopper? Purchase \$100 grocery cards with cash or check from the church each Sunday during Fellowship Hour and Hannaford will give us \$5 for each that you buy!

Paying for your groceries with these cards continues to earn your rewards to use and the cards will never expire. Can't spend it all at once? Use the balance the next time you shop! Many thanks to all for supporting our church!

## WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!

Every morning at 8am, enjoy your coffee with a message to start your day. Missed worship on Sunday? Watch the highlights posted later that day. And don't forget to LIKE and SHARE our posts with your family and friends. You'll be spreading the Good News from CHCC!



[www.facebook.com/CenterHarborCongregationalChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CenterHarborCongregationalChurch)

## Opportunities in Our Community

### America's Potluck Pie Celebration

The Nichols Memorial Library will be hosting an America's Potluck Pie Celebration on Sunday, July 5th, at 6 pm. on the library lawn as part of our nation's 250th anniversary. (Rain Location - Library Meeting Room).

We encourage all to bring a pie and to join in the celebration! America's Potluck is a national event being held all across the country on July 5 to commemorate America's 250th anniversary. This event is an opportunity for neighbors to join with one another to share a fun, communal meal, create a sense of connection and belonging and foster interactions among people from all walks of life.

Why Sunday? The tradition of Sunday dinner invites us to slow down, serve others and connect with one another. Through dialogue and a shared meal, in this case, a delicious slice of pie, we can promote our common bonds and honor the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.



Need an Extra Set of Hands for Odd Jobs?

Call Mr. Do It!

Hello my name is Kody St. Clair (aka MR. DO IT) I am a helping hands assistant living in Center Harbor and available to support a person or business on many levels. I have a valid New Hampshire driver's license, and I am very reliable.

Do you need help with...senior citizen support, such as moving heavy items and shopping; basic spring/fall yard cleanup, garden preparation, and mowing; small trash removal for Center Harbor and Meredith areas or seasonal cottage rental trash pickup; moving; chicken sitting/feeding? Mr. Do It...CAN do it!

I'm available Thurs. through Mon. 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. If interested, please email or call/text.

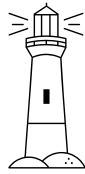
[kodystclair30@gmail.com](mailto:kodystclair30@gmail.com) or (650) 400-9318

Specifics: \$25 per hour, 2-hour minimum, Additional \$25 for travel time/gas for any distance over 15 miles from Center Harbor

\*\*Please note that I suffer from Dyslexia. When leaving a message, please speak slowly and clearly, spelling out any address or specifics to your location and job details. Visual landmarks near you are very helpful to me.

## June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 -9:30 AM Book Study, by Zoom -4:30 PM Soup Kitchen	3 -5 PM Missions Meeting, by Zoom -6 PM Ice Cream Social, Skelley's	4 -9 AM Bible Study, by Zoom	5 -8 PM AA (open meeting)	6
7 -10 AM Worship -11:30 AM Bell Choir Rehearsal	8	9 -9:30 AM Book Study, by Zoom -4:30 PM Soup Kitchen -4:30 PM Deacons Meeting, by Zoom	10 -6 PM Ice Cream Social, Town Docks	11 -9 AM Bible Study, by Zoom	12 -8 PM AA (open meeting)	13 4 PM The Music of Dance featuring Tre Voci Piano Trio and CHCC Bell Choir
14 -10 AM Worship	15	16 -1:30 PM Books and Bites, Parlor -4:30 PM Soup Kitchen -7 PM Cabinet Mtg, Parlor	17 -6 PM Ice Cream Social, Ben & Jerry's	18 -9 AM Bible Study, by Zoom	19 -8 PM AA (open meeting)	20
21 -10 AM Worship	22	23 -4:30 PM Soup Kitchen	24 -6 PM Ice Cream Social, Center Harbor Scoops	25	26 -10 AM Holly Fair Crafting, Gilpatric -8 PM AA (open meeting)	27
28 -10 AM Worship	29	30 -4:30 PM Soup Kitchen				



## The Lake Isle of Innisfree by William Butler Yeats

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made;  
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee,  
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;  
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,  
And evening full of the linnet's wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day  
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;  
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,  
I hear it in the deep heart's core.



Credits:

W.B. Yeats, "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" from *The Wanderings of Oisín and Other Poems*. (London: Kegan Paul, Trench and Co., 1889.) Public domain.

Rau, William H., "Cayuga Lake, Sheldrake," Albumen silver print, 1895, curtesy National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.