

THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT



Volume 45 No. 1

Special offering this month: "Angel Tree"

January 2023



**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
Tel/Fax: (603) 253-8668
Office Hrs: T-W-Th 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Website: www.chccucc.org
E-mail: chccucc@myfairpoint.net

S
t
a
f
f
The Rev. Cathy Turrentine
Cathryn.turrentine999@gmail.com
Nancy Stamnas, Music Director
Office Secretary
Terry Hughes
All Members: Ministers

Deacon of the month:
Jill Morton

Trustee of the month:
Dave Sias

The Village Preschool
Laura Curran
455-1067

A New Song



Psalm 96 begins this way:

O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing a new song to God, the psalmist tells us – not the same old song one more time around. As old as the scriptures are, they are always about new beginnings and fresh starts. When the people of Israel couldn't get their side of the covenant with God right, generation after generation, God's response was "I will make a new covenant, ... and I will write it on their hearts" (Jeremiah 31). And Isaiah tells us that God says,

"I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

Continued on page 2

God is always doing something new, and God always offers us a fresh start. No matter how far off-course we are, God will always make a way in the wilderness of our lives and will provide water even in the driest times.

What song will you sing with God this year? Will it be a literal song? Maybe one that brings you to the choir, when we are able to be together again? Will it be a new way of volunteering your time and talents? Will it be a call to prayer? Can you imagine a new song, a new way of living with God, and one that will bring joy and gratitude to your life? Can you hear the hint of a melody that you might sing with God?

It's time for a new song. Let all the earth sing to the Lord!

Pastor Cathy

Christmas Pageant 2022



Gil and Jasmine played the parts of Joseph and Mary.

CHCC Sunday School children presented the Christmas story to the congregation on December 18



Holly Fair Wrap-Up Meeting—January 8, 2023

The Holly Fair Wrap-Up Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 8, after the church service. We can grab a bite to eat at fellowship time and then get started, meeting in Gilpatric Hall, likely on the stage, to review results—what worked, what could be improved, and new ideas. **This meeting is open to everyone in the congregation who is interested in planning next year's Holly Fair.** The meeting should last no more than an hour. January 15 will be our 'snow date'.

Sugar & Spice and All Things Nice

The Smith and Cartier families took part in the 2nd annual Gingerbread House contest sponsored by the Greater Meredith Program. Michael's house won the children's division and Louisa's won the Patriot division. Jasmine, Michael, Gil, and Bea all had terrific entries! Good enough to eat!



Louisa's depicted Fort Drum, an Army base in Watertown, NY, complete with gingerbread helicopter! (Ask Louisa about it when you talk with her.) Natalie teamed up with her friend and made another delicious looking house again this year. We have very creative church families here at CHCC!



Hanging of the Greens

Great thanks to the 14 people who showed up for the Hanging of the Greens, to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent season. And thanks especially to Ann and Jeff for their great work to haul things out of their hiding places and get them organized ahead of time. Because of all their prep work, it only took 30 minutes to decorate the sanctuary.



Eight volunteers from CHCC helped to package 10,000 high protein macaroni and cheese meals for hungry neighbors near and far. Pictured are Jasmine, Michael, and Natalie Smith; Dolores and Peter Slaton; Don and Jill Morton; and Pastor Cathy Turrentine



Village Preschool News

December was a month filled with joy!

Our students were busy decorating our classroom, creating gifts for their families and learning many new songs.

In January, we will be exploring winter weather, polar animals and animal tracks.



Mission Report 2022 as of December 28th		December Offerings	Total for the Year
	OCWM	371.33	\$6,602.25
	Deacon Fund	5.00	\$789.00
January	Christmas Fund (UCC)		\$360.00
February	Hunger	25.00	\$614.00
March	One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC)		\$1,270.00
March	Ukraine		\$2,000.00
April	New Beginnings		\$560.00
May	Blankets and Tools		\$375.00
June	Campus Ministries		\$330.00
July	Strengthen the Church (UCC)		\$380.00
August	Habitat for Humanity		\$1,090.00
September	25/40 Mission to Africa		\$575.00
October	Neighbors in Need (UCC)		\$272.00
November	Interlakes Community Caregivers		\$450.00
December	Angel Tree (including gift value)	25.00	\$150.00

Thanks to John Merrill for keeping track of our unique mission giving setup!

Your Mission Board: Pam Brown, Joyce Larson, Paula Young, Hettie Buck,
Fred Doscher and Margee Doscher, Cathy Turrentine, Pastor.

News from the Board of Missions

While we usually think of the Christmas season as ending December 25, liturgically that is when it starts. The 12 days of Christmas end on January 6 with Epiphany. Tradition holds that is when the magi arrived with their gifts for Jesus. So it is in January that we present our gifts for the UCC Christmas Fund, our Mission of the Month.

The Christmas Fund supports those who diligently worked for Christ's church and now have financial struggles. The grants fall into four categories:

- 1) Gifts to retired UCC clergy and lay employees with limited financial resources just to say "Thank You" for years of dedicated service.
- 2) Monthly pension supplements for those who labored in small struggling churches and never could accumulate sufficient funds for a comfortable retirement. These supplements bring household income up to a minimum level so recipients can afford basic necessities such as food, utilities and health care.
- 3) Assistance in paying necessary Medicare Supplemental Insurance premiums whose cost might otherwise be out of reach.
- 4) Emergency grants to active and retired clergy and lay employees with unforeseen circumstances that create financial hardship. These may include natural and human-made disasters, accidents, family crises and the like.

Giving to the UCC Christmas Fund is a way for each of us to say "Thank You" to the clergy and lay people who dedicated their lives to spreading the message of Christ that God loves us all and our task is to spread that love.

And remember, when you give to a MOM, you are controlling how your church distributes our Missions Trust Fund. The more you give, the more the church gives from the missions trust.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS OF THE MONTH - JANUARY

In January, **Detergent** is the focus of the month
for the Lakes Region Food Pantry

The food collection basket is in the parlor. As you pass through the parlor, will you consider contributing to those in need? If you wish to donate food in addition to the designated items your gift will be most gratefully received! The Board of Missions will coordinate the distribution of the items collected each month to the food pantry. **Thank you for participating in this mission.**



Books 'n Bites

Come and share what you've been reading!

The January meeting date is Wednesday, January 18th at 1:30 pm

Interested? Contact Diane Crawford or Jill Morton at ladymort17@gmail.com

For the love of books!



Image courtesy of Amazon.com

Plastic Recycling

Our soft plastic recycling set up is up and running thanks to Hettie Buck. The bin is in the hallway near the kitchen. This is the list of what can be placed in the collection bin:



FROM THE STORE

Produce bags

Store bags

Ice bags

FROM YOUR PANTRY

Ziplock & Other
Reclosable bags

Cereal box
liners

Case
overwrap

Bread
bags

FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR

Newspaper
sleeves

Dry cleaning
bags

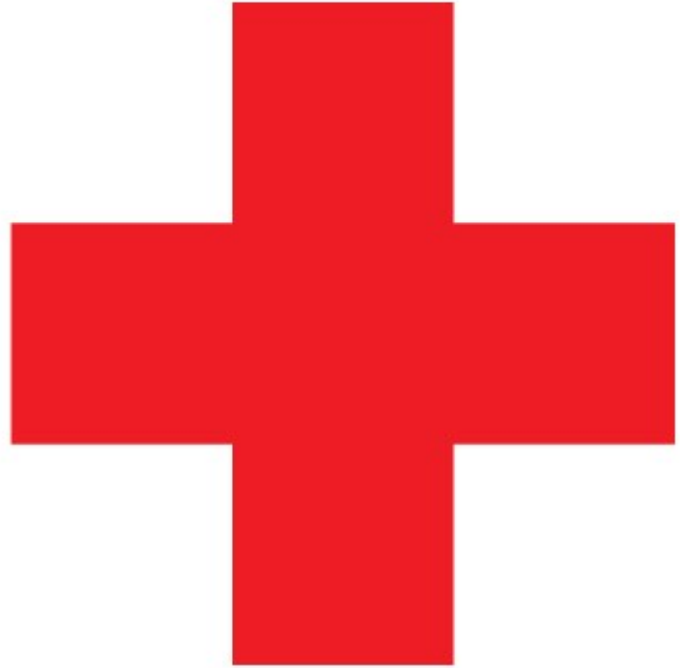
Bubble
wrap

Plastic
e-commerce mailers

Give blood.

Every 2 seconds someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross



Blood Drive
Center Harbor Community
Center Harbor Congregational
Church

Church Hall
52 Main Street
Center Harbor, NH 03226

Friday, January 27, 2023
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:
CENTERHARBOR to schedule an appointment.

**Come give Jan. 1-31 and automatically be entered for a
chance to win an exciting trip for you and a guest to
Super Bowl LVII in Phoenix! Includes travel, hotel, \$500
gift card, pre-game activities and more! Terms apply;
visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.**

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

©2018 The American National Red Cross

[201]-Order ID: 1448574 - Item ID: 6435950 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 03454355 - 2023-APL-0591 - A034 - 25367

Looking for a New Year's resolution that could make a lasting impact?

Become a CASA
volunteer advocate for children!

Apply now for our January training

Learn more at www.casanh.org



Make 2023 the year you make a difference.

You can create a brighter future for a child who has experienced abuse or neglect by becoming

Inclement Weather Policy

The church will use WMUR to announce weather-related closures and cancellations. If there is snow or ice, please make a safe decision about travel for yourself, and then consult WMUR (on television or online) to check whether the church will be open.



When Mother Nature gives you sticky snow...make snowmen



01/07 Rachelle Smith
 01/09 Kent Warner
 01/13 Patrick Curran (son)
 01/27 Carrie Crosby



01/09 Bob and Rose Marie Phillips

The Mission Committee would like to offer a tremendous, heartfelt thank you to all those who took at tag and purchased gifts for our needy families. The response was overwhelming! A special thank you goes to Carol Asher for the donation of hats, mittens and gloves.

Board and Committee Meeting Minutes Available

Minutes of all board and committee meetings are always available to all church members by contacting our secretary, Terry Hughes.

Minutes are sent to the secretary for recording on the office computer. If you do not have access to electronic mail, you may request a printed copy. The only exception would be records of the Pastoral Relations Committee which are considered confidential.

Mask & Social Distancing Policy:
 Masks Optional

Thank You !



Here we are, about to begin a brand new year, and I'm about to wish you farewell. It's not at all what I expected to be writing in this newsletter, but sometimes life takes an unexpected turn and you just have to hold on, trusting in God's plan.

From the moment I set foot in your parking lot, I felt your welcome. Before I'd been here a week, you trusted me to care for marigold plants that you would use to honor someone I had never met. I felt your love and respect for this person and your joyous celebration of his life, and realized that this was a very special place... with very special people.

Every morning, on my drive to work, I've marveled at this beautiful gem of a village, seemingly hidden and protected from the outside world. And yet, the help you offer to people goes far beyond your borders. You live the Gospel message in a very tangible way.

My time working with Pastor Cathy has been a dream job. It's inspiring to witness her at work and at prayer, and I count her as a friend.

It has been a privilege to share in the life of your congregation and to help in any way I could.

Thank you with all my heart for your friendship and for making me feel like part of your family.

Thank you also for your *very* generous Christmas gifts. Your generosity amazes me and you have no idea how very much it is appreciated!

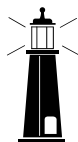
Wishing you all a very Happy New Year!
Terry

Center Harbor Congregational Church, UCC

January, 2023

You may request the newsletter by e-mail.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Al-Anon	2	3 4:30 pm Soup Kitchen 7:00 pm Cabinet via Zoom	4 5:00 pm Mission Board via Zoom 6:30 pm A.A.	5 9:00 am Bible Study	6 8:00 pm AA (open meeting)	7
8 10:00 am Worship 11:30 am Holly Fair Wrap-up Meeting 5:00 pm Al-Anon	9	10 4:00 pm Trustees, in the Parlor 4:30 pm Soup Kitchen	11 6:30 pm A.A.	12 9:00 am Bible Study	13 8:00 pm AA (open meeting)	14
15 10:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Al-Anon	16	17 4:30 pm Soup Kitchen 7:00 pm Deacons, via Zoom	18 6:30 pm A.A.	19 9:00 am Bible Study	20 8:00 pm AA (open meeting)	21
22 10:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Al-Anon	23	24 4:30 pm Soup Kitchen	25 6:30 pm A.A.	26	27 8:00 pm AA (open meeting) 1:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive	28
29 10:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Al-Anon	30	Boldface = Church Sponsored Events	This month's mission: "Christmas Fund" Questions? Call the secretary during Office/Sanctuary Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm or leave a message: (603) 253-7698 or 253-8668 E-mail: chccucc@myfairpoint.net			



THE CENTER HARBOR LIGHT
Center Harbor Congregational Church, UCC
PO Box 229
Center Harbor NH 03226-0229
www.CHCCucc.org
chccucc@myfairpoint.net



FIRST CLASS

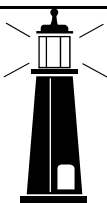
**Save us a stamp:
Opt-out of our mailing list and
opt-in to our
e-mail list**

by calling the church office (603) 253-7698

"Winter is a season of recovery and preparation."
Paul Theroux

THE
CENTER HARBOR
LIGHT

January 2023



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.

All are Welcome

*At the sound of the tolling midnight bell
a brand new year will begin.
Let's raise our hopes in a confident toast
to the promise it ushers in.*

*May peace of heart fill all your days
may serenity grace your soul.
May tranquil moments bless your life
and keep your spirit whole.*

Unknown



In This
Issue...

<i>Pastor's Message</i>	<i>Page 1-2</i>
<i>Church Life</i>	<i>Pages 3-4</i>
<i>Board of Missions</i>	<i>Page 5-6</i>
<i>Monthly Activity</i>	<i>Page 7-8</i>
<i>Birthdays & Anniversaries</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>Church Activity Calendar</i>	<i>Page 10</i>