



Parish Visitor

First Congregational Church UCC

603-756-4075

walpolechurch@yahoo.com

www.walpolenhucc.org

2022

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Friends,

Potluck suppers are sacraments, in Congregational tradition. Think about it. A Congregational church is governed by its membership. Our theology is an expression of the congregation's faith, hopes and experience. At a potluck supper, the menu is determined by the diners and cooks who show up. On the table there may be beloved family recipes, casseroles, and takeout pizza. Potlucks are miraculous. There are always some who show up emptyhanded, for whatever reason. And yet, nobody leaves hungry. No surprise that Thanksgiving in the US has its origins in our tradition

On November 5th we will host a community potluck supper. We invite all our Walpole neighbors to come and feast together. I found a great quote on Facebook this morning by Joachim Prinz: "Neighbor is not a geographic term. It is a moral concept." True enough. In that spirit, we will be a freewill offering for World Central Kitchen to support their ongoing work in Ukraine. Winters in Ukraine can be harsh, even in the best of times. It will certainly be worse this year, with airstrikes having destroyed a third of their energy infrastructure.

As Walpole's historic church, we can provide our community opportunities for fellowship and empower service. This event provides both. I hope to see you at the potluck. Why not bring a friend?

In Christ,
Richard Malmberg



First Congregational Church of Walpole, UCC
15 Washington Street on the Walpole Common

Pot Luck Supper

<https://walpolenhucc.org>



Well, it seems as if God threw a switch and the trees lit up all at once in the past few weeks. Walpole is as beautiful as it ever is.

October was a very busy month for the diaconate and the church. On October 1st we had a table set up on the common during the River Valley Seniors gathering for people new to Walpole. We met some very nice people and introduced them to our church. Several people were given a tour of the building. On October 2nd we held an afternoon service on the common for the Blessing of the Animals. There were lots of dogs, a cat, a horse and for the first time, a donkey! It was very well received.

Sadly, we lost two members of our church family in October. The deacons assisted in the services for Bill Houghton on Oct. 8th, and for Gordon Pugh on Oct. 22nd. It is a comfort to the families to have deacons on hand to help guide them through what is always a difficult day.

We are making plans for our next special day of worship. On November 13th, we will celebrate our Veterans. The deacons will be reading poems from the recent and not-so-recent conflicts where Americans offered their services and sometimes their lives for our country. We will also be reading the names of veterans from as far back as the Revolutionary War. Minna Good has been researching those names and welcomes suggestions from the congregation. If you have a family member or

loved one whose name you would like the deacons to read, please email the church office with their name and their time of service. Please put "Veterans Service" in the subject line.

At our most recent deacons meeting, we voiced our concerns over the dwindling number of church members who attend weekly services. Sadly, it is a problem for small churches across the United States. The deacons have a request: We would like to hear from all current and former members of the congregation. If you have concerns, questions, suggestions, or even complaints that you would like to express, please call or email any member of the Diaconate, or the church secretary. My email address is Bengi618@aol.com. I would love to hear from you. Please put "Church Attendance" in the subject line. And if you would like your concerns to be held in confidence, be sure to mention that as well.

Thank you! The deacon of the month is Peter Graves 603-756-3077.

Becky Pearson, lead deacon
603-860-0221



Trustees Report

Steeple: The steeple work is nearing completion. The painters have packed up their tools and supplies. The plan to finish painting the front will wait until spring. That will ease some pressure on the financing.

The outside lighting on the steeple is done. Looks beautiful with Walpole Green Louvers. Change alert! More electrical work to do inside.

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Blanc and Bailey have completed the installation of the pull-down stairs. Honestly, last I looked the trim work wasn't finished.

We are waiting for Boston Lighting Company to schedule redoing the lightning protection system. All that being done, this project will be over!

Fall Cleanup:

The date for the fall clean-up will be November 5th. We will start 9:00 to 9:30. Coffee and donuts to entice workers only! Outside there will be a lot of garden-type clipping and clearing. We'll start with the perennial garden between the Church and Parsonage. More to do behind the perennial garden and around the backside, south side. Picnic tables are generally brought out back and leaned against the Church. Memorial garden chairs are cleaned and brought down to the basement. Inside work will be listed on a board inside. Windows need washing in the fellowship hall. Sand buckets and shovels will need to be put out as well as the sidewalk markers. And...whatever else we forgot!

Thanksgiving Pie Sale: Date Wednesday, November 23rd. We need to reawaken our pie bakers. We will set up in front of the post office at 8:30AM. You can deliver your pies to the Church on Tuesday morning or at the post office at 8:30 ish.

Winter Heat: we are intent on trying to conserve our heating costs. Thermostats in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall will be set on 55 when the rooms are not in use. Use of the Sanctuary will be restricted to services only. A programable thermostat will be installed in the Sanctuary, to come on 12 to 18 hrs. before services to warm the piano and organ. The high temperature will be 63 degrees. This may mean dressing warmer this winter. We are buying oil from Discount Oil of Keene this winter as they provided us with the best price per gallon.
That's all for now....
For the Trustees,
Dale

Giving Tree Project

Walpole Community Giving Tree

The Walpole Community Giving Tree Project is getting underway again for the 2022 holiday season.

This project helps families provide holiday gifts for their children ages birth-18 (or older if still in high school). Participating families must be residents of the Walpole township (Walpole, North Walpole, and Drewsville).

We are currently receiving requests from families with the help of the local schools. Now we need to get the requests out to potential "shoppers" in the community who would like to help.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS: From [NOVEMBER 5-19](#) only, tags will be available at the following locations during their regular business hours: **First Congregational Church** (M-F 9-12, go to the back door by the ramp), the **Walpole Library, Spencer's Place, The Hungry Diner, Savings Bank of Walpole** on Westminster St, and **Mascoma Bank**.

Tags will be attached to a bulletin board. You will fill out your contact information on one-half of the perforated tag and leave it in the container. Take the other half of the tag as your "shopping" list, and then attach it very securely to the gift before you return it.

Gifts may be returned to any of the above locations [until the last day of November](#). Gifts should NOT BE WRAPPED.

If you wish to help but do not wish to shop, there are 2 other options. You may choose a tag and leave the whole tag and a donation in an envelope in the tag container, and someone will do the shopping for you. Or you can just leave a donation to help purchase gifts for tags that are unclaimed. We also hope to provide wrapping paper for the families. Every little bit helps!

This is a wonderful project that helps to brighten the holiday season for many of our local families, and we appreciate everyone's help!

If you have any questions, you may contact us at weilcloudes8808@gmail.com.

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Happy holidays to you and yours! Please stay safe and healthy!

Jeanne Cloues and Marcia Weil, project organizers

NOTE: You may also mail donations directly to us at 192 Upper Walpole Road, Walpole, NH. 03608. Please be sure to make checks out to

Jeanne Cloues/Giving Tree Project. Thank you.

Recycling Tips from Sue

Many of the plastic bags we encounter every day can now be recycled with the recyclable grocery plastic bags that you return to the grocery store, as outlined in the following:

- If you see the numbers 2 or 4 on any of the food wrapping bags, those can be added to the grocery bags.
- packaging of paper towels, toilet paper, packaging for electronics often display either a number or an insignia that says it can go into the grocery bags.
- many food storage bags can be included with the grocery bags. At some of the recycling sites online, there are pictures of which ones can be recycled this way. Also, some of the film wraps can be added to the grocery bags.

There can, however, be no paper of any kind with plastic. Even a small piece of paper can contaminate the lot. Sealed on paper labels can be cut out before recycling.

I hope this has been helpful. Happy Recycling.!

Memorial Committee

Thank you to the following who have offered to supply altar flowers for the month of November:

11/6 Janet Wilson
11/13. Ginny Galloway
11/20. Chuck and Ellie Shaw
11/27 Nativity scene



Our beautiful altar celebrating Ukama Sunday

The following letter is from our sister church in Chiredzi, Zimbabwe

03 July 2022

Dear Partners in Christ,

We greet you in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

We have every hope that you are all well regardless of the ongoing challenges caused by Covid 19 pandemic. God is still with us and as for our Church, we did not lose any lives because of the pandemic.

People are now enjoying church services after a long time of being denied to gather and worship in churches. Let us therefore praise our good Lord for giving us another chance to converge and praise Him.

It is Wintertime this far end and it's very cold this year. We never experienced such cold weather ever since some past years. Anyway, we are enjoying good health even though Covid 19 still exists.

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As for our Councils, they are moving on well. Ruwadzano (Women's Fellowship) had their regional AGM end of April. Volunteers AGM was in May. Come August, we will be looking forward to CYF, Sunday School and Ruwadzano National AGM and that will be quite a busy month. Men's Fellowship will hold their AGM in September.

May our Lord Jesus Christ guide us and give us strength to pursue in Christian Life. Let us continue to pray for each other so that God strengthens our Ukama/Partnership. Greet every Walpole Church member for us please. We all love you.
Yours in Christ,

(signed by Maidei Mazhata, Ukama Secretary, and two others)



The Walpole **CROP Hunger Walk** on October 15 was lots of fun! We had a beautiful day, there were 21 walkers, and we raised over **\$10,000!** Thanks to all who were a part of it!

Mission and Action Committee

When the pandemic was in full swing, the Mission Committee sponsored a drive-by collection for the Thanksgiving holiday for the Fall Mt. Food Shelf. It was fun and people didn't even have to get out of their cars to drop things off! On Saturday, November 12th, we will keep this idea going from 10 am to 12:30 pm. You may drop off your contributions at the church. Suggested items: stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, canned veggies, pie crust mix and fillings, gravy mix, and perishables like squash and apples. Cash may be donated if you prefer. The Mission Committee will deliver the groceries to the food shelf at 12:30. Thank you.

Birthdays in November

Betty Prentiss 11/2, Mark Lightner 11/5
Gwen Yardley 11/9, Patsy Campbell 11/11
Dave Ramsey 11/15, Nancy Sloan 11/20
Dale Woodward 11/22

Anniversaries in November

Chris and Tom Miller 11/3
Tom and Christie Winmill 11/23

Church Calendar for November 2022

Wednesday, November 2	Bible Study on Zoom	4 – 5 pm
Saturday, November 5	Church Fall Cleanup Day	9:00 am
Saturday, November 5	Giving Tree Tags available	November 5-19th
Saturday, November 5	Community Potluck Supper	5:30 pm
Sunday, November 6	Communion Worship Service live and on Zoom	10:00 am
Wednesday, November 9	Bible Study on Zoom	4-5 pm
Thursday, November 10	Finance Meeting at the church	4:30 pm
Saturday, November 12	Mission and Action Drive-By Food Donation	10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Sunday, November 13	Veteran's Sunday Worship live and on Zoom	10:00 am
Wednesday, November 16	Bible Study on Zoom	4-5 pm
Sunday, November 20	Worship Service live and on Zoom	10:00 am
Wednesday, November 23	Thanksgiving Pie Sale in front of Post Office	9:00 am
Wednesday, November 23	No Bible Study	
Sunday, November 27	Worship Service live and online via Zoom	10:00 am

Monday, November 21 Parish Visitor Deadline

Church Office Hours: 9 am to 12 noon, T-F
The office is closed on Mondays

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Walpole, NH 03608

