



The Clapper



**SECOND CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**
The Rev. Brad Hirst, Pastor

October 2019
www.2ccucc.org
(207)439-3903



Neighbors in Need (NIN), along with *Veteran's of the Cross*, *One Great Hour of Sharing*, and *Strengthen the Church*, is one of the 4 special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ we receive each year. NIN supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds helps to support the Council for American Indian Ministry, and the other two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing important and necessary justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to individuals, to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. This year's theme is :

Love of Children

We will be receiving this offering throughout the month of October. Let's do everything we can to support the critically important justice work of our United Church of Christ and partner organizations serving ALL of our neighbors. *Please give generously!*

Come to the Table – Everyone!

On October 6 we will join Christians around the globe in the breaking of bread and the sharing of the cup as we remember and affirm Christ as the Head of the Church, and that we are connected to one another as part of a whole body of believers.

But *World Communion Sunday* is not just another day around the Table. In an increasingly globalized world, where differences can be divisive, gathering together at Christ's Table is the quiet constant that unites believers of every tongue and nation – reminding us that grace, redemption and healing come through the sharing of a simple meal of loaf and cup. And remember, there's always room at Christ's Table for one more, so bring a friend!



All Saints Sunday

On Sunday November 3 we will be observing All Saints Sunday in morning worship. Please join us as we recognize both the saints among us as well as those who have gone on before us as we speak their names and hold them in prayer during this special worship service.

If you have experienced the death of a friend or loved one in the past year and would like to have that person remembered in worship that day, please notify the office before Friday November 1 so we may place their names in our bulletin and lift up their names in worship.

From the Pastor

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, Some of you will remember that quite a few years ago we undertook a *Church Vitality* initiative. Remember? We sent a

team of people to a workshop called "How to Reach New People" where we were reminded that it wasn't 1955 any more. We paid good money for that valuable information! *Obviously, you say? I could have told you that, you say?* Perhaps, but there's more to it...

Let me refresh your memory. In 1955, when someone moved into a community and they wanted to sell insurance, or groceries, or manage a bank, the first thing they did was find a church. People moving into a your neighborhood found out which church you went to. Church was a given. In 1955 all you had to do was to open the doors and turn on the lights and people came to your church. It's not 1955 any more.

In New England as few as 10% of people attend church regularly. Today there are many, many other things happening on Sunday mornings. People with over-scheduled lives the other six days are maybe looking for a little down time, and even if they perceive there's something missing in their lives, they just don't know anyone or even what to do when they arrive. It can be awkward because it's not 1955 anymore, and most people don't just randomly walk into a church. Today 85% of people who come to church for the first time come because they were *invited!* And they come back because they were *welcomed!*

It's been a few years since we learned this valuable lesson so I think we are ready for a refresher course with a new group of people to continue the important and crucial work of revitalizing our church. On November 8 and 9 another group of us are going to be reminded of those things we already know, learn some new skills to help us share the good news of what's happening here, and come back here to give us all the tools we need to share our faith with the people we meet each and every day – people who want to know God's extravagant welcome and boundles love.

Church Vitality isn't simply a measure of how many people are in the pews on Sunday morning, but more about how active and alive is the faith of those who are there. Helping others know they are loved and welcomed and valued is one of the easiest and most life-changing ways to put our faith to work. I've said many times that one of this church's greatest gifts is the gift of hospitality, so let's put that gift to work!

See you in Church,



From the Treasurer:



We need to *average* \$7,020 per month to meet our annual financial goal. The verticle bars rep[resent the *actual offerings* received through September 29.



POSITION AVAILABLE

A House for ME is now in their second year leasing our parsonage to provide a home for up to 3 adult women with developmental disabilities or autism spectrum disorder. They are currently seeking a "Resident Companion" to live in the home and provide support to assist the residents in community living, including help with meals, laundry, and household tasks (but not any personal care). Currently, there is one resident, but there is room for as many as three in the near future.

This is a volunteer position but the companion pays no rent or utilities. Grocery expenses are shared and professional cleaning is provided bi-weekly. Off street parking is provided. The ideal candidate will be available to be home at dinnertime through just after breakfast. As this is a volunteer position, we are very flexible and ask only for advance notice when you need or want to be away evenings, weekends, or for extended periods.

For contact information or to learn more, check out their website – [A House for ME](#).

**Semiannual Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2019**

President Tom Baran called the meeting to order at 11:24 AM followed by Pastor Brad offering a prayer. There were thirty three members present. Minutes from the June 9, 2019 meeting were accepted as written.

Charlie Donnell reviewed the past years budget, which was accepted for audit. We were able to meet the budget without drawing from our invested funds.

Unfinished Business: Alan Robinson updated us on the kitchen renovation. We will be asking for another bid. John Marzinzik shared the results of the Stewardship Campaign, which went very well.

New Business: John Marzinzik presented the new nominated slate of officers and Team leaders. It was voted to accept the nominations as presented. Orville & Priscilla deRochemont were elected to attend the York Assn. Fall Meeting as delegates. Linnea Schroeder was elected to attend the Maine Conference Annual Meeting.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution was passed. *Open and Affirming* will be added to our Mission Statement.

Kathy Runey went over the Fair information. The fair will be Nov. 30th.

Ministry Team Updates:

Welcoming - Linda continues to supply bags for new visitors. A workshop with Paul Nickerson will be held in Portland. Linnea S, Alan R, Tom B, Linda B and Pastor Brad plan to attend.

Learning - Don Tirabassi mentioned Night Kitchen and the Book Club. He encouraged us to attend and bring a friend with us. Haleigh continues to be available to watch youngsters during worship.

Trustees - Alan Robinson thanked the Runeys for trash removal, Rob Varney for yard work, and Ernie Wiswell for projects that he gets done around the building. Thanked the Doorkeepers for paying for the painting of the trim on the Parsonage. A new sound system will be installed in the Sanctuary and the old one brought down to the Vestry. A keyless entry is being looked into as well as a video security system. Will be checking into getting proposals for paving the parking lot. Saturday, November 2nd will be fall cleanup at 9 AM. The back steps need a new platform. We also need a new storage shed.

The elevator needs attention as it isn't working properly.

The meeting adjourned at 12:23PM after reciting our new Mission Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Priscilla deRochemont, Scribe

Book Club

Our next meeting of *As the Page Turns* is Thursday, October 17th at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing *The Guernsey Library and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows. Hope to see you there! And be sure to invite a friend!



**A benefit to help Kittery families stay warm
October 20 4:30-8 PM**

at The Blue Mermaid
www.fuelandmore.org

We promise a great time again this year, with food and beverages from your favorite Kittery establishments.

Footprints Food Pantry

Please consider putting in an extra can, box or jar of sauce in your grocery cart when you shop and bring it to church the 2nd Sunday of every month.

Items always in demand at Footprints:

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|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| peanut butter | canned tuna |
| canned vegetables | ramen noodles |
| macaroni & cheese | beef stew |
| canned pasta sides – pasta, | rice, potato |
| pasta sauce | rice – brown & white |
| diapers | canned fruit |
| canned “hearty” soups | dog & cat food |
| hamburger helper | cereal & oatmeal |

Second Sunday Jazz October 13!

October's featured jazz artist is Fred Hersch, an American pianist and educator. He's performed solo and led his own groups, including the Pocket Orchestra, and was the first to play weeklong engagements as a solo pianist at the Village Vanguard in New York City.

Hersch's influence has been widely felt on a new generation of jazz pianists, including our own Mike Effenberger. A contemporary of Hersch's, Jason Moran, said: "Fred at the piano is like LeBron James on the basketball court. He's perfection."

**Deacons Meeting Minutes
Sept. 10, 2019**

Attendance: Rev Brad Hirst, Laurie Rowan, Sharon and Ernie Wiswell and John Marzinzik (remotely).

Meeting opened by Ernie Wiswell with Prayer Approval of August minutes with thanks.

Old Business: Deacon of Month for October is Rob Varney with Laurie Rowan as alternate. Discussed visitations, highlighting those who may be in need of a visit.

Safety Team: John Marzinzik reports that the Safety Team plans to meet soon.

Deacons Plaque: Tom Baran continues to work on this.

New Business: Working on plans for hosting Navy Families for a Thanksgiving Dinner. Will ask Alan Robinson to check with Navy Yard to see if this would be something we could do.

Warming Place for Homeless: Dianne Marzinzik is researching this with Community Social Services programs.

More Lay Leadership Opportunities: Tom Baran has suggested having more Lay Leadership Programs. Brad Hirst suggested the Sunday after Annual Conference October 27. Will ask Tom Baran and others if that date works.

Installation of new Deacons: Will set a date to welcome John and Dianne Marzinzik and John Grindle.

Discussion regarding phrases posted on church sign: It is felt that we need to be aware of how others may interpret those phrases and stay away from any political implications.

Upcoming Events:

Oct 13, 2019 - Jazz Sunday, Mike will be away, but we'll have a special guest pianist!

Oct 20, 2019 – Baptism!

Oct 26, 2019 – ME Conference Annual Meeting
Nov 8-9, 2019 Reaching New People Workshop with Paul Nickerson in South Portland.

Upcoming Church Leaders Retreat with Maren Tirabassi. Date to be determined.

Next Meeting will be October 8, at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Wiswell

**SAVE THE DATE:
Saturday, November 30**

The Evergreen Festival will be here before you know it! We will let you know when the organizational meetings will take place.

Don't forget that all are welcome to join us for Hearts & Crafts, held on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00 to 11:00 AM, as we work to finalize projects for the Evergreen Festival.

Please keep in mind items for Attic Treasures. Items of *quality* not *quantity* are preferred.

Please do not drop off Attic Treasure donations at this time. We will be collecting them closer to November.

Finally, mark your calendars for the week of November 24! If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to know how you can help, please speak to Kathy Runey.

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**Table of Plenty**

Table of Plenty will be cooking up some goodies on Halloween. That's right, our next turn to serve is October 31, so join us for some fun that day as we greet and serve our guests at St. Raphael's. We meet there at 3:30 to prepare dinner for our guests.

Don't forget Footprints Food Pantry items on the second Sunday. Feel free to bring snack items and other food that can be carried in a backpack by a young child.

If you have an idea for a mission you would like to head, please see Laurie Rowan.

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Roll Up Your Sleeves!

No, not for a blood drive – hopefully nobody will be donating anything more than their time!.

Once again this year we will be having a

Fall Clean-up Day

at our beloved church on Saturday morning, November 2 beginning at 9:00 am.

Among other things, we will be cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming and dusting, washing windows, raking the lawn and cleaning up the parsonage gardens. Will you please join us? It's always a fun morning of friendship and satisfying work.

**Remember: On the second Sunday of every month we collect food for
FOOTPRINTS FOOD PANTRY AND END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER – This month it's October 13**

Serving You in October:

DEACONS OF THE MONTH: Rob Varney and Laurie Rowan

Ushers:

06 John & Edith Grindle
13 Alan & Melissa Robinson
20 Cheryl Beckert & Lucille Melhorn
27 John & Diana Marzinzik

Greeters:

06 Charlie & Nadine Donnell
13 Ernie & Sharon Wiswell
20 John & Edith Grindle
27 Edie Niles & Paulette Beers

Liturgists:

06 _____
13 _____
20 Alan Robinson
27 _____

Visit [Sign Up to Serve](#) to volunteer for one of these open spots!

OUR PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month:

Bill Baran	Molly Banville	John Marshall
Aidan James	Tootie La Clair	Ann Grinnell
Dotty Langton	Mildred Leland	Nita Mitchell
Matt	Pattie Hamlin	Carol Cole
Emma Pearson	David Raitt	Travis Belleville

***If you are aware of anyone who should be added to or taken off our prayer list,
please contact the [church office](#).***

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 2 Alec Damsell
October 4 Ernie Wiswell
October 5 Ann Clough
 Melissa Robinson
October 6 Rodney Robinson
October 11 Ken Higgins
October 12 Ken McNabb
October 13 Charlie Donnell
October 15 Bruce Boudreau
October 18 David Raitt
October 22 Cheyenne Perry
October 24 Danielle Harris
October 25 Richard Jumper
October 27 Brad Hirst
October 28 John Grindle
October 30 Laura Donnell
October 31 Karen Muscarello
 Lillian Clough

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October 3 Tim & Kathy Runey
October 7 Rob & Christine Clough
October 19 Tom & Linda Baran

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for October (Year B)

Oct 6 Lam 1:1-6 and Lam 3:19-26 or Ps 137
or Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4 and Ps 37:1-9,
2 Tim 1:1-14, Luke 17:5-10
Oct 13 Jer 29:1, 4-7 and Ps 66:1-12 or
2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c and
Ps 111, 2 Tim 2:8-15, Luke 17:11-19
Oct 20 Jer 31:27-34 and Ps 119:97-104
or Gen 32:22-31 and Ps 121,
2 Tim 3:14-4:5, Luke 18:1-8
Oct 27 Joel 2:23-32 and Ps 65 or
Sirach 5:12-17 or Jer 14:7-10, 19-22
and Ps 84:1-7, 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18,
Luke 18:9-14

Don't forget to visit our

[ONLINE CALENDAR](#)

