

The Congregational Church of Amherst, NH,
United Church of Christ
Amherst, New Hampshire

VILLAGE SPIRE

August 2022



End of Summer Party!



We are excited to announce the "End of Summer" celebration at Baboosic Lake, hosted by the Dart family. There is fun for everyone—boat rides, tubing, and other activities.

**Sunday, August 28,
1:30 p.m. kickoff**

The Dart's lake house can be found at 21 Lake Front St (take the right closest to public beach and follow the street all the way to the end). The Darts will provide burgers, hot dogs and corn. Please bring a side dish, a salad, or a dessert, and your own beverages.

Questions? Contact **Meredith Dart** (Cell: 603-305-9066)

The Church in the Village: Stories About Its People and Its History

The historical booklet containing columns written by Anne Krantz, is still available for purchase.

They are being sold for \$15 (cash or check made out to the church), and can also be obtained from Sue Spiess or Kay Steeves, or ordered through the church website.



Rested and Renewed!

Rev. Maureen Frescott, Senior Pastor
August 2022

It's good to be back! After three months away on sabbatical, I am back in the office and back in the pulpit feeling rested and renewed. I had a wonderful time away – with lots of time devoted to reading, writing, walking, riding my bike, and taking care of all the home organization projects that many of us never seem to otherwise have time for! But it is good to be back. I am exceedingly grateful to Pastor Kate for taking on all the pastoral duties during my time away – duties that are normally split between two full-time (and then some) pastors. I knew the congregation was in good hands with Kate and I wish her a joyous time away as she is now off on maternity leave with her husband, Rufy, as they enjoy the blessing of their first child, Callum. Kate will return to us in mid-October, at which time I know our congregation will support her fully as she adjusts to being a full-time parent and pastor!

I am also so grateful to those who helped fill the pulpit while I was away: the Rev. Charlotte Bell, the Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath, the Rev. Gordon Rankin and to our own Steve Boczenowski, Susan Holden, Alison Batey, and Mark Baddeley and Kathy Skoglund, who stepped in at the last minute in Kate's absence back in May. We are blessed to have many voices worthy of hearing in our congregation!

Continued on page 3

Donations Needed for Good Stuff Sale September 16 & 17

The Woman's Association Good Stuff Sale (formerly Rummage Sale) is back! The September sale will feature clothing (for men, women and children), shoes, handbags, jewelry, and linens spread across two rooms, the Community Room and the Vestry. The sale will take place on Friday, September 16 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 17 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

During August the WA is seeking donations of clothing and the other items included above, which can be dropped off in the designated area in the Vestry:

- * Sunday mornings, starting August 7
- * Monday mornings, August 22 and 29
- * Or by arrangement with Sally Bowkett (see below).

Clothing should be clean and in good condition. Please sort items and label bags to indicate whether they contain clothing for men, women, teens or children, linens, etc.

In September the WA will be looking for help setting up beforehand and working on the days of the sale, so stay tuned for more information about these volunteer opportunities! Questions? Contact Sally Bowkett at sbb46@hotmail.com or 603-801-9267, or Alicia Wight (wightalicia@gmail.com).



VILLAGE SPIRE

A Parish Newsletter
Editor, Andrea Cyr

The Congregational Church
of Amherst, NH,
United Church of Christ
11 Church Street
Amherst, NH 03031

August Sunday Worship Service
9:00 a.m.

Church school available.

How to reach us:
Office Phone (603) 673-3231,
(603) 673-6848
www.ccamherst.org
[Facebook.com/ccamherst](https://www.facebook.com/ccamherst)
[Instagram.com/ccamherstnh](https://www.instagram.com/ccamherstnh)

The church office is available
by telephone and email
Monday through Friday.

Send in all news by the
fifteenth of the month.

Announcements
for the Sunday bulletins
are due Thursday morning.

OUR CHURCH STAFF:

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott
Senior Pastor
pastormaureen@ccamherst.org

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy
Associate Pastor
pastorkate@ccamherst.org

Andrea Cyr
Church Office Administrator
andrea@ccamherst.org

Sara L. Phelps
Director of Music
kalben1@comcast.net

Michael Havay
Organist
michaelh117@gmail.com

Wendy Valeri
Bell Choir Director
wendylazott@tds.net

Larissa Riley
Church School Coordinator
churchschool@ccamherst.org

Introducing Church School Coordinator Larissa Riley

Larissa Riley officially begins her duties as our church's Church School Coordinator on August 1st. This position is a natural fit for Larissa, given her background and experience. She grew up in a Congregational Church in Connecticut, where she was baptized, confirmed and married. As a teenager she taught Sunday School and mentored confirmands. She and her husband Travis joined our church twelve years ago, just before the oldest of their three children was born. Larissa, who was a high school science teacher, has volunteered as a church school teacher and a member of the Christian Education Committee over the past several years and has assisted Gretchen Davis, the Interim Church School Coordinator, in planning this summer's Vacation Bible School.

Larissa expects to pick up her duties as Church School Coordinator right where Gretchen left off. She will be responsible for running the pre-K through 7th grade Church School program by registering students for classes, recruiting and training teachers and volunteers, and planning the class lessons. Working with the Christian Education Team, she will also plan and oversee Rally Sunday, the Christmas Pageant, and Children's Sunday. Larissa will communicate regularly with the Church School parents via email and attend church staff meetings. As Church School Coordinator, Larissa hopes to see the Church School program grow by welcoming new families to our church community and by keeping all the children engaged in the program.

In her spare time Larissa loves to garden, tending to her perennials, fruit trees, and vegetables.



Don't forget to register for Vacation Bible School 2022

Discovery on Adventure Island: Quest for God's Great Light!

Our island adventure will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on August 15-19. VBS is open to children from preschool to rising 5th grade. We will have daily snacks, crafts, science, games, songs, Bible stories, and more! Cost is \$25 per child with a family maximum of \$60.

But that's not all. Parents with infants and toddlers are invited to come join the fun in their own Parent and Me class.

You can sign up online at www.myvbs.org/CCAmherst. Once registration and payment are complete each family will receive their very own music CD!

For more information about Discovery on Adventure Island VBS contact Larissa Riley at churchschool@ccamherst.org or visit our church's website at www.ccamherst.org



Rested and Renewed!, *continued from page 1*

We're still in the depths of summer – as the soaring temperatures remind us – but our church staff already has September on our minds as we plan for new program year. Church School, Adult Ed, Small Group Ministries, Youth Groups, worship music, our choirs, are all being planned as we speak. Our summer Vacation Bible School is set to kick off in a few weeks under the wonderful guidance of our Interim Church School Coordinator, Gretchen Davis, and our NEW Church School Coordinator, Larissa Riley. Larissa joins our church staff as of August 1st, overlapping a few weeks with Gretchen as the Church School reins are handed over. We are blessed to have both Gretchen and Larissa ministering to our children and we're looking forward to an exciting year in our Church School!

Our always-active Woman's Association is also planning August workshops as they prepare for the fast-approaching September "Good Stuff Sale" – which is clothing only this time around, so start cleaning out those closets! We also have a fun time of fellowship planned for August 28th – a BBQ on Baboosic Lake hosted by the Dart family! I hope to see many of you there as I'd love to hear about your summer activities and catch up on all that I missed while I was away. Because while it was good to be away, I did miss all of you. And I'm looking forward to being back in the swing of things as we look ahead to an active and meaningful fall in the life of our church, serving our God in all the ways that we do!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Maureen

Garden Flowers Wanted

Fresh cut garden flowers are lovely for simple altar arrangements during the summer. If you can provide a bouquet of cut flowers, or can simply contribute flowers for a bouquet, please contact Sue Stout or Andrea in the church office to schedule a Sunday. Thank you for sharing your flower gardens!



Lawn Mowing Team

Our beautiful lawn needs attention! If you are able to be a part of the 'mowing team' please sign up either through our website or by contacting Tim Wiegand. It doesn't take long and we would be most appreciative of your hard work! We will send you specific instructions in a confirmation email. Thank you!

Help Local Students Get Ready for School **Support SHARE's Back to School Program**



Summer is in full swing, but back to school is not far away. Please consider helping local families get their kids ready for school by donating school supplies and backpacks.

Please get items to SHARE by August 5 (that allows time to purchase what they do not have).

Most wanted items include....

- New Backpacks (Prefer large, very sturdy. Even little ones need room for snow pants and sneakers!)
- Lunch Boxes
- Durable, Tear-Resistant 2-Pocket Folders (6 colors)
- 1, 2, and 3-inch Sturdy Binders (White)/Filler Paper/Dividers w/tabs
- Calculators (4 function)
- Notebooks 8 1/2 x 11" (1,3 and 5 subject)
- Pens: Blue, Black, and Red
- Ticonderoga Pencils
- 3- hole Pen/ Pencil Cases & Pouches
- Thin Tip Dry Erase Markers (low odor)
- Post-It Notes
- Highlighters and Black Fine Point Sharpies
- Crayons, Colored Markers and Pencils (Crayola preferred)
- Erasers: Pencil-top and Chunk
- Thick Washable Markers
- Glue Sticks (Jumbo and Lg.)/4oz. Elmers' Glue/Scotch Tape
- Rulers (Custom/Metric)
- Anti-Bacterial and Baby Wipes/ Boxes of Tissues
- Hand Held Pencil Sharpeners with covers
- Marbled Composition Notebooks
- Scissors (Kid friendly)
- Index Cards

Too busy to go out shopping? [Order from SHARE's Amazon Wish List.](#)

Rather let SHARE do the shopping? Mail or drop off a check or use SHARE's [secure online donation platform.](#) Make sure to note the donation is to be used for school supplies.

Donations may be dropped at the SHARE Center Monday through Friday from 8 am - 4:30 pm by August 5.



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of Amherst, NH, UCC
11 Church Street
Amherst, NH 03031

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ORGANIZATION
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