



VILLAGE SPIRE

November 2024

Levi Sunday is November 3

Fall is upon us and trees are dropping their colorful leaves again. Time for another Levi Sunday, this year planned for November 3 right after worship. We have a number of outdoor projects planned including leaf raking and general lawn and grounds clean up.

Everyone is invited to come out and help. Please bring your favorite rake and tools to help accomplish the jobs you would like to help with.

Many hands make light work! Hope to see you there.



Sanctuary

Rev. Maureen Frescott, Senior Pastor
November 2024

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."*

– Matthew 11:28

As we turn the page into November, I suspect that many of us are feeling weary and burdened in body, mind and spirit, by one thing in particular – the anticipated outcome of our national and local elections. While we've all heard the sage advice to "never discuss politics or religion in polite company," there is no denying that the uncertainty, turmoil, and division of the current political climate in our country and culture is weighing heavily on most of us. As people of faith, we may not know how to address the swirl of emotions we're carrying, or how to respond to the anxiety, anger, fear and despair that others are carrying as well. Regardless of where we fall on the political spectrum, or how we believe we should respond as people of faith to the issues that impact our families, our communities, or our country, the one place where our faith can play a role is in our longing to hold space for all that we're carrying.

Continued on page 3



A Classic Ornament Returns

This high-quality ornament featuring our own Congregational Church and the Tree Lighting is bound to become one of your Christmas treasures. First offered 16 years ago by the Christmas in Amherst Village team, this classic is available this season for \$25.

Ornaments can be purchased in the community room after worship on Sundays in November, at the Holiday Fair, and at the Christmas in Amherst Village House Tour on December 14. They are perfect hostess and Christmas gifts to anyone who lives or has lived in Amherst—or anyone who just loves Christmas. All proceeds benefit our church.

The Woman's Association's Holiday Fair Past and Present

The Holiday Fair, a longstanding tradition at our church, has been the main project and fundraiser of the Woman's Association for decades. WA members and friends plan and prepare for the Fair from January through November. What is now a major event, which made \$14,000 in 2023, had its humble beginnings in the early 1950's. According to an article published in the November 2009 *Spire*, written by Carolyn Caprioglio:

The Holiday Fair had its origins in the annual Christmas sale of handmade articles, which, as described in the December 1953 minutes, 'were arranged on tables in the back of the room. Members and friends could purchase what they liked. Two puppet shows attracted 64 children and 30 adults. The hostesses served ice cream and Christmas cookies.'

The next year \$50 was approved to purchase materials for sewing for the Fair, every Monday in the church room - a tradition that continues today....The 1955 Fair raised \$508.

Over the past 70 years, the Christmas Fair has evolved and grown. Originally held in just the vestry, before the education wing was built, the Fair eventually expanded to the Community Room, the stage, and even the lobby. What had begun as strictly handcrafted items made by only WA

Continued on page 8

VILLAGE SPIRE

A Parish Newsletter

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

***"No matter who you are or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here."***

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 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 open
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and
is available by telephone and email
Monday through Friday.

Send in all newsletter articles
by the fifteenth of the month.

Items for the Sunday bulletin
are due Thursday morning.

OUR CHURCH STAFF:

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

Rev. Charlotte E. Y. Bell
Associate Pastor
pastorcharlotte@ccamherst.org

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

Michael Havay
Organist
michaelh117@gmail.com

Larissa Riley
Director of Youth Ministries
churchschool@ccamherst.org

Andrea Cyr
Church Office Administrator
andrea@ccamherst.org



SOS Needs for Christmas in Amherst Village December 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The church has organized this traditional event for many years. Five historic homes in the village will be decorated for the holidays and will be open to ticket purchasers on this day only. As this is a church sponsored event, we need everyone's help with this fundraiser.

Who can help - YOU! What is needed:

Docents: Docents will be in one of the houses for 2 ½ hours in the morning or in the afternoon. We also need docents in the church as it is also on the tour.

Drivers: 3-4 vehicles will be needed to pick people up from the Wilkins School parking lot and drive them to one of the houses. Most people will be walking from house to house as they are all within two blocks, however some less-ambulatory folk may need a ride from one house to the next.

Kitchen help for luncheon ticket-holders: Prep-work (early that morning), Servers, Clean-up, etc.

All help is needed for approximately 2 ½ hours only that day - leaving you adequate time so that you can also visit these five magnificent homes. You will be able to purchase tickets from November 1st until they have all sold out!!

Please email Sally Hooper, sallyhoop@comcast.net,
with your availability indicating position
and time slot (AM or PM).

Thank you!



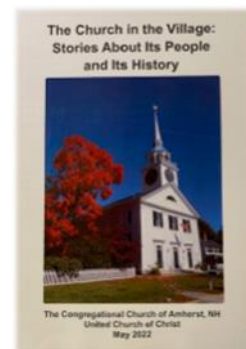
Reprinted and Now Available!

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

Written by Anne Krantz

It has been more than two years since the publication of *The Church in the Village: Stories About Its People and Its History* and it was a sellout! The book is a compilation of 55 articles written by Anne Krantz that were printed monthly in the *Spire* over several years.

There has been renewed interest in the book so it has been reprinted. Copies will be available on Sundays after church in the Community Room, at the Holiday Fair, and at the Christmas in Amherst Village house tour. Each copy is \$20. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Spiess (susan.spiess@gmail.com).



Sanctuary, continued from page 1

We call our worship space a “sanctuary” not only because it is a sacred space in a religious sense, but also because it is a space where people are invited to find rest, renewal or refuge from our world and all its worries. On **Tuesday, November 5th** and **Wednesday, November 6th** from **2:00 - 8:00 p.m.** our **sanctuary will be open** for anyone in need of such space. Stop by before or after voting, to light a candle, to lift up a prayer, to sit in silence, or to connect with others seeking sanctuary as well. And if you’re seeking sanctuary in the aftermath, regardless of the outcome, our doors will be open and space will be made for whatever burdens you are carrying, and whatever weariness you’re seeking to release.

If you prefer to find your sanctuary walking in the world or sitting in solitude, I offer these words of wisdom that you might reflect upon or allow to settle in your heart – words that remind us that when hope feels hindered by our humanity, we find a greater hope in a higher power:

*Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.
Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth,
who keeps faith forever. (Psalm 146)*

As people of faith, we sometimes forget that we are not alone in our efforts to remake or redeem our world – to keep it from sliding ever further away from the loving, just world that we long for it to be. Our Creator God is right there with us in the trenches – in the streets, in the boardrooms and courtrooms, in the hallowed halls where humanity throws darts in the dark, missing the mark that our faith sets before us more often than we like to admit.

In 1965, while standing on the steps of the state capital in Montgomery, Alabama, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., reminded those who’d grown weary of the work of this world, that **“the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”** Dr. King understood that the failings of humankind, and the broken world that we all find ourselves in, would not be remade or rectified in his lifetime. Yet it was the hopeful bend of the moral arc that inspired his courage and conviction and inspired those who came after him to move the needle towards healing.

Regardless of the outcome of these November elections, we’re encouraged to not lose sight of the greater path that our Still Speaking God calls us to walk. What does the Lord require of us? “To love kindness, to act justly, to walk humbly with our God” (Micah 6:8). When our faith fails us, when our hope leaves us, when our fear and uncertainty overwhelm us, it can be a challenge to be “kind” to one another, to be kind to ourselves. If you’re in need of sanctuary – a place to bring whatever it is you’re carrying – may you find it here. God’s doors are open to all.

Peace and blessings,
Pastor Maureen



On **Election Day, Tuesday, November 5th** and the following day, **Wednesday, November 6th** our **church sanctuary will be open from 2:00-8:00 p.m.** for those seeking refuge, rest, renewal or respite in this challenging election season. Stop by before or after voting, or in the aftermath, to light a candle, to lift up a prayer, to sit in silence, or to connect with others seeking sanctuary as well. All are welcome as we create space for the burdens we are carrying, the weariness we’re seeking to release, and the hope we find in community.

Friendship Baskets

On behalf of the congregation, your Diaconate is raising funds to purchase food gift cards for families in need in our local community. Most of the gift cards are provided through the local schools. The Deacons also provide gift cards to recipients who are connected to our church whom we know have special current needs.

During the first two Sundays in November, the Diaconate will invite donations to this traditional Friendship Basket collection. For those listening online or unable to join us in person, donations may be made through the church’s website under the donations tab. In order to provide the gift cards to the families in time for Thanksgiving, we request donations be provided prior to November 11th.



Saturday, December 7

Come have breakfast with Santa! All children, parents, grandparents, friends and neighbors are invited to join in the fun. Admission includes a hot breakfast, games, crafts and a visit with Santa. Each child will receive an age appropriate book. A professional photographer will not be on site so be sure to bring your phone/camera to take those special Santa photos!

There are two seatings:

Seating #1: 9:00 am-10:30 am.

Seating #2: 10:30 am-12:00 pm.

Seating is limited and sells out quickly every year so register today! **Deadline to register is December 1.**

Please note: Santa comes regardless of weather and admission fees are non-refundable.

Admission fees:

\$12 14 years old and over

\$10 under 14 years old

Free for 12 months and under

To register for the event, <https://www.ccamherst.org/bws/>. Please make sure to put in the comment box the ages of the children so we can provide an age-appropriate book. Thank you.

Youth Ministries

CHURCH SCHOOL: Each Sunday, after participating in the first part of worship with their families, children and teachers head to their classrooms to explore the worship theme with age appropriate activities including discussions, stories, crafts, and games. New children in preschool through grade 7 are welcome to join any Sunday!

CONFIRMATION CLASS: This group of teens has met twice in October and explored topics including personal faith, prayer, and worship. They have now selected adult mentors to guide them throughout the year's journey. This month's meetings will be Nov. 7 and Nov. 21 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP (JYG): The JYG spent a beautiful Sunday afternoon picking apples and making caramel apples last month! The group will continue to meet the first Sunday of each month. All students in grades 5-7 are invited and friends are always welcome. We are looking forward to our November and December events:

Nov. 3: Campfire at church 5:00–6:30 p.m. (there will be games and s'mores)

Dec. 1: Luncheon at the Mill Apartments 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (serving and visiting)

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP (SYG): The SYG was busy in October with mission trip discussions, a spooky trip to Trombly's "Dark Woods," and a lot of Halloween Jack-O-Lanterns. November meeting are listed below. More information on meeting plans will be shared via email.

Nov. 3: "Levi Sunday" 11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (help with yardwork after worship)

Nov. 10: 6:00–7:30 p.m. meeting

Nov. 17: 6:00–7:30 p.m. meeting

Nov. 24: 6:00–7:30 p.m. meeting

Please reach out with questions regarding any of our youth ministry programs!

Larissa Riley, Director of Youth Ministries



Christmas Pageant Planning



Christmas will be here before we know it and we have pageant opportunities for all ages. Church school children in preschool through fourth grade will be presenting a mini-pageant during worship on December 22. The Youth Groups (grades 5–12) will be participating in the pageant during the Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. service. Both pageants will need a few readers as well as several non-speaking, costumed roles. Mark your calendars and contact Larissa Riley if your children are available to participate this year.



What is Small Group Ministry?

Small Group Ministry is where 8-10 people meet with the intention of establishing deeper connections with each other and with God.

Allows for deeper conversations that we can't always have in committee meetings or during coffee hour.

The groups meet once a month from October to June, and are led by our pastors.

The group meetings run 1.5 hours and include a check-in, a short topic reading, discussion of the topic, and closing prayer.

Choose a Group!

First Tuesday 1:30-3:00 p.m.

First Sunday 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

All groups will meet in-person or on Zoom as needed.

How To Get Involved

You may join a group at any time of the year as long as your choice is still open. Each group is limited to ten members.

Sign up online at ccamherst.org or contact Pastor Maureen at 603-673-3231 x11, pastormaureen@ccamherst.org



This year our Small Groups theme is "An Altar in the World." Each month we'll focus on a different practice to inspire us to live our faith in our everyday lives.

Schedule for 2024-2025

October:	Encountering Others
November:	Carrying Water
December:	Wearing Skin
January:	Living with Purpose
February:	Being Present
March:	Getting Lost
April:	Walking on the Earth
May:	Feeling Pain
June:	Saying No

Creative Sunday Worship *The Practice of Carrying Water*

November 17 - 10:00 a.m.

On the third Sunday of every month, our 10:00 a.m. worship celebrates our church-wide theme, AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD. Each month we'll focus on a different practice to inspire us to live our faith in the world and in our everyday lives.

In November, we'll explore "The Practice of Carrying Water," as we focus on our everyday labors and how even the most mundane tasks offer an opportunity to reflect and connect with God. Our children will participate in the beginning of the service before heading off to church school to engage the theme in their class time.

We hope you can join us, either in-person or online!

SHARE Food Pantry

The SHARE Food Pantry continues to be busy. Please know your donations are needed and truly appreciated.

November Pantry Requests:

canned fruit, flour, sugar, coffee & tea, juice, instant rice, cold cereal, instant oatmeal packets, individually wrapped snacks



Donations should be brought directly to the SHARE Center in Milford; if you are unsure where, please call their office at 673-9898. Many thanks for your continuing support!



A Prayer of Thanksgiving for Those Who Came Before Us by the CCA Racial Justice Group

The land on which the Congregational Church of Amherst sits and the surrounding land in Southern New Hampshire was once inhabited for many centuries by the Western Abenaki People, an Indigenous Group of People comprised of a number of smaller tribes. As the holiday of Thanksgiving approaches, we give thanks to the Indigenous People who respectfully cared for the land we now inhabit.

Who Are the Western Abenaki People?

The Western Abenaki People were part of a larger group of Indigenous People called the Wabanki Tribes, meaning *'People of the Dawn.'* The Indigenous People of southern New Hampshire likely inhabited the area long before the colonial settlers arrived. A nearly 13,000 year old indigenous settlement was discovered near Keene, NH, suggesting that the Indigenous People were present in the area from around the end of the last ice age! The Wabanki Tribes, including the Western Abenaki People, settled in areas in New England that allowed them to flourish, around rivers for fishing and irrigation, forests for trapping and hunting, and fields for planting and harvesting. The Western Abenaki People did not own the land they lived on but used it according to their needs. They developed practices that allowed the land to flourish, conserving the valuable natural resources the land had to offer.

Where Did the Abenaki People First Settle?

The Western Abenaki were comprised of a number of smaller tribes. The Niswa Tribe settled in what is now Nashua, NH. The name *'Niswa-ok'* means *'two'*, the settlement split in two by two rivers, now known as the Nashua and Merrimack Rivers. This history is interesting considering that we currently have a North and South Nashua and a North and South Nashua High School! The Pennacook Tribe, who settled in what is now Concord, NH, is translated as *'at the bottom of the hill.'* Families who were part of the Pennacook Tribe had permanent claims to land; rules of possession were democratic and designed to reduce conflict and provide social stability. The Cowasuck Tribe settled in western NH and eastern Vermont. The Cowasuck name means *'White Pines Place'* and the people were called Goasiak, meaning *'the people of the white pines.'* Other tribes of the Western Abenaki include names that we are familiar with: the Winnepesaukee Tribe, who lived around Lake Winnepesaukee, and the Ossipee Tribe, who settled on the shores of Ossipee Lake.

Where Are the Abenaki People Now?

The Abenaki Tribes began to dwindle in number as the European settlers arrived. Initially the Abenaki People interacted peacefully with the European settlers, trading things such as fur for tools. However, the Indigenous People were not immune to some of the diseases brought from the old country and many died as a result. Likewise, as more Europeans arrived and the need for land increased, the Western Abenaki People were forced to live in smaller and less habitable areas, further decreasing their numbers. Wars with the colonists and with other Indigenous Tribes, all fighting for the same land, killed many Western Abenaki people. Finally, the push by Europeans for the Indigenous People to assimilate into the European culture contributed to the decline of the Western Abenaki People. Today less than one thousand Western Abenaki People live in New Hampshire, and less than four thousand Granite Staters identify as Native American. Unfortunately for all of us, New Hampshire is the only New England state with no recognized tribes.

For more information about the Native American population in New Hampshire and more specifically, the Western Abenaki People, please consult these resources:

Administratively attached to the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources, the **New Hampshire Commission on Native American Affairs** recognizes the historic and cultural contributions of Native Americans to New Hampshire, promotes and strengthens Native American heritage and furthers the needs of New Hampshire's Native American community through state policy and programs.

A respect for the earth and all living things is central to the Native American way of life and this is reflected throughout **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**. Situated on 12.5-acres, MKIM is just 1 mile up Kearsarge Mountain Road in Warner, NH. Outdoors you will find the Medicine Wood Trail, the Betsy Janeway Arboretum and activity area with spectacular view of the Mink Hills. Inside the museum, exhibits allow visitors to travel through time and space - displaying artifacts and presenting information on prehistoric to contemporary Native Americans from every corner of the North American continent. MKIM is always adding to and changing exhibits. This, along with workshops, lectures and special events, gives visitors a reason to return often. MKIM - one circle, 1000 stories. Experience it!

A Deep Presence: 13,000 Years of Native American History by Robert G. Goodby, describes the history of Abenaki Tribes in South Western New Hampshire as well as the living traditions of today's Abenaki People. The author narrates a story with empathy and imagination, and uses maps and photographs to further illustrate the past and present lives of the Abenaki People in Southern New Hampshire.

A Note of Thanks from Pastor Charlotte

Dear Church,

Following our worship service on Sunday, October 13th, I was truly overwhelmed to re-enter the sanctuary. The rousing reception of smiles and joy-filled cheers of welcome moved me to tears of joy, following the vote approving me to journey with you as your settled part-time Associate Minister. With deep faith and God's guidance I will continue to share and expand my gifts of pastoral care and Christian ministry with our church community.

"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." Isaiah 43:19

Thank you for your confidence and faith as we share God's ministry with all who we meet on life's path. Please do not hesitate to come by my office to visit, the door is open if you would like to stop by.

Pastor Charlotte's Office Hours and Contacts:

Monday	OFF
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Remote
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Remote
Office Phone 603-673-3232 ext. 14	
Email pastorcharlotte@ccamherst.org	

Blessings and peace,
Pastor Charlotte



Banned, Burned, and Buried: The Books NOT in the Bible

Wednesdays,
November 6 & 20
10:00-11:30 a.m. on Zoom



This fall, we began a year-long video lecture series delving into the "lost" books of the Bible.

In November, we'll continue to explore the Gnostic gospels and other writings NOT in our New Testament – that offer alternative understandings of who Jesus was, who and what God is, and what our spiritual purpose is as created beings. In each session, we'll watch a video together as a group and then have a discussion facilitated by Pastor Maureen.

The class will meet every first and third Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. All are welcome! Email pastormaureen@ccamherst.org to receive the Zoom link, or to receive links to the videos we're watching if you're unable to participate in the class.

Beware of Email and Text Scams

We continue to hear, on occasion, of folks receiving a spam email or text message disguising itself as being from Pastor Maureen. Often the request is for assistance purchasing gift cards. If you receive one of these suspicious emails or text messages, please do not click on any links or reply to the message – just delete it.



This type of spam is one that many pastors and churches are dealing with these days. The scammer takes public information and pretends to be someone you trust.

If you are unsure if an email you received appearing to be from us is fake, just hover over the sender's name/email with your mouse. If it is legitimate, the return email address will show that is from @ccamherst.org. If you don't see that, it is not from us.



The Sunday **Joys and Concerns** are emailed to those who want to include them in their daily personal prayers. If you would like to receive them each week, please let Andrea in the church office know: andrea@ccamherst.org.

The WA's Holiday Fair, Past and Present, continued from page 1



Marion Curtis & Regina Oliver pose with mittens for the Knit Table in an undated photo.

Craftsmen, offered her pottery for sale. Homemade baked goods, long a staple at the fair, continue to be big sellers, though the once popular homemade baked beans and coleslaw are no longer sold. The Treasures Table, which at first consisted of just a few tables, now completely fills the vestry with attractive displays of antiques, collectibles, and home décor items. Vintage and costume jewelry and upscale handbags, more recent additions to the Fair, are now very popular with shoppers.

The Woman's Association has adapted the Fair to the times over the decades in other ways. For many years the Fair was held the first Saturday in December, but due to competition from several other fairs held that same day, in the late 1990's it was renamed the Holiday Fair and has been held ever since on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The look of the Fair has also changed. All the tables used to be covered in plain white sheets, until the late 1990's, when they were replaced with Christmas-themed wrapping paper, which gave the Fair a more festive look. And the payment system, which until the mid-90's was cash only, collected at each table, was modernized and streamlined with a central cashier and the use of credit cards, although cash and checks are still gladly accepted. Even during the COVID pandemic, when it wasn't



Keith Hunt sells cheese at the 2009 Fair.

possible to hold the Fair, the WA got creative and held successful online auctions in 2020 and 2021

in place of the Fair.

This year on November 23rd, the Fair will continue its long tradition in the life of both our church and the community, offering old and new favorites: Cabot cheddar cheese, pecan halves from South Carolina, decorated wreaths, seasonal arrangements, a raffle of themed baskets, a Silent Auction, a Bakery, Treasures, jewelry, and true to its roots, a variety of unique handcrafted items made by WA members.

Written by Adrienne Topliffe with thanks to Sue Stout, Sally Bowkett, and Judi Dunbar for sharing their memories of past Fairs.



Kati Thomas & Elvi Phelps sell their Christmas crafts at the 2002 Fair.



Sue Stout refurbished a doll house for the Silent Auction at the 2007 Fair.



Avis Moller and Sally Small with Avis's felted animal creations at the 2023 Fair



WA Holiday Fair Saturday, November 23

Mark your calendar for this year's Holiday Fair which will take place on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

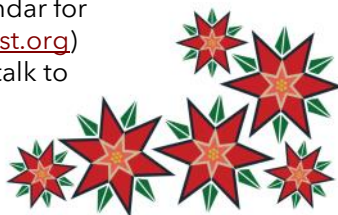
The lower level of the church building will be transformed into a holiday wonderland full of features to delight shoppers of all ages.

See special craft items, wreaths, greens arrangements, ornaments and other holiday decorations, holiday baked goods, pecans and cheese, jewelry, handbags, collectibles, gifts for all ages, a table devoted to gifts that children can purchase, a raffle of holiday baskets and a silent auction.

The WA welcomes help with fair preparations. Here are some ways that you can help:

- ❄️ crafting (at home or on Monday mornings with WA members),
- ❄️ donating potential silent auction items (gift certificates, experiences, special gift items),
- ❄️ donating "giftable" items and like-new holiday decorations for the Treasures section of the Fair.
- ❄️ baking for the Bake Shop (see separate article),
- ❄️ helping with morning wreath decorating and greens arrangements on November 18 & 19,
- ❄️ helping with Fair set-up and/or clean-up,
- ❄️ working at the Fair.

Don't miss this special event. Mark your calendar for November 23 and contact the WA (wa@ccamherst.org) with any questions or to volunteer. You can also talk to Adrienne Topliffe, Sally Bowkett or any other WA member for more information or see the [WA page](#) on the church website.



Holiday Fair Bake Shop



The Woman's Association Holiday Fair is **Saturday, November**

23rd and we need your help providing homemade baked goods for our very popular bakery!

The WA is asking church members for a variety of homemade items to sell! Donations of pies, coffee cakes, holiday cookies, fudge, candy and spiced nuts would be greatly appreciated. 😊

Please drop off bakery items in the vestry on Friday, Nov. 22 between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m., or before 8:30 a.m. the morning of the fair. This gives us time to price and prep the donations.

Thank you in advance for your delicious contributions!

Questions?

Anita Swanson:

neetoswanson@comcast.net
(603) 673-7612

Joan Poltack:

jpoltack@comcast.net
(603) 672-2728

Sara Phelps:

kalben1@comcast.net

A Few Words About the Weather...

As many know heading into the winter season, New England weather is ever changing and at times can be quite unpredictable. In the case of bad weather and the need to cancel an in-person worship service, we will post announcements on WMUR Channel 9 television, and on our website and Facebook pages.

Of course, that doesn't mean you will miss out on Sunday morning worship. Our live streamed service will still be available for folks to tune to at 10:00 a.m. on our Facebook page, and we will continue to upload the recorded service to our website by noon.



Financial Summary

(as of September 30, 2024)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$165,103	\$169,896	\$ (4,793)
Expenses	\$140,592	\$141,284	\$ (693)
Net Income	\$ 24,511	\$ 28,612	\$ (4,100)

Numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar; as such, some columns may not appear to total correctly. We hope you are finding this information helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the Finance Team: Ken Bell (Treasurer), Don Lyon, Paul Spiess, Doug Topliffe, and Todd Whitney (chair).



Family CHRISTMAS *Concert*

CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF AMHERST
United Church of Christ

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 15, 2024
4:00 PM

SARA PHELPS, Music Director
CHANCEL CHOIR
HANDBELL CHOIR
YOUTH CHOIR
MICHAEL HAVAY, Piano/Organ
SUE WERST, Flute



FREE AND OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC

11 CHURCH STREET
AMHERST, NH

Sacred and Popular Christmas Songs
Choral and Instrumental Classics
Sing-A-Long Holiday Favorites

November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1) 	2)
3) 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Choir 11:15 Levi Sunday 11:30 Small Group Ministry 5:00 Junior Youth Group	4) 10:00 WA Workshop	5) 1:30 Small Group Ministry 2:00 Sanctuary Space Open 4:30 Church Council 7:00 Trustees of the Facility	6) 10:00 Wednesday Morning Adult Ed Group 2:00 Sanctuary Space Open	7) 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation Class 7:30 Chancel Choir	8) 	9)
10) 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Choir 11:30 Racial Justice Group 6:00 Senior Youth Group	11) 10:00 WA Workshop	12) 10:00 WA Board Meeting 7:00 Diaconate	13) 9:30 Staff Meeting 6:00 Budget & Finance Team	14) 10:00 Congregational Care 6:00 Bell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	15) 	16)
17) CREATIVE WORSHIP 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Choir 11:30 Christian Ed 6:00 Senior Youth Group	18) 10:00 WA Workshop	19) 7:00 Communications	20) 10:00 Wednesday Morning Adult Ed Group	21) 6:00 Bell Choir 6:30 Confirmation Class 7:30 Chancel Choir	22) 	23) Holiday Fair 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
24) 10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship 11:15 Youth Choir 6:00 Senior Youth Group	25) 10:00 WA Workshop 7:00 World Service Team	26) 	27) 	28) 	29) 	30)

The Congregational Church
of Amherst, NH, UCC
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Amherst, NH 03031

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