VILLAGE SPIRE

Abundant opportunities for giving are available in October and November

PASTOR CHARLOTTE TO LEAD BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS ON OCTOBER 4

Come join us in a special outdoor service in celebration of all God's creatures on Sunday, October 4 at 3:00 pm. Bring your feathered, fleecy, or furry friends (or photo or stuffed animal) on a leash or in a carrier to receive a blessing and to honor their love, loyalty, and companionship.

The service will be held in the Memorial Garden on the west side of the church. No reservations necessary. All pets must be able to remain under their owner's control.

Neighbors in Need

Throughout October we will be collecting donations for the **Neighbors in Need** annual appeal, a special mission fund offering of the United Church of Christ. This year's theme is "Walk in Love." Donations support ministries of justice and compassion, with special consideration given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

You can donate to Neighbors in Need through October by putting your contribution in the Sunday offering plate (envelopes are available in the pews), by sending a check to the church office, or by visiting the online donation page of our website <ccamherst.org>. Please be sure to specify Neighbors in Need on your check, or in the notes section of the donation form.

The annual **CROP Walk** to help end hunger is scheduled for **Sunday, October 18**, beginning and ending at Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond Street in Nashua. Registration is from 12:00 to 1:00 pm, with opening ceremonies at 1:00, and stepping out at 1:30 pm.

This year's goal is $62,000. Last year the CROP Walk raised over $59,000 with 350 people walking from 29 faith communities. The Funds have benefitted local organizations like Corpus Christi Food Pantry, Nashua Soup Kitchen, and SHARE of Milford.

To participate in the CROP Walk contact the church office for details. The website for the Nashua CROP Walk is <events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/event/nashuanh>.

Continued on page 3

"285 YEARS OF SERVING NEIGHBORS NEAR AND FAR"

If you ask most people why they participate in a local community organization like the Lions, Rotary, Scouts, or P.E.O., they will often say it's because they want to be a part of something bigger than themselves, while also making a difference in the lives of others. It stands to reason that acts of giving have a larger impact when done on a larger scale. When we combine our resources, our gifts, our energy and efforts, we can accomplish so much more than we can as individuals working on our own. And when an organization does make a difference in the lives of others, while also offering community and care to its members, it typically has staying power.

Which is why the Amherst Lions have been going strong for 54 years. Milford Rotary has been serving the local communities for 76 years. The Scouts have been shaping the lives of young people here in Amherst for 90 years. And while the Amherst chapter of the P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) has been active for 41 years, the organization itself is the oldest of all the above, promoting education for girls and women for 157 years.

But the oldest community organization here in Amherst is the one many of us gather in on Sunday mornings. The Congregational Church of Amherst officially came into being on the 22nd of September 1741 – which means we've been welcoming those seeking to be a part of something greater than themselves for 285 years.

When the church came into being there was barely a building to worship in. The 14 families who settled in Amherst began work on their first meetinghouse in 1735, but with their own homes and land to tend to, the meetinghouse build was slow going. In September 1741, they had yet to seal the building to the elements, but they went ahead and hired their first minister, the Rev. Daniel Wilkins, and signed 12 people into church membership. As much as we love our current meetinghouse (built in 1774), we may concur with our forebearers that a church is not defined by its building. It's defined by the people who come together and commit themselves to making a difference in the lives of others.

We can only imagine the impact that our congregation has had in our community over the last 285 years. Our members have lived through the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, two World Wars, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and every war that has happened since. Our congregants experienced first-hand the movements to abolish slavery, to advance women's suffrage, to define civil rights to include people of all colors, and to welcome LGBTQ+ people into full communion in our culture and in our church. Our congregation has also seen the always present need in our local and global community brought on by poverty, disease, disaster, and food and housing insecurity.

Continued on page 3

VILLAGE SPIRE

Our 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 am
Church school available.

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

The church office is open
Monday though Friday
from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Newsletter articles are due
by the fifteenth of the month.

Items for the Sunday bulletin
are due Thursday morning.

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OUR CHURCH STAFF:

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

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

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

Larissa Riley
Director of Youth Ministries
churchschool@ccamherst.org

Michael Havay
Church Office Administrator
Organist
officeadmin@ccamherst.org

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES
cont. from page 1

On behalf of the congregation, your Diaconate is planning to deliver grocery gift cards to local families who need help in these trying times to put food on the table for the Thanksgiving holiday. We expect to have many requests from the school district. This past spring, we were able to support 14 families, and we expect the need to be greater now.

We will be passing our **Friendship Baskets** during worship November 2 and 9 to gather donations to support the gift card purchases. If you would like to help but are participating in the service from home, you can also donate through the church website, and direct your donation to the Friendship Basket collection. Thank you very much for your generosity!

CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED!

Amherst Village Halloween is a big, noisy, fun event, and our church will be passing out candy to the many hundreds of children who haunt the village green that spooky night!

We need lots of fun-sized candy or small party favors like stickers, glow sticks, pencils, or toys. Donations can be left in the church office, or in the container in the narthex. **Thank You** for your generosity!

285 YEARS OF SERVING NEIGHBORS, cont. from page 2

If you peruse the minutes of CCA Church Council meetings going back nearly a hundred years (and hundreds of years before that, if we had them!) you'd see a record of giving and partnering with organizations to better serve the most vulnerable among us – by feeding the hungry, housing families in transition, providing clothing for seniors, welcoming refugees, sending cards to prisoners, and offering aid to immigrants. We may remember every opportunity we've had to serve on behalf of our church – delivering food to SHARE, carrying a couch up 3 flights of stairs for our Home Starter program, helping to organize and staff the Woman's Association Good Stuff Sale, advocating for the voiceless and unjustly treated in our world. But if we multiplied those experiences by every member who's done the same, and multiplied it again by the 285 years we've been a church, together, we'd begin to see how much of an impact being a part of something larger than ourselves actually has.

On October 18th, we'll celebrate our annual Mission Sunday in worship, as we recognize the many ways we serve as God's compassionate presence in the world. Our World Service Team will share how we make a difference through the five United Church of Christ appeals that we support during the year; we'll celebrate the ways that our Church School and Youth give to others in our local community and beyond; and we'll gather after worship to pack disaster kits for Church World Service, which provides clean up and hygiene kits for those displaced by floods, fires, earthquakes, and other devastations.

We hope you can join us to add your hands and heart to our efforts, and help us to continue to serve as those who came before us have done since 1741!

Peace and blessings, *Pastor Maureen*

BYLAWS UPDATE ON OCTOBER 4

For the past year, the Bylaws Review Team has been busy reviewing the church bylaws and composing proposed changes. We had hoped to have some of those proposed changes addressed at the Annual Meeting, but we lost quorum before they could be considered. Undaunted, our team added four new members and continued our work through the summer.

As the new church year begins, we would like to report on our efforts to the congregation and describe our plans for the future. Therefore, we will hold an **all-church meeting** on **Sunday, October 4** in the Community Room after the worship service. We anticipate that the meeting will last no more than an hour. Please consider joining us as we discuss this important work of the church.

YOUTH MINISTRY News

Church School kicked off on Rally Day with many returning students and new friends! Remember that children in preschool -7th grade are welcome to join Church School any time throughout the school year. Children spend the first part of worship with their parents and then head to the classrooms with their teachers. This is a drop-in program, and children are welcome to attend when they can.

Junior Youth Group (JYG) is open to all 5th - 7th graders. The group will gather for Christian fellowship and service activities after worship 1 - 2 times per month. The JYG will have their first outing to an apple orchard on October 4th after worship. After picking fresh apples, they will return to make a tasty treat. Please RSVP if your child would like to attend!

Youth Confirmation Program is open to all teens in 8th - 12th grade to learn more about their own faith as well as what it means to be a member of our church and the United Church of Christ. We will meet twice per month through May. Please reach out to Larissa Riley ASAP if your teen is interested in participating. This month's classes will be on October 1 and 15 at 6:30 pm.

Senior Youth Group (SYG) is for teens in 8th - 12th grade interested in spending time with other Christian youth. They will get together 2-3 times per month for fun activities as well as service opportunities within our church and in the wider community. Throughout the year, the SYG will also plan and prepare for a summer Mission Trip to serve people in need outside of our local community.

October Dates:
October 11 at 6:30 pm
October 18 at 10:00 am (Mission Sunday Worship and Service Project)
October 25 at 6:30 pm

Contact - If you would like more information about any of the opportunities for children and teens listed above, please reach out to **Larissa Riley, Director of Youth Ministry** at <churchschool@ccamherst.org>.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Chancel Choir rehearses Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Vestry. Are you interested in joining us? We enjoy preparing music for worship throughout the church year, and a Holiday Christmas Concert too! There are 24 of us. We rehearse several pieces each week and I prepare the group well in advance of singing the anthems in the church service.

Bell Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We play during a worship service once a month. You are welcome to attend a rehearsal if you are interested in ringing.

Youth Choir meets after church on Sundays. Kids may have a snack after church school and meet me in the Vestry. I begin working with younger kids, with older youth invited to help out. The second part of the rehearsal is for older children who can read and follow printed music. Several times a year the groups will sing together. All children are welcome and may join at any time.

Contact - If you would like more information about any of the groups contact Sara Phelps, Director of Music, (603) 759-6468 or <kalben1@comcast.net>.

Holiday Fair The Woman's Association will hold its popular Holiday Fair this fall on Saturday, November 21. The fair features wreaths and holiday decorations, a large selection of crafts, gifts and treasures, baked goods, a silent auction, a raffle and much more. It's always on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, so the date is easy to remember.

It's also easy to be part of this special event. The WA welcomes anyone interested in helping with preparations leading up to the fair. And there are many ways to participate! Crafts are an important part of the fair offerings, so if you would like to join others in crafting activities, please join us for workshops on Monday mornings at 10:00 in the vestry. Also, if you would like to donate crafts made at home, they will be gratefully accepted.

We are now accepting items suitable for our Holiday Fair's **Treasures Tables**. Items can be dropped off in the church vestry on Sunday or Monday mornings.

Questions? For more information about crafts you can contact Deb Boczenowski at (978) 302-3851 or <dbocz25@gmail.com>.

For questions about donations of "treasures", contact Theresa van Ham at (603) 325-5062 or email <twvham@gmail.com>.

For info about the Woman's Association, contact Adrienne Topliffe at (603) 913-7565 or email <abtopliffe@gmail.com>, or talk to any WA member!

A Note from Sally

On behalf of my family, I wish to thank the people of the Congregational Church for the garden of love and support that bloomed around us, and is still flowering in our time of need.

Many thanks to Pastors Maureen and Charlotte for calling, checking in, and officiating John's celebration of life; to Michael and the magic of the music; to the dedicated deacons; to Congregational Care; to the working hands of the Woman's Association and the friendly Fellowship Team for its amazingly awesome reception.

With gratitude and love,
Sally B. Bowkett

Caring for the Caregiver

"When one tugs on a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world." John Muir

The Congregational Church of Amherst supports a monthly **Caregiver's Circle,** available to members and non-members of the church. If you are providing caregiving for a family member, an adult child, in your home, living away or long distance—being a caregiver brings many emotional, physical, and financial tolls on the most loving person.

Confidentiality and respect for one another is key in supporting our journeys as caregivers. We discuss coping, resources, advocacy, and all aspects of caregiving.

The Circle meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month in the church parlor (on the 2nd floor) from 10:00-11:30 am. Light refreshments are provided. If you would like to learn more or are interested in attending, please contact the Rev. Charlotte Bell, Associate Pastor, by email at <pastorcharlotte@ccamherst.org> or by phone (603) 673-3231, x14.

Church Leadership Newbies Bridge Interests, Guide Us Forward

by Patty Jillson,
Communications Team

The CCA Church Council members who were elected last May have settled in and are hard at work using their talents and past experiences to guide and grow the worship community. Similarly, our two-hat-wearing organist/administrator has been drawing from his own various strengths to support that growth.

"I am grateful to the many members of the congregation who have faithfully served this church over many years to ensure that it remains a vibrant, faithful Christian community," remarked Steve Boczenowski, who assumed the seat of assistant moderator, thus ending its several-years-long vacancy. Kathy Skoglund, the new moderator, concurred, adding that "certainly, CCA has been very supportive of me over many years—this is an opportunity to 'pay it forward.'"

Let's meet the church's leadership and administration newcomers!

Kathy, a career Special Education administrator, has sung in the choir since 1985 and she's served on the Stewardship Committee, Trustees, COVID Committee, Capital Campaign Committee, and the Preschool in the Village Board. "My role in the choir over that number of years has given me a long term "balcony view" of the operations of the church which provides a good perspective in my new role," she said, adding that her focus will be on "clear communications, transparency of the church committees and clear connections among all of the committees and focus groups as they continue to do their work in support of all of us that make up the CCA."

As moderator, Kathy will confer regularly with the pastor, oversee formal and ad hoc committees, call and run the Annual Meeting and other meetings as deemed necessary by the Council, and assist or advise other committees if called upon to do so.

Steve, a retired software security engineer, has made church committee participation a priority in his life. He currently serves locally on the WOW Team and the Bylaws Review Team, and more broadly on the state's Suicide Prevention Council and the state conference's Committee on Ministerial Discernment. He also volunteers with Homestarter.

As assistant moderator, "I am eagerly anticipating working closely with Kathy…and assisting her as she sees fit," Steve said. "My hope as I serve our church is to keep it going strong, remain financially solvent, with an active community outreach service component" and continued focus on making everyone who enters its doors feel welcome, he added.

Kathleen Bouchard, the new chair of Worship and Spiritual Life Ministry, echoes Steve's strong feelings regarding making everyone feel welcome. "As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I hope we can continue to live out our motto of 'No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.' CCA should continue to focus on inclusivity and social justice with the goal of creating a vibrant, open and affirming faith community for all," she said.

Kathleen is an ophthalmic technician who balances her managerial role at The Medical Eye Center in Bedford with her life of faith-filled service here. "I was honored to be thought of for this role, and when approached gladly accepted the position as I knew it would deepen my faith and connection with the congregation, community and God," said Kathleen.

She credits her 18 years of CCA membership, dotted by stints of diaconate service, with giving her the familiarity needed to oversee, assist and liaise with a group of teams that includes

Continued on page 7

Diaconate, Fellowship, Music, Altar Flowers, Congregational Care and Pastoral Relations ministries.

Both Kathleen and Gail Wiegand, the Council's new clerk, are passionate about the Diaconate and give a nod to experience gained through such service.

Gail has served as a deacon on-again off-again for more than a decade, gravitating toward parish outreach and minutes-taking. That latter role often helps Gail, a fast and accurate typist, to get a jump on her Council meeting clerical duties, she said.

As a fulltime working mother when she first volunteered to serve as a deacon, "I think I fell into the Diaconate because I could flex it around my schedule, said Gail. "But I also felt that it set a good example for my children as they grew up," she added.

Employed in the field of Quality Assurance and Regulatory Compliance, "my organizational, attention-to-detail and leadership skills seemed to be a good fit for the group," she added. Those skills will no doubt serve her well as clerk, too.

Gail hopes to take her church service full circle later during her time as clerk by working to revise the Diaconate Manual to better reflect current responsibilities of the deacons. "A lot has changed in the church in the past ten years since our Diaconate Manual was last revised…I want to continue to train and acclimate new volunteers to the Diaconate—many hands make light work," she said.

Michael Havay, our church organist extraordinaire for 15+ years and counting, intends to use skills honed in the music field to enhance his effectiveness as our new office administrator.

"I have always been a musician and knew from my earliest memories that music was going to be the driving force in my life. [But I] found that the skills I learned as a musician—creativity, coordination, memory and focus—were valuable tools for administrative work," said Michael. "That work has allowed me to support myself while pursuing my life as a musician," he added.

Michael describes the day-to-day running of the church under his predecessor as "a well-oiled machine," acknowledging that he hopes to keep her legacy alive while modernizing that machine and putting his own "stamp" on his administrative position. He wants to bring his "personal style of organization and operations" to the challenge and to focus on using updated technology or processes to streamline administrative duties while "keep[ing] the people of the church as the main focus," he said.

"When I learned that Andrea was leaving I knew I had found [the] perfect fit! It was a great match to my skillset and also offered the opportunity for new learning and growth professionally," said Michael. "I'm really the lucky one to have found such a perfect spot for myself here. I'm looking forward to many happy and productive years together."

Welcome, everyone!

SHINE
LIVING IN GOD'S LIGHT

"Song of Creation" is October SHINE theme

Our monthly Themed Worship returns on the third Sunday in October! This year our theme is **SHINE: Living in God's Light.** Each month we'll focus on the ways we are the presence of God for one another in matters of mercy, compassion, and justice.

On October 19, our worship topic is "Caring for Others" as we also celebrate our annual Mission Sunday where we lift up the many ways that we serve our neighbors near and far. Our children will participate in the beginning of the service before heading off to Church School to engage the theme and scripture in their class time. We hope you can join us, either in-person or online!

Memories of Our 2026 Church Picnic

By Jeanne Hochstetler
Communications Team

When you are invited to a New England church picnic, what do you imagine? Sitting in the heat while attacked by black flies? Brief conversations in the limited shade? Nibbling on some polite food that won't drip on your shirt? Only a few representative children clearly cautioned to be silent and on their best behavior?

That is not us! It was a Goldilocks Day on Baboosic Lake. We were greeted by the smiling host dog, Jojo. The table was already set with appetizers and pastries surrounded by coolers for cold beverages. The adults gathered in catching-up groups. All of the children of swimming age were ready for action with bathing suits, towels, and safety vests.

Children began swimming and were soon drawn to The WOW tied to the dock, a mutant inner tube bigger than a car. It had "WOW' painted on the side and a tower instead of a central hole. The children swarmed over it. Later, The WOW was towed by a speed boat for many trips around the lake. The children's squealing was the steady back-ground music. We knew the children would sleep well at night.

Meanwhile, adults sat comfortably enjoying the lake view and munching. We saw a woman, possibly a member of the WNBA, twirling a basketball continuously on her finger. The bigger children sent bubbles floating over the younger children and stationary adults. Then the younger children captured the bubble toy and chased the older children away.

To signal the anticipated dinner, a team of huskers attacked a basket of sweet corn. At dinner, the

corn-on-the-cob accompanied hamburgers and hot dogs with the fixings. We piled our plates carefully with salads and headed for the tables. Several children sat on the swings to eat. The next event was the dessert procession of pastries, pies, ice cream, and multiple forms of chocolate.

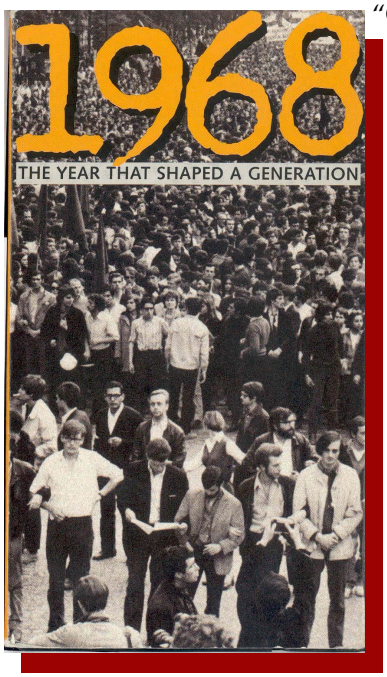
As the light began to fade, people came to thank the hosts and gather the children. Next to one table some ripe concord grapes prompted family recipes. As a final treat, a blue heron glided close to the water toward a landing out of view.

We will savor this end-of-summer memory in the months ahead.

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"
The Church in the Late 60's: Unrest, Dissension, and a Minister's Resignation

By Sue Spiess, Historian

When Bob Dylan released his iconic song, "The Times They Are Changin' "in 1964, it presaged a radical change in the American landscape. The assassination of President John Kennedy in November 1963, the escalation of the Vietnam War, the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, the WATTS riots in 1965, and the assassinations of Dr. Martin Luther King and Senator Robert F. Kennedy in 1968 all contributed to the turmoil, unrest, and distrust throughout the country.



Amherst was still a small town in the 1960's, somewhat insulated from the turmoil. However, Amherst's population grew 125% from 1960 to 1970. Growth meant change – in demands for more schools, in taxes, in housing, and in government. By 1970, It also meant conflict and demand for change in the Congregational Church of Amherst.

The church realized it needed to address the social issues of the day. In 1963, a new Social Action Committee discussed contemporary political problems and our involvement the Civil Rights issue. A letter protesting the "violation of the rights of men and women in our country" was signed by the deacons and members of the congregation and sent to our U.S. Senators.

Following the retirement of Rev. Walter Kraft, Rev. Kenneth J. Sanford, 37 years old, was unanimously called in April 1966. In the *Village Spire,* Harry Mitiguy, Search Committee chair, explained that they looked for a man who could broaden the impact of the church in the community….and minister effectively to a broad segment of our population, with the ability to renew the spiritual life and Christian dedication of the church."

It was a tall order and initial enthusiasm was high in 1966. Historian Dorothy Davis noted "momentum of cooperation, like a snowball, seems to be gaining." However, events beyond Amherst began to sow seeds of discontent concerning the role of our church. Several members were unhappy with the UCC General Synod's advocacy of civil rights and foreign aid programs.

A special Church Council meeting was held on Oct. 30 to "have an open discussion to examine the future direction and course of our church [regarding] membership in the United Church of Christ and involvement in the social issues of the day." Differing views were respectfully heard, and the November Council meeting voted to remain with the UCC.

Church committees heard the call to reach out to the community. In 1968, the Board of Deacons began the "Crisis in Our Nation" program. $3000 was raised, with 15% earmarked for local assistance. This was in addition to the annual mission and benevolence funds, the Woman's Association donations, and World Service support.

Rev. Sanford was proactive in his support of civil rights and the Vietnam peace movement. He flew to Atlanta to attend Martin Luther King's funeral. He urged awareness and action. Attendance fell off, pledges were not met, and the budget suffered. A year later, he acknowledged the tension and strain in the church and the wider world but stated "the only sure way to avoid conflict would be to dig in like moles and hibernate; however, such a move would hardly give us much hope for a resurrection."

On February 6, 1970, the resignation of Rev. Sanford was requested. Several letters in the *Milford Cabinet* supported the minister. One noted that "Two points in particular are reported to stick in the Establishment's craw: Mr. Stanford's outspoken support of the Vietnam peace movement and his sympathy for the Negro's efforts to improve himself."

The resignation and turmoil resulted in the loss of several members, 25 of whom left to form the Uniting Church of Christ, which met in private homes for many years.

These times were indeed painful, but the church survived and became stronger in the coming decades. As the population grew, attendance grew, budgets increased, enthusiasm returned, and the church once again became a strong presence in Amherst.

And they lived happily ever after... Congratulations to our former, long-time Church Office Administrator Andrea Cyr and Ric Walker who were wed by Pastor Charlotte on August 18 in Las Vegas. Wishing them God's blessings and a long, happy life together!

ADULT CONFIRMATION: A Life-Long Journey

If you've ever been envious of our youth confirmands as they gather to ask and seek answers to the big questions of faith that many of us still have as adults, now is your opportunity to do the same! The sessions are open to all, regardless of what faith tradition you were raised in (or not), or whether you were confirmed as a youth or attended last year's sessions. We're calling it "adult confirmation" in recognition of our life-long journey of learning. All are welcome to attend, as you are able!

Sessions are held twice a month, on Wednesday mornings and evenings, on ZOOM. Our morning class meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, from 10:00-11:30 am. Our evening classes meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, from 7:00-8:30 pm. Email Pastor Maureen at <pastormaureen@ccamherst.org> to receive the Zoom link, or access the link on the Members page of our website <ccaamherst.org> from the Zoom Links button.

10:00-11:30 am	7:00-8:30 pm	TOPIC
October 7	October 14	THE BIBLE: How It Was Made
October 21	October 28	OLD TESTAMENT: The Overarching Story
November 4	November 11	GOD and VIOLENCE: The God of Two Testaments
November 18	November 25	GOD and POLITICS: The Influence of Faith
December 2	December 2	APOCALYPSE: Beliefs About the End Times
December 16	December 16	THE STORY OF JESUS: Birth, Death, Resurrection
January 6	January 13	SERMON ON THE MOUNT: Radical Teachings of Jesus
January 20	January 27	HEAVEN and THE AFTERLIFE: What comes next?
February 3	February 3	HELL and THE PROBLEM OF EVIL: How did we get here?
February 17	February 24	DOUBT: The Ants in the Pants of Faith
March 3	March 10	JUDAISM: The Faith of Our Ancestors
March 17	March 24	THE EARLY CHURCH: History and Heretics
April 7	April 14	THE PRESENT CHURCH: What is a Christian Today?
April 21	April 21	THE FUTURE CHURCH: What will it look like?

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 66109 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Chancel Choir	2	3 11:00am Cunningham Memorial Service and Reception
4 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Time 11:30am Bylaws Update All-Church Meeting 11:30am Junior Youth Group Apple Picking 11:30am Youth Choir 3:00pm Blessing of the Animals	5 10:00am WA Workshop	6 5:30pm Church Council 7:00pm Trustees	7 10:00am Adult Confirmation AM 1:00pm Bylaws Team 4:00pm Girls Scouts Troop 63255	8 MDs Trash Pick Up 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:00pm Safety Team Meeting 7:30pm Chancel Choir	9	10
11 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Time 11:30am Racial Justice 11:30am Youth Choir 6:30pm Senior Youth Group	12 HOLIDAY - Indigenous Peoples' Day 10:00am WA Workshop	13 10:00am WA Board Meeting 10:00am Congregational Care 7:00pm Diaconate 7:00pm Communications Team	14 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:00pm Girls Scouts Troop 63255 7:00pm Adult Confirmation PM	15 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop 66109 5:30pm Budget & Finance 6:00pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm Chancel Choir	16	17
18 10:00am Worship 11:15am Fellowship Time 11:30am Youth Choir	19 10:00am WA Workshop 4:00pm Trustees of Invested Funds 4:00pm Atherton Common Board Meeting 6:30pm Amherst Junior Women's Club	20 10:00am Caregivers Circle 1:00pm Bylaws Team 5:00pm WOW Team	21 10:00am Adult Confirmation AM 4:00pm Girls Scouts Troop 63255	22 MDs Trash Pick Up 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	23	24
25 10:00am Worship 11:15am Second Hour - Peace-keepers De-escalation Procedures 11:15am Fellowship Time 11:30am Youth Choir 6:30pm Senior Youth Group	26 10:00am WA Workshop 7:00pm World Service	27	28 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:00pm Girls Scouts Troop 63255 7:00pm Adult Confirmation PM	29 6:00pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	30	31 HALLOWEEN

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