

THE SANBORNTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Established November 13, 1771

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

September 29, 2024

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME

Sue Long

WE ARE AN ACTIVE CHURCH - FINDING FAITH IN WHAT WE DO
NEIGHBORS IN NEED - SPECIAL OFFERING NEXT WEEK

PASSING THE PEACE and MOMENT OF CENTERING

ONE: Peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you!

MOMENT OF CENTERING

We invite you to listen to the music and abide in God's presence.

PRELUDE

Resignation

Enrico Bossi

GATHERING and PRAYING

*HYMN #89

Awake, Awake, to Love and Work

Morning Song

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 124, NRSV)

Leader: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side—let
Israel now say—

**People: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side,
when our enemies attacked us,**

Leader: then they would have swallowed us up alive,

when their anger was kindled against us;

**People: then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;
then over us would have gone the raging waters.**

Leader: Blessed be the Lord, who has not given us as prey to their teeth.

**People: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.**

Unison Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

*INTROIT The Kingdom of God Austin C. Lovelace

The kingdom of God is like a grain of mustard seed. When it is grown in the earth it is the smallest seed. It is like the kingdom of God and a mystery. For when it is sown it grows into the largest plant, greater than all of the herbs and grows into a tree. It grows so birds can rest inside its crown of leaves, deep in its shadows away from any evil prey. And so we can liken it to seeds which make a tree, larger than all of the trees from just the smallest seed. It is like the kingdom of God and a mystery. Gracia Grindal

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Bring us back to the beginning, God.

Help us to hear in the scriptures the stories that open our eyes;

to who Jesus was;

to who Christ is;

to who we are.

Bring us back to the beginning, God - so that we might journey in his Way.

In Christ's name and in your love, we ask these things. Amen.¹

¹ Richard Bott, reprinted by permission from K. Eddy and M. Tirabassi *Gifts in Open Hands*, (The Pilgrim Press, Cleveland, 2011).

ANTHEM The Father's Love Simon Lole

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you, remain in my love. This is my commandment: that ye love one another as I have loved you. God is love, and those who live in love, God lives in them. If you keep my commandments, love one another as I have loved you, then your joy will be complete. John 15: 9-12

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE Pastoral Amen Laura Belanger

*HYMN #533 Children of God Welwyn

REFLECTING

SCRIPTURE [Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22](#) Susan Bayer
[and Mark 9:38-41](#)

MEDITATION Rev. Richard Slater

COMMITTING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY MUSIC Meditation on “Deep River” Anthony Gianamco

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise God above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (UNISON)

Merciful and gracious God, accept, we pray, this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who have given and those for whom these gifts are given; and follow these gifts with your blessing that they may promote peace and goodwill among all people, and advance the kingdom of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*HYMN #575 O for a World Azmon

*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE March in G Henry Smart

*We invite you to be seated to listen to the postlude;
if you need to leave, please do so quietly. Thank you.*

***As comfortable, please rise.**



Mental health is
a universal
human
Right

"God will not falter or lose heart until
justice prevails throughout the earth."
(Isaiah 42:9)

Thank You!
for supporting **Neighbors in Need!**

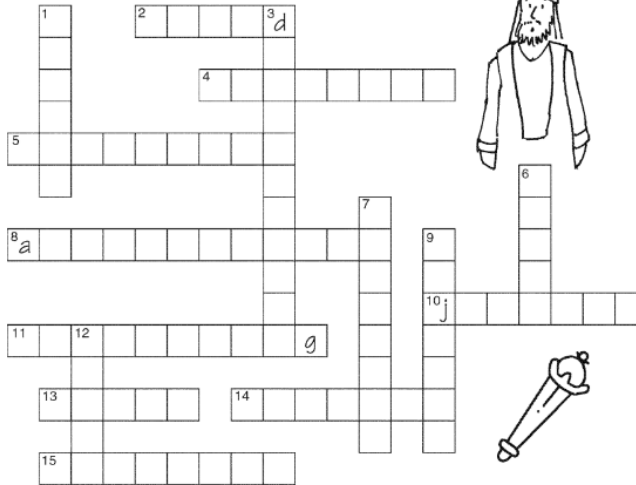


The king asked, "Queen Esther, what is your petition? It will be given you.
What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted."

Fit the words into the puzzle. Do the math problems below the blanks and then transfer the words from the puzzle to the correct lines.

favor people answered slaughter
found justify distress disturbing
spare majesty petition destruction
quiet request annihilation*

* This means getting rid of something or someone.



Then Queen Esther _____, "If I have _____ with you, O king, and if it
pleases your _____, grant me my life — this is my _____. And _____ my _____
— this is my _____. For I and my _____ have been sold for _____ and
_____ and _____. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would
have kept _____, because no such _____ would _____ the king."
King Xerxes asked Queen Esther, "Who is he? Where is the man who has dared to do such a thing?"

WELCOME to Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC

Please join us in the Undercroft for refreshment and fellowship after worship.

We welcome Rev. Richard Slater and thank him for leading us in worship. Rev. Slater has agreed to serve as regular pulpit supply through mid-June 2025, with the exception of several Sundays in November and December.

Hearing All Parts of Our Worship Service: Clif is happy to provide anyone with an assistive hearing device for today's worship service. If you have difficulty hearing any part of our worship service, please let an usher know so adjustments can be made!

We have THREE types of bulletins each week including youth bulletins for puzzle minded folk and young at heart which are available each week in person and digitally with [this link](#). They are *filled with puzzles* (like the one in this week's bulletin) that relate to the week's scriptures and have a code to use for on-line games.

Prayer Requests: If you would like to make a prayer request to be lifted during worship, please write it down on the "prayer request" sheet in the back of the sanctuary. Those at home can email uccsanbornton@gmail.com or fill out a [prayer request](#) from our website.

Today's flowers are given by Sandy Trotier in loving memory of Ed and their wedding day.

Thank you to today's **ushers**, Barbara Osler & Sandy Trottier and our **reader**, Susan Bayer.

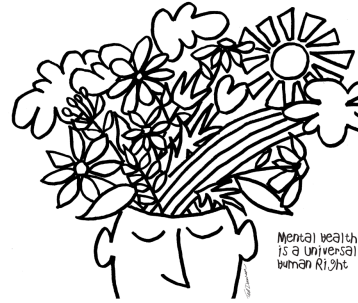


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next week is our annual **Neighbors in Need Offering**. Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need theme is "Mental Health Justice For All!" This year's focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health.

A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey.



News and dates from the Merrimack Association

- ★ October 6th, 1:30 pm - Merrimack Association Fall Meeting, Congregational Church of Laconia
- ★ October 6th, 3 pm - Installation for Rev. Eliza Tweedy at the Congregational Church of Laconia
- ★ October 26th, - NH Conference Annual Meeting at Geneva Point, Moultonboro

SAVE THE DATE - October 20, 2024 at 3pm, Sanbornton Congregational Church will host Randy Steere, Organist. Mr. Steere will present a concert he designed to reflect his thoughts on a future path for the organ that will attract and keep a growing audience. Each half will conclude with an exciting French piece for organ and orchestra featuring a **virtual orchestra supplied by organist Laura Belanger and her Organ Symphony Assistant program**. Would you like to help with some personalized publicity? We will be looking for volunteers to send a personal note to some educators...stay tuned for how to help!

Seekers meet on the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 10 am in the Undercroft. The next meeting of the Seekers will feature two episodes of the intriguing movie series "The Chosen". The segments will include the lesson from Luke 5:1-11, The Catching of the First Disciples, as well as, from John 2:1-11 Jesus Turns Water into Wine. All are welcome.

Crafting in the Undercroft meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. We are working on Christmas crafts! We are working on some easy crafts that are just darling! Soon we will need some help with tying this year's custom soaps!

Altar Flowers: Altar flowers donations are always welcome! If you would like to place flowers on the Altar in memory or honor of someone or if you just want to bless the congregation, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Undercroft and bring the flowers Sunday morning.

Fellowship Snacks - The Hospitality committee welcomes your donation of snacks for our weekly time of fellowship after church. Please join us after worship today for hot coffee, tea and a tasty treat or two.

Announcements and calendar additions for Sunday's bulletin can be submitted by Friday at 9 am through uccsanbornton@gmail.com or by contacting Sue Long.

First Fruits is always in need of and grateful for our contributions, especially toiletries. **Belknap House** is in need of **cleaning supplies**. Donations can be placed in the appropriate receptacles which are in the back of the sanctuary.

Are you curious about our history, upcoming events or wanting to re-watch a service?

Visit our website; download The Belfry

www.uccsanbornton.org

Follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/sanborntonuccchurch>

Watch us on our YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeFubn0S3JWWB0xKxiNgHw>



COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

Pemi Valley Habitat for Humanity in Sanbornton - NEWS

More good news about the Sanbornton build has been delivered! The second floor walls are up and roof trusses have arrived! Ten families attended the meetings and 3 candidates are moving forward through the vetting process.

Volunteers are always welcome to work on the build - just show up on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9am-3pm.

If you want to help but are not interested in the construction part of the excitement, PLEASE think about providing something for **lunch for the volunteers**. There are about 5 volunteers working each day. Frank McLain (603 726-1625) will coordinate people's contributions (sandwiches, Mac & cheese, chili, lasagna, lemonade, chips, etc.)

Pictures are in the Undercroft and [at this link: Habitat House](#)

Sanbornton Public Library

Tuesdays 10-12pm: Fiber Arts: Stitch, knit, spin with us!

Thursdays: 2-4pm: Learn and play Mahjong, ask at the circulation desk

Fridays 10:30am: Storytime for children 0-6 with stories and songs

Tech Appointments are available by request, no question is too small.

Special events in October

- ★ Friday, Oct. 18, 2:30-4pm: Flu Clinic vaccinations with GraniteVNA
(no appointment necessary)
- ★ Wednesday, Oct. 24, 6pm: Book Discussion of Once Upon a River by Diane Setterfield
- ★ Thursday, Oct. 24, 6pm: NH Humanities presentation on A Walk Back in Time: Secrets of Cellar Holes
- ★ Friday, Oct. 27 at 10:30am: Costume Story Time and music with Ms. Debi!

Free COVID tests are available through [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#). Go to <https://covidtests.gov> to order them. Every U.S. household is eligible to order 4 free at-home tests. Your order of COVID tests is completely free – you won't even pay for shipping. The shipping of tests will begin the week of September 30. Need help placing an order for your at-home tests? Call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489).

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September 2024

29	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i>
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BELFRY ARTICLES due soon!

October 2024

2	Wednesday	10:00 am	Seekers
3	Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
5	Saturday	9 am - 2 pm	Town-wide yard sale - tables for YOU in our Undercroft with 25 more local addresses on the MAP
6	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> <i>Neighbors in Need Offering and World Communion Sunday</i>
7	Monday	7:00 pm	Old Home Day 2025 Committee Meeting <i>in the Undercroft - zoom link available</i>
9	Wednesday	10:00 am	Crafting in the Undercroft
10	Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
13	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i>
16	Wednesday	10:00 am	Seekers
16	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting - Zoom



www.uccsanbornton.org