



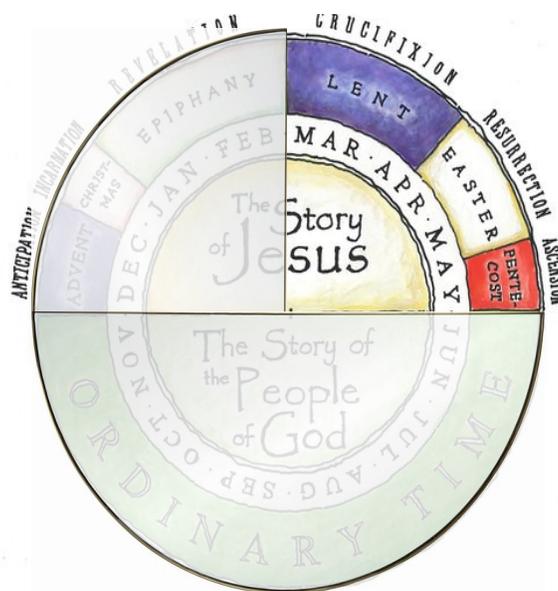
## About Pentecost

Pentecost was one of the Jewish feast days. Only they didn't call it Pentecost. That's the Greek name. The Jews called it the Feast of Harvest or the Feast of Weeks. It is mentioned five places in the first five books of the Bible—in Exodus 23, Exodus 24, Leviticus 16, Numbers 28, and Deuteronomy 16. It was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest. In Palestine there were two harvests each year. The early harvest came during the months of May and June; the final harvest came in the Fall. Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early wheat harvest, which meant that Pentecost always fell sometime during the middle of the month of May or sometimes in early June.

The Christian celebration of Pentecost is the day that we remember the Holy Spirit descending on the disciples. In Acts the Spirit comes upon the disciples and those gathered in the house. People begin speaking and hearing in one another's languages. The Disciple Peter gets up and begins to speak about repentance and the Gospel and by the end of the day, over 3000 people become followers of Jesus. It truly is the birthday of the church!

## The Season of Lent

Christians around the world will prepare themselves spiritually for the celebration of their highest Holy Day: Easter. Many of them will make personal sacrifices, focusing through these long days on the sacrifices Jesus made as he set his face toward Jerusalem. It is a time to grow closer in our walk with God as we remember the extent to which God is willing to go to show God's love for us.



*Liturgical Season - Lent through Pentecost*

## Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with the imposition of the ashes on the forehead. Palms from a previous year's Palm Sunday Service are burnt in advance and then placed on the forehead in the sign of the cross. This is done as an act of confession, as a sign of our mortality and penitence.

## Tenebrae Service on Maundy Thursday

The vigil of Maundy Thursday is an adaptation of an early fourth century service in which we remember that the twelve disciples were with Jesus for the last time in the Upper Room. "Maundy" (Latin: Mandatum) refers to the commandment given to "Love one another as I have loved you". "Tenebrae" refers to the darkness that came from the rejection and desertion of Christ by the disciples. During the service, one by one light's will be extinguished. The moment of total darkness recalls the days he was in the tomb.



## Michael Higgins

My name is Michael Higgins Together with my family (wife Liz, sons Jake and Andrew), I have been a member of this faith community for 10+ years. One of the things I love the most about our congregation is how welcoming it is. Our members genuinely care about each other, as well as visitors to our church and those in the surrounding community. My role on council is the Moderator. As the Church Moderator it is my responsibility to meet with Reverend Mike and others to compile all the information for the agendas for upcoming Council meetings. It is also my responsibility to carry out the parliamentary procedures needed at all church business meetings. In addition to the Church Council, I also serve on the Planning Committee, and the Pastoral Relations Committee.



## Gale Lyon

My name is Gale Lyon. I have been a part of UCC North Hampton for about 19 years. One aspect of our church personality that I value tremendously is the depth of caring/concern which our community members have for each other. My job on Council is as Clerk which means I take notes at all monthly Council meetings and at the Annual Meeting. I also coordinate with our Administrative Assistant to ensure that records on membership, births, deaths, weddings, etc. are kept current. Serving on Council is a special opportunity for me to participate in the life of our church.



## Nancy Bergeron

My name is Nancy Bergeron. I attended our church as a child until the age of ten and returned as an adult. In all I have been a member for 43 years! One of the things I love the most about our faith community is the people. It is one place I feel I can truly be myself and be fully accepted. There is such a feeling of being a part of one big loving family. My role on council is the Finance Chair. As the chair of Finance I am responsible for working with the Stewardship Committee to promote our Faith Promise program, work with the Budget Committee to establish a yearly budget for the church, and work in conjunction with our church Treasurer to review the monthly Income & Expense, Directed Giving and Balance Sheet reports. Being a member of council is such a privilege plus it is very interesting to learn and better understand all that goes in to providing a loving place of worship.



## Cheryl Nichols

Hello, my name is Cheryl Nichols. I have been part of the UCC North Hampton faith community for 4 years and an active member for 2 of them. I love many things about our church community but the most important to me is the people. The love, support and inspiration during ones faith journey is felt immensely within our church walls and beyond.

My role on council is Fellowship Chair, I provide events and opportunities for our church family and local community to come together, to laugh, to cry (depending on the movie), to have fun with friends of many years, or the opportunity to make new friends. I oversee movie night, game night, potlucks, special events open to all. I support the mission of our Vitality Team as they continue "To spread Christ's love by creating opportunities that bridge church and communities" with things like open mic, watermelon sales, marching in the town parades and much more. Let's not forget Ladies Union, as they work diligently in preparing for this year's fair. The proceeds from the fairs allow them to help special charities, as well as youth & adults in various programs and projects within our church.

I feel very blessed and thank you for the opportunities to serve you.



## Sue Launi

My name is Sue Launi. I have been attending worship at UCC North Hampton since 1995 and became a member in 2005. My role on the Church Council is Chair of the Worship Committee. As the Chairman, I oversee a Committee of about 12 Committee Members. This includes meeting about four times a year to discuss the seasons of Advent, Lent and covering all Sunday morning services such as flowers, ushers and greeters.



## Jim Kelsey

My name is Jim Kelsey. My wife and I have been members of the church for 7 years. My role on council is the co-chairperson of Buildings and Grounds committee. As the co-chairperson I oversee the maintenance of all three of our properties. This includes things like scheduling repairs, addressing safety issues, organizing clean up days and overseeing the church sexton and cleaner. Our goal is to assure that the facilities are safe, clean, comfortable and in good repair.

The strength of our faith community is the people. They are caring, generous and welcoming. For a relatively small church we have an abundance of internal and outreach programs that new members can become involved in.



## Trish Jeffrey

My name is Trish Jeffrey. I have been a member of the UCC North Hampton church for 3 years. What I love the most about our faith community is the feeling of inclusiveness. I moved to NH 6 years ago and spent the first three years church shopping, as they say, as a Catholic.

Stepping out of my comfort zone of the Catholic norms and traditions has been the best decision for me. I'm grateful for the relationships I have made along the way at UCCNH.

My role on church council is the Missions chair. As the Missions chairperson role, I support our efforts to reach out to those individuals of need within and outside of our faith community. In 2019-2020 we have continued supporting our relationships with Seacoast Family Promise, End 68 Hours of Hunger, Ukama Pen Pal program, Stockings for Soldiers and our forthcoming Spring cleaning at Hope for Homeless Shelter in Manchester, NH.

I am overwhelmed by the continued generosity of our faith community whom selflessly give financially and through the donation of their time.



## Paul Nichols

My name is Paul Nichols. I have been a member of the church for 4 years. My role on council is co-chair of buildings and grounds. In this position I oversee the maintenance and repairs of three of our church's properties. This includes things like scheduling repairs, addressing safety issues, organizing clean up days, performing small repairs and inspections, overseeing the sexton and cleaning.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.



## Gayel Cote

My name is Gayel Cote and I have been a member of the church for 2 years. The thing I love most about our community is how much it feels like family. My role on council is the chairperson of faith formation. In this role I support events and educational opportunities which help us ask questions and explore our faith. Each designed to help us develop closer relationships with each other and God.



## Faith Finders

I am always grateful to have the opportunity to teach our young children at Sunday School. Instead of using the name “Sunday School” we use the name “Faith Finders.” We have structure to the classes but still have a hands-on approach to learning. The new curriculum is wonderful as we continue through 2020. Classroom lessons follow a storyline however, each class is designed to hold its’ own. New children or children who have not been in class for a while will not feel like they have to catch up or “out of the loop.” I am always touched to see our Faith Finder children welcome new faces as new friendships form.

Faith Finders meet in the Garden Room on the first floor every Sunday except Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in the month.

I send out weekly updates of what our focus is going to be for the week with a fun picture from the previous week, to all our faith finder families, via e-mail. However, anyone may be put on my list to receive these e-mails which I send using MailChimp. Please contact me if you want to be on the list. Once on the list you can cancel anytime and please know my feelings do not get hurt if you decide to cancel.

Out Of The Mouths Of Babes: Jonah and the Whale

I was going over the lesson of Jonah and the Whale. I explained how the whale swallowed up Jonah because he was supposed to follow the direction that God gave him but Jonah did not want to go and went in the opposite direction instead. A storm appears and the fishermen on the ship with Jonah thought it was God who was upset with Jonah and threw him over board. A whale came and swallowed Jonah up. Jonah, sitting in the belly of the whale, came to realize he must turn to God and at that moment the whale threw him up! I asked the children “can you imagine what that must have felt like and what do you think Jonah was thinking?”

The child’s response was, “Boy!! I need a shower!!!”

Blessings,

Pamela Sullivan, Faith Formation Coordinator

## Lenten Book Study

We will be running a 6 week Lenten book study based on Jesus’ “Final Words From the Cross”. There will be two sessions, one on Tuesday evenings (Beginning March 3<sup>rd</sup>) at 7 PM and another on Wednesday mornings (starting March 4<sup>th</sup>) at 10 AM. The book can be ordered on Amazon or if you would like the church to order it for you please speak to Rev. Mike. The cost per book is \$8.24.

Please sign up by using the sign up sheet on the communications table in the O’Connor Vestry or by contacting the church office by February 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Horton Center

Registration began on January 2<sup>nd</sup> for Horton Center.

But it is not too late! There is a poster in the O’Connor Vestry describing all the details. You may also go to [www.HortonCenter.org](http://www.HortonCenter.org) for the information you need.

The Ladies Union here at UCC North Hampton has set aside funds to help anyone attending Horton Center with some of the expenses. If anyone would like more information about personal experiences of the Horton Center, please see me, Pam Sullivan. I can not say enough great things about it!!

## Worship Committee

*The Worship Committee is one of the Ministries of the Church Council. The Worship Committee has approximately 12 committee members and we meet about four times a year. We make sure that the seasons of Advent and Lent, and Sunday morning services are covered, i.e. flowers, ushers and greeters. We welcome anyone who would like to be a part of this vital Committee whether you are a church member or not. Please let me know if you are interested.*

*- Sue Launi, Worship Chair*

## Music Notes

We have lots of music to look forward to during Lent and Easter including the following: solos by John Martin on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>, Carey Connor will share her music on March 1<sup>st</sup>, Stephanie Slabon and John J. Martin will sing duets on March 29<sup>th</sup>, Joanne O'Connor will be enriching our worship with her wonderful flute music at three services. Maundy Thursday will be April 8<sup>th</sup> which is always a special service and the choir will be joining us that evening. Bernie Taylor will be gracing us with his trumpet music on Easter

Many people are unable to make a

weekly commitment to sing in the choir. Please consider joining us for a season (Lent, Eastertide). I have one person who is considering singing once a month. I can be flexible and you are invited and encouraged to join us.

Musically yours,

Mary Oliver



# WORSHIP

## Worship Service Dates

### Ash Wednesday

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Ashes to Go at the front of the church from 7:30 - 8:30 AM.

Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary at 7 PM

*If you cannot make either of the above times you can receive ashes in the pastor's office between 8:30 AM - 1 PM*

### Maundy Thursday Service

April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

### Easter Celebration

April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM

One Great Hour of Sharing received on March 22

### Pentecost

May 31

Special Offering - Strengthen the Church

## Ushers & Greeters

Greeters are especially important each Sunday to stand in the main entrance and welcome the incoming congregation.

Ushers are equally important each Sunday to stand in the back of the sanctuary before the service to greet the congregation coming into the sanctuary and pass out the bulletins. Together the ushers and greeters help with the offering as well as pick up the bulletins left behind in the pews after the service.

There is a sign up poster in the O'Connor Vestry beside the door leading into the kitchen where people can sign up to be either ushers or greeters. It will be very helpful if those who are able can sign up for either position. If someone does not feel that they are able to help with the offering, please put a notation next to your name. Please consider taking part in these important services for our church.

If there are any questions please call Joan Cuetara 964-8343 or Hope Miller 964- 5948.

## Flowers for the Altar

Altar Flowers are a special gift to our Sunday church service and may be given to honor a special person, remember a loved one or celebrate a special event (birthdays, anniversaries).

There are openings for Sundays in March through June. A sign up calendar is on the bulletin board in the O'Connor Vestry (to the right of the name tags).

Flowers are \$40, delivered to the church by The Exeter Flower Shop. One can submit a check in the offering plate, made out to UCC North Hampton, with a memo that it is for Altar Flowers. The flowers are ready to take home right after the service.

If you have any questions, please contact Gail Hiltunen: [gailhilt@comcast.net](mailto:gailhilt@comcast.net) or 964-6909.



*Stockings for Veterans delivered in December 2019*

## UCC Special Offerings

The UCC in North Hampton has a covenantal relationship with the wider United Church of Christ. As part of this covenant we sometimes receive special offerings that the global church uses to reach out to the wider world and support missions that we otherwise wouldn't be able to. We have two special offering opportunities coming in the near future that we would like to share with you.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> - One Great Hour of Sharing® is the Lenten Special Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports disaster, refugee, and development activities.

May 31<sup>st</sup> - The Strengthen the Church Special Offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

How to go about donating? The Sunday the offering is taken, a special envelope will be in the bulletin for you to use which designates the offering is a special UCC offering. If you don't give with cash or check or you are not prepared to give the special offering that day, no problem, you can always go online to our website and give online. [www.uccnorthhampton.org/give](http://www.uccnorthhampton.org/give)

Click here (if this is a digital copy) or type this website address into your web browser to learn more <https://www.ucc.org/ocwm-special-support>



### Seacoast Family Promise

With Sherri Amjad's guidance, Linda Sherouse has been instrumental in assisting with the February Host week of the 9<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>. There were three families who stayed at our church; 6 adults and 4 children. Happily, a fourth family found permanent housing before our host week began.

Thank you to all our dinner hosts, meal preparers and night time hosts. Without your continued service we could not fulfill our desire to assist Seacoast Family Promise.

#### Schedule for 2020

April 26 - May 3

June 14 - 21

August 9 - 16

If you are looking for a way to serve please contact Trish Jeffrey, our missions chair.

*We are looking for a coordinator for SFP here at UCCNH. If you are an organized person, please consider this position.*

## Hope for Homeless Nonprofit Foundation

*Our mission is to offer hope to individuals and families who are homeless by providing services and support in identified areas of need.*

Today the shelter is thriving as we have drastically improved the quality of the buildings, the grounds, and the community culture. We offer a wide range of services such as job assistance and we provide residents with free food on a weekly basis. We can direct you to additional services for addiction, mental health, financial assistance, and more. Unfortunately there are very few transitional living places in the city that are safe enough to accept children. We provide a safe environment for children as we have many safety rules, 40 high definition cameras scanning the inside and outside of the building, a full-time shelter manager who monitors the building, a night manager who lives in the shelter, a night watchman and one main

entrance (all other entrances secured with alarm systems).

Families feel safe, loved and cared for as their basic needs are being met. We are having trouble meeting the needs of area residents as we receive roughly 15 calls a day from those looking for a safe place to stay. We are also contacted by the City of Manchester Welfare Department on a regular basis looking for family housing – sometimes 3 times a day. We have been so successful that with the support of the Diocese of Manchester we have added a second 10 room shelter next door.

- an excerpt from an outline authored by Mike and Cathy Caron

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*Spring Clean-up at Hope for Homeless. We will be dedicating a day of service to Hope for Homeless, 282 Concord St., Manchester, NH on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Put on your yard-work clothes and join us for a day of giving back to two of our former teachers of North Hampton School, Mike and Cathy Caron who have opened a homeless shelter. We will be assisting in three areas: Landscaping, General Cleaning and Painting.*

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### Stockings for Soldiers

Our first campaign was very successful! We solicited the help of our local Brownie troop to create “Snowman Soup” and we had some wonderful residents of Cornerstone filled the 15 Christmas stocking with all the donated goodies and most importantly, Reverend Mike’s letter of thanks and well wishes. The stockings were delivered to our Veterans residing at the Liberty House in Manchester, NH.

## UKAMA Partnership

UKAMA: Our brothers and sisters in Zimbabwe are experiencing very difficult times. Our pen-pal letters sent in December have arrived and we look forward to hearing more from our friends living near Emerald UCCZ, our partner church.

Current Zimbabwe News:

**Mnangagwa Moves to Tighten Grip on Power in Zimbabwe:** President Emmerson Mnangagwa has accelerated what has been widely seen as an apparent bid to cast out Vice President Constantino Chiwenga from his future plans through spirited attempts to fast-track and discard the presidential running mate clause from the Constitution. The removal of the running mate clause will allow the president-elect to appoint or fire the two vice presidents.

**Zimbabwe Hunger Woes to Persist Beyond 2021:** A report by Famine Early Warning Systems Network indicates that locals may require continued humanitarian assistance throughout 2020 due to its very poor macroeconomic conditions, with agricultural activities expected to be below average due to prohibitive crop input prices.

The World Food Programme (WFP) says Zimbabwe's hunger is now rated among the worst humanitarian crises in the world and is competing for resources with hardest hit **countries globally.**

**Zimbabwe: U.S. \$2 Billion Lost to Graft Annually:** Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (Zacc) chairperson Justice Loice Matanda-Moyo yesterday expressed frustration over the government's lack of resolve to fight rampant corruption, amid startling revelations the country is losing up to US \$ 1.8 billion annually due to the vice.

## Useful Links

If you are reading a digital copy of “The Lantern”, you can click on any underlined link below to open your web browser for more information about upcoming events.

[To Order “Final Words from the Cross”, the Lenten Book Study material](#)

[UCCNH](#)

[UCCNH’s Calendar](#)

[UCCNH’s Community Page](#)

[UCCNH’s Give Page](#)

[NHCUCC Conference Links](#)

[Prepared to Serve](#)

[Horton Center](#)

[Ukama Partnership](#)

[Weekly News](#)

[UCC National Links](#)

[Special Offerings](#)

[Daily Devotional](#)

If you are reading a hard copy of “The Lantern”, you can sign up for a digital copy on the church’s website on the church news page.

## Job Opening

Administrative Assistant Position Open here at UCCNH starting June 29, 2020

Do you like UCCNH and its people? Are you organized? Do you like technology (when it works)? Are you looking for a part time job, working for a loving, welcoming group of people? Here at UCCNH we are looking for a person who answered yes! And yes again! Starting April 1, we will officially post the job opening and start accepting applicants. If you think this would be a good fit for you or someone you know, please speak to Rev. Mike, Mike Higgins or Brenda Tharp.

## Whaling Emails

You receive an email that appears to be from the pastor, or your moderator, asking you to take some kind of action – click a link, download an attachment, wire money to a specified account, purchase gift cards and reply with the serial numbers. Watch out – it could be a form of email “phishing” known as “whaling.” Rev. Mike will never reach out by email to ask you for money in any form. Neither will any of the staff here at UCCNH. If you would like to read more [click here](#). If you are reading a hard copy please “google” “Whale Emails” for more info.

## This Little Rag of Mine, I’m Gonna’ Make it Shine!

Message from the cleaning lady!! We have a Lost and Found basket. When cleaning the church I sometimes come across lost items. When I find something I put it in a small basket in the coat closet by the bathrooms. The basket is on the top shelf with a sign “Lost and Found.” Real small items are put in an envelope in the basket. Please let me know if you have lost something so I can keep my eyes open for it. If you do not see me, you may leave me a message in the church office. I have a mail box there. For all those who know me, you know I love a good treasure hunt. :o)

Anyone who has wash cloths or dish towels that you want to throw out please do not do so. I will take clean but old, torn, or stained cloths and use them for cleaning. I use these cloths on the bathroom floors. It is a one time use on the floor and then I throw them out. I do this for infection control purposes.

Blessings from your cleaning lady  
Pamela Sullivan

## The Budd Room Blooms

Thank you to all who have so generously donated to this anticipated project. We are approaching our goal of refurbishing the Budd Room to make it a warm and welcoming space for all. The hope is to begin the work in June. Look for more details about this in the near future.

## Vacation News

Ellen will be out of the office and out of town March 31 through April 1. All bulletin and enews information for Sunday, April 5 will need to be into the office on Tuesday, March 24. Thank you very much.

## Ladies Union

All Ladies of the UCC in North Hampton are invited to our Ladies Union meetings. We meet on the second Wednesday of the month. Here are some dates and subjects:

3/11 Meeting at 10 AM with an hour of crafting. 11:15 AM Business meeting. 12:00 PM Enjoy your packed lunch with coffee, tea, and dessert provided. 1:00 Program: Rev. Mike will share with our group.

4/8 Meeting at 10am with an hour of crafting. 11:15 Business meeting. 12:00 Enjoy your packed lunch with your own choice of beverage and dessert. 1:00 Program: Deb Eaton will share her trip to Israel with pictures and her experiences.

## Fellowship Events Continue

Game Nights continue quarterly on the first Saturday of the month at 6:30 PM

- May 2
- August 8
- October 3

Movie Nights continue quarterly on the second Saturday of the month at 6:30 PM

- May 9
- August 15
- October 10

Open Mic Nights continue through June on the third Friday of the month. Performers should be here at 6:45 PM to sign up and at 7 PM the show will start.

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# FELLOWSHIP

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## UCCNH Book Club

The North Hampton United Church of Christ book club meets the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM. All are welcome. We will be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual "Local Author Event" on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at the North Hampton Public Library and the event is open to all. The book is [The Munich Girl](#) by Phyllis Edgerly Ring of Exeter, NH.

"Anna Dahlberg grew up eating dinner under her father's war-trophy portrait of Eva Braun. Fifty years after the war, she discovers what he never did--that her mother and Hitler's mistress were friends. The secret surfaces with a mysterious monogrammed handkerchief, and a man, Hannes Ritter, whose Third Reich family history is entwined with Anna's. Plunged into the world of the "ordinary" Munich girl who was her mother's confidante--and a tyrant's lover--Anna finds her every belief about right and wrong challenged. With Hannes's help, she retraces the path of two women who met as teenagers, shared a friendship that spanned the years that Eva Braun was Hitler's mistress, yet never knew that the men they loved had opposing ambitions. Eva's story reveals that she never joined the Nazi party, had Jewish friends, and was credited at the Nuremberg Trials with saving 35,000 Allied lives. As Anna's journey leads back through the treacherous years in wartime Germany, it uncovers long-buried secrets and unknown reaches of her heart to reveal the enduring power of love in the legacies that always outlast war"--Amazon.

Here is the information for upcoming months:

March 21st: [Americanah](#) by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - hosted by Gale Lyon in her home

April 18th: Local Author Event: [The Munich Girl](#) by Phyllis Edgerly Ring - hosted by the book club in the church vestry

May 16th: [Born a Crime](#) by Trevor Noah - hosted by Jane Boesch in her home

June 20th: [The Giver of Stars](#) by Jo Jo Moïs - hosted by Nancy Bergeron at her cottage at Hedding Campground

July 18th: Book TBD - hosted by Anna Pike in her home

United Church of Christ in  
North Hampton

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*The Lantern* is published three times a year to keep our church community informed of ministries and programs of UCCNH and also to report upon our life together. Deadlines for Lantern articles are

- \* February 1
- \* June 1
- \* October 1

Articles should be emailed to  
[adminassistant@uccnorthhampton.org](mailto:adminassistant@uccnorthhampton.org)

## Leaders of UCCNH

### Staff

Pastor & Teacher

Music Director

Faith Formation Coordinator

Administrative Assistant

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Sexton

Rev. Michael Gelsomini

Mary Oliver

Pamela Sullivan

Ellen Dozet

Joanne O'Connor

Hope Miller

Dick Cote

### Moderator

Michael Higgins

### Clerk

Gale Lyon

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

