



## The Congregational Church of Topsfield InSpire Weekly News & Updates

June 8, 2023 / Issue 127

Join Our Mailing List

Visit our website



**Sunday Morning**  
Join us for worship online  
and in person. View the  
Zoom [link](#) and Sunday's  
service order [here](#).

  
**2023**  
*class of*  
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



 **Lifebridge**  
N O R T H S H O R E

**LIFEBRIDGE NEEDS YOU!**

Good news! As of May 1st, all Lifebridge,



## Thank You For Coming To “Pride” With Us Last Sunday!

What a joyful celebration at last week’s first, annual Tri-Town Pride Parade!

Carrying our banner of inclusivity and welcome, our church led the parade down Main Street. We had children riding bikes, wigs of extraordinary hues, and colors of all shades of the rainbow.

This was truly a community event with over 300 people in attendance. What a moment for our church. What a moment for our community. What a reminder of what we are about – as a church and as a people.

With gratitude and joy,  
Susan Warner, Charlotte Melling,  
Marti Soper, Diane West, Christy Redding and Kim Love

Salem meals will go back to live, on site serving...no more styrofoam “to go” meals for next door!

We are looking for volunteers to cook and serve dinner on the 4th Friday of each month. A team of 4 is ideal, but we can make it work with only 2, or more than 4. Volunteers are needed for the following dates:

–July 28  
–August 25

Since dinner is now served at 5:30pm (rather than 6:30pm as in the past), you would meet in the Emerson Center parking lot at 2:30pm to get all the food and directions, etc. from Sallie or Cathy, before heading to Lifebridge at 55 Margin Street in Salem. If a couple people can’t get to Salem until 4:30 or so, we can make that work, too. Since the residents do the dishes ( hooray!), you would be able to leave at 6–6:15pm, back in Topsfield by 6:45pm or so.

If you’ve never served at Lifebridge before, why not give it a try? Don’t worry, you’d be paired with someone who’s been before! It’s a fun and worthwhile experience! And invite your friends to go with you...non-church members are welcome to volunteer, too.

On behalf of the Board of Missions, we thank you for considering helping with this important church ministry. We can’t do it without you!

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Cathy Szymanski  
[jszymanski8@verizon.net](mailto:jszymanski8@verizon.net)  
Sallie Bowling  
[sallie@synergyscg.com](mailto:sallie@synergyscg.com)



HomeGrown Market at the  
Topsfield Commons  
Thursday, June 15 2023  
5:00pm–7:00pm

Stop by on Thursday, June 15th from



5-7pm for the HomeGrown Market on the Topsfield Commons. Local vendors will be selling their wares, music from Crowes Pasture and food and beverages will be available for sale.



Hi All,

Now that summer is upon us and the choirs are on hiatus, we are inviting volunteers to provide anthems for the services this summer. All are welcome to share their musical gifts with us. On Sundays where I will be present, I am able to assist if you need accompaniment or other help. I will be absent July 2, 23, and 30, so we are also looking for someone to play the prelude/postlude and hymns on the piano and/or organ that day, should that interest you. You may sign up using the following Google Doc link.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/14gWLqySYfe1-qBrSP3BIBF26I3uAUYko78q1WSr4me4/edit?usp=sharing>

Thanks,  
Jackson



### Lemonade On The Lawn

All are welcome to come together for refreshments and conversation with Lemonade on the Lawn beginning **June 11th and continuing every other Sunday throughout the Summer.**

The BCC (Board of Community and Communications) will host the first of celebrations with the "Blessing of the Animals".

Hosting is fun and easy – Everything you need is already in the Narthex – the table, tablecloth, napkins, and cups. Requirement is just to set it up with purchased beverages and nibbles by you. Please sign up for an available Sunday below by emailing Nancy.

- June 25
- July 9
- July 23

-August 6  
-August 20

Any questions email Nancy  
@ [nbnelson21@gmail.com](mailto:nbnelson21@gmail.com)

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### Community Garden

It's the time of the year where the gardens start to look promising with produce. Last Friday we delivered the first box of radishes which were very welcomed at Citizens' Inn in Peabody.

We will start soon with regular deliveries as our veggies grow and can be harvested. Please follow the [link](#) to sign up to water the garden, take the weeds out, harvest or deliver the vegetables. Every task takes about one hour. Please be reminded that we already have a voluntary water ban in Topsfield, so watering should be done before 9am or after 5pm.

Steve or Conny are happy to show you around and explain the different jobs in the garden.

Thank you in advance for your help!

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**THE ALS OXFORD TO BOXFORD  
RIDE FOR HOPE  
(Goal - \$50,000)**

### About the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line

The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line (BHHL) is here to connect you directly to clinical help, when and where you need it. Even if you're not sure what kind of help or treatment you may need, we can help guide you.

- It's free, confidential, and no health insurance is required.
- Real-time interpretation in 200+ languages
- Deaf or hard of hearing?  
Contact **MassRelay at 711**

*The Behavioral Health Help Line is a service of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, operated by the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership (MBHP).*

Visit [here](#) to learn more.

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### Update..... Our Church Website Now Has a Blog!

Please visit this link below to read more.  
<https://www.topsfieldchurch.org/blog>

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### CCoT Update..... Our Church is Now Instagram Official!

We are happy to announce that CCoT is now Instagram official! Please visit this [link](#) to follow our page and be kept up-to date on our church activities.

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**Riding for Doug McIlvaine, Mary Lopez and so many others in the hope to find a cure for ALS**

The Oxford to Boxford Ride for Hope to support ALS research will start Wednesday morning June 14th at the Alpha Delt house in Oxford, Ohio – 22 South Campus Ave. There are likely to be about 6–8 riders leaving from the house for day 1 of what will be a 17 day adventure (15 days of riding) covering roughly 1,000 miles to Boxford Mass.

So far, the riders who have committed to the entire route include: Dave Foster (MU'81), Team Captain and Lead Organizer; Dolly McIlvaine, Doug's wife; Steve Lopez, a strong advocate to find a cure for ALS since his beloved wife Mary passed of the disease in 2019 and Rodney McGregor, An Alpha Delt brother and MU grad of '79.

There will be a small celebration in East Boxford Center on Friday, June 30th at approximately 2:00pm and a party Saturday July 1st at the McIlvaine home in Topsfield around noontime. We hope as many friends, family and supporters will join us for the celebrations!

Please visit this link to learn more:  
<https://mciltopsfield.wixsite.com/the-als-oxford--oh-t?fbclid=IwAR1a6fBzfRDPLSi9DpquEX25JeSl6tiAyDdjxxZHSUaj6aBJythYlxcQ6Q>

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**Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month**



**Sunday Service Telecast and Registration:**

Please visit our homepage at [topsfieldchurch.org](http://topsfieldchurch.org) to learn more about our telecasted Sunday services and registration for more access to CCoT's community.

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**CCT Masking Policy**

The wearing of masks in the Meetinghouse remains voluntary. Participants in worship are welcome to wear a mask at any time. We remind everyone that they should refrain from attending worship in person if they are experiencing any form of respiratory illness.

We encourage all individuals to stay current with annual COVID and influenza vaccinations and boosters. Please seek COVID testing if you have possible COVID symptoms.

Sincerely,  
Board of Deacons

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**Parish Care Ministry**

View the Prayer Listing [page](#) and June birthday [page](#).



**CCT Church Office Contact us.**

Link to Signboard request form [here](#) for events on the church calendar.



**SNEUCC–**  
Southern New England Conference–UCC [page](#)



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
a just world for all

**UCC**

Newsletter [page](#)



### June is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month!

Join the COA's Dementia Friendly Topsfield Task Force (DFT) every Wednesday in June and go purple to observe Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month. *Drop-ins are welcome at any & all of our events, but calling the COA office at (978) 887-1523 to register helps us have the right amount of materials, food, etc., for all!*



**Wednesday, June 7, 9:00 AM in the Public Hall:** Attend our interactive **Dementia Friends Information Session** and learn more about dementia, its effects, and what you can do to help people impacted by dementia in our community.



**Wednesday, June 14, 9:00 AM in the Public Hall:** Attend our interactive **Brain Health Workshop** to learn the most current science behind keeping your brain as healthy as possible for as long as possible. After the workshop, join us for a **reception** featuring delicious, brain-healthy foods.



**Wednesday, June 21, 9:00 AM in the Public Hall:** On "the Longest Day," DFT will host a **Luminary Ceremony** for those impacted by Alzheimer's or other dementias and their care partners. **Buy a luminary bag w/candle for \$1 at the COA office to remember/honor loved ones at the ceremony.**



**Wednesday, June 28, 9:00 AM in the Public Hall:** We have partnered with The Supper Club to host a **Game Morning**. Join us for an **epic trivia battle**, complete with prizes and lots of laughs!

*For questions about any of our events, or to volunteer, contact DFT Chair Joan Chiffer at: [dementiafriendlytopsfield@gmail.com](mailto:dementiafriendlytopsfield@gmail.com)*



## The 2023 Annual RIM Walk for Refugees!

Join RIM volunteers as we walk for refugees June 25th, 2023 at Lake Quannapowitt in Wakefield, MA. Sponsor a cluster walker or start your own fundraising page!

**Sunday, June 25th, 2023**  
**RAIN or SHINE**

**4:00pm**  
**Gazebo at Lake Quannapowitt**  
**Lower Common, 1 Church Street**  
**Wakefield, MA**

**Parking:** On street parking nearby  
**Walking:** Walk 5k around Lake

Quannapowitt  
Snacks: Water and snacks will be provided  
Click [here](#) to learn more.

Also, our fellow church member, Cathy Imboden, will be walking this year. Please visit her fundraising page [here](#).

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The Congregational Church of Topsfield | 9 East Common Street, Topsfield, MA 01983

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