



The Congregational Church of Topsfield InSpire Weekly News & Updates

August 1, 2024 / Issue 186

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**Sunday
Morning**
Join us for
worship
online
and in
person.

View the Zoom link for the Sunday
Service [here](#) and Sunday's
bulletin [here](#).

SUMMER Office Hours

Emerson Center Office Update

The Emerson Center office will be closed on Fridays for the summer, beginning Friday, June 21st through Friday, August 30th.

The following office hours will be:
Monday–Thursday, 10am–1 pm.

Thank you!



Sunday School Update

(Pre–K–12th grade)

Sunday School will be on break starting Sunday, June 16th and will resume on Sunday, September 15th.



CCoT

Women's Outdoor Social Gathering
Wednesday, August 14th
4:00pm–5:00pm

Please join the women of the church for a time to socialize. Come meet



Warm (oops) Hot!!!!!! Weather Tips

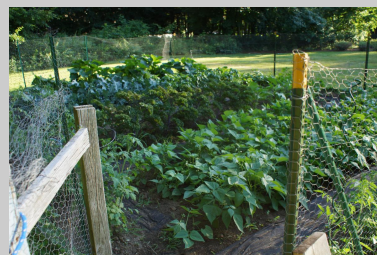
The Parish Care Team would like to offer a few hot weather tips for all of us to be aware of during this and future heat waves. As a faith community we are practitioners of taking care of ourselves and others in times like we are experiencing now. Neighbor helping neighbor is a cornerstone of our faith at the Congregational Church of Topsfield.

- Call on neighbors who might be living alone or couples who have limited transportation and make sure they have plenty of water, AC, fans, and food. Ask them if you can help them with errands or any other activities that might expose them to this excessive heat.
- If you notice any changes in your neighbors or friends in their normal activities, check with them by phone to see if they are okay.
- If you have neighbors taking medications, you might ask if they need any refills that you could pick up for them.
- If we have an electrical failure, check on your neighbors to see if they can visit with families or friends outside of the area which does not have power and AC or fans. There are also shelters that will be providing ways to keep cool.
- If you cannot reach a neighbor and you know they are home, you can call the police and ask for a wellness check.

It is all of us working together to keep people healthy during this current heat wave.

Thanks so much for your help.

Parish Care Team.



Community Garden Sign-Up

The vegetable garden next to the Emerson Center has been planted and with the warm weather and enough rain everything is growing well. We already delivered plenty of radishes, lettuce and kale to 'Haven From Hunger' in Peabody.

If you would like to help there is a task for everyone. We need every week for people to water, weed, harvest and deliver.

Please sign up online [here](#).

Every task takes about one hour. I'm always available for questions and would love to show you around in the garden!

Thank you!

Conny Griesshammer:

communitygarden@topsfieldchurch.org

new friends or reconnect with others you may have not seen in a while.

Our next mini gathering will be an outdoor social on **Wednesday, August 14th from 4:00pm–5:00pm on the South Lawn patio**. In the event of inclement weather, we will be in the parlor of the Emerson Center. Hope to see you there!

Please contact Dolly McIlvaine at: womensministry@topsfildchurch.org if you have any questions or need a ride.



Call for Flower Dedications

One of the beautiful traditions in our church is having fresh flowers at every Sunday worship.

Our flower fund is maintained by donations that accompany a dedication of flowers in celebration of loved ones or of events.

The difference between the weekly cost of flowers and the recommended donation of \$40.00 goes into the flower fund.

We are currently running a deficit in the flower fund because there have been fewer dedications this year.

Please consider supporting flowers in worship, so that we can continue our tradition. Your dedication will be recognized on an A/V slide before worship and in the bulletin.

Email Kim Love with your dedication, and help us keep fresh flowers in worship.

office@topsfildchurch.org

Sincerely,
Jim Barnes, Board of Deacons



The Collation Committee Would Appreciate Your Clean, In Good Shape Take Away Containers!

Food which is remaining after a collation is sent home with family members and/or guests. Your containers would help us cut down on expenses and waste.

For your convenience, a Collation labeled sack is on the counter in the Emerson Center office.

Please leave at any time.

Thank you,
Charlotte Melling
Collation Committee



Lemonade on the Lawn

Directly after service on the Meetinghouse front lawn.

August 11: Ellie Losee
August 25: Susan Gibbons



CCT Masking Policy

Preserving the Health of the Congregation During Worship

Masking at worship remains voluntary. Worshippers are always

Volunteer for the Fair

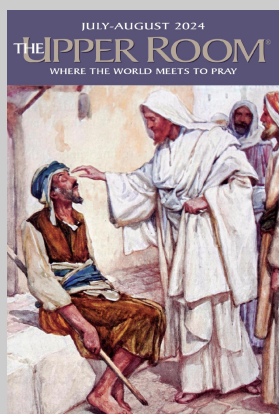
Please consider working a shift or more at the Topsfield Fair in October. This Dining Room shift is a good one for young people as well as adults. **Note that all volunteers receive free admission and parking tickets, and most shifts are only four hours, leaving time to take in other fair events!**

This photo of Jane Jones illustrates the Dining Room job.



Ensure that each table has the required condiments, keep tables clean and sanitized, clean trays as required and return them to the counter area. Notify manager when trash barrels are filling up.

Training: On the job. This position can be learned in a few minutes at the beginning of a shift. Great for first-time volunteers.



The Upper Room July/August Magazine Is Now Available!

The Upper Room Daily Devotional Guide is devoted to connecting people around the world through encouraging stories of God's love and faithfulness.

Each issue of this devotional contains daily meditations written by readers—people who experience the challenges and triumphs of daily life.

Several copies are now available in the narthex/lobby of the Meetinghouse.

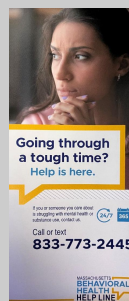
welcome to wear a mask.

Careful hand washing or use of hand sanitizers is effective in preventing the spread of and acquisition of disease.

Please do not come to in-person worship if you are feeling ill. Instead, watch the service on Zoom or Boxford Community TV.

Keep your vaccinations against respiratory pathogens current.

Sincerely,
The Board of Deacons



The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line

Learn more [here](#).

Parish Care Ministry View the Prayer Listing [page](#) and August birthday [page](#).



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



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
a just world for all

UCC
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Vincent van Gogh,
Farmhouse in Provence, 1888,
oil on canvas, National Gallery of Art,
Washington, D.C.

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