



The Congregational Church of Topsfield InSpire Weekly News & Updates

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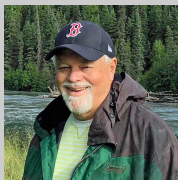
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Sunday Morning

Join us for worship
online
and in person.
View the
Zoom link for the

Sunday Service [here](#)
Sunday's bulletin [here](#)



Some mid-week thoughts from Dave

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Faith:

Pets run away from their homes for all kinds of reasons. They might be frightened, overly curious, or even abused. But it's almost unheard of for

Celebrate Topsfield's
375th
Birthday
AT TOWN HALL

Saturday, October 18th

3:00 PM
Public Hall
Historical Presentation by
John Kinhan

4:00 PM
Town Hall Front Steps
Ceremonies with Town and
State Officials
and Flag Dedication

4:30 PM
Town Hall Outside Patio
Block Party with Live
Performance by Dan
Pallotta, Music and Food
Trucks

a dog to do anything quite like the one in the following story! An old dog approached a woman's home one day and what happened next was too good not to share.

"An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard; I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of," the woman began. From there, her story only got more and more adorable... "He calmly came over to me. I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner, and fell asleep," she continued. "An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out."

"The very next day, he came back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall, and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks," the woman recounted. Just what was this dog up to? Click [here](#) to read more.



Rev. Kate Dalton Preaching This Sunday, October 19th

I am excited to introduce you to our Candidate for the position of Pastor at the Congregational Church of Topsfield.

Rev. Kate (Kathleen) Dalton's work life started as an Electrical Engineer with the Otis Elevator company in 1999. Over the years she worked in Farmington, Boston and San Francisco in different managing positions. She received her Masters of Divinity degree in 2005 from the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA. In her latest church, the First Parish Congregational Church in Yarmouth, ME she served first as Associate and then as Senior Pastor.



Building and Grounds Update

~The Emerson Center wheelchair entrance and Meetinghouse ramp were pressure washed. Repairs were also made to the EC ramp.

~Weed/vine overgrowth was cleaned up around the parking lot stone walls.

~Need to consider applying a sealcoat to the new cement apron pad outside FH doors. **John Arathuzik, CCoT Church Caretaker, would need a volunteer for 4 hours on a Saturday morning. Please call the church office if you can help.**

Thank you!

SILENT AUCTION FOR HAITI

Oct. 24, 7-10 PM • 149 Asbury St. S. Hamilton

Let's Do the Packathon Pivot!

It's not a dance, but it is a strategic shift. For the past six years, neighbors across the North Shore have gathered at Christ Church to pack nutritious lunches for the Light and Peace schoolchildren of St. Louis d'Ayiti, Haiti. This year we are pivoting to direct funding, and must raise \$40,000 for local provisioning of lunches five days a week, all year.

But there will be dancing!

Come to our Silent Auction at Christ Church, 149 Asbury St, South Hamilton, 7-10 pm. Along with music and dancing, there will be hearty appetizers, art to bid on, and many other wonderful auction items, from vacation spots to show tickets!

To join us on the 24th, scan the QR code—tickets must be purchased by Oct. 20.

Here's why we must pivot from packing to funding:

Because of continuing violence around Port-Au-Prince, during the past year we have had to use the northern port of Cap-Haitien as our entry. The bad news is that this is 200 miles north of "our" school. There is no safe way to transport the food to the children.

The good news? Needy Haitians near the port city have received the food, and we have been sending secure funds to our partners so they can provision school lunches from local markets. Together, we will celebrate our ongoing commitment to feed starving children in Haiti.



Pastor's Bible Study for the Fall Season ...

Kate says that she is passionate about "... exploring how our churches can engage multiple generations in the important work of our faith and impact the world around us". She is creative and likes using both traditional practices and modern services with more opportunity for participation. Her sermons relate to our culture and the world around us. One of her references said "Kate is a great candidate for a church open to new ideas, is eager to stretch, grow, be inclusive and wants to have fun".

Kate, her wife Nora, their twin sons Russell and Nate, and their whoodle Millie currently live in Portland, ME. They are in the process of finding a living space in a more urban environment here in Essex County.

I urge you all to come to her Candidating Sunday on October 19th. Rev. Dalton will be preaching and right after the service there will be a business meeting for church members to vote on calling her as the next Pastor of The Congregational Church of Topsfield.

~Werner Griesshammer
(Chair of the Pastoral Search Committee)



Sunday School Update

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, October 19th.

Rev. Kate Dalton will be preaching this Sunday. After service, church members will be voting at the business meeting. There will be no child care this Sunday, as our teachers and staff will be attending the service and business meeting.

Sunday School for K-6th Grade will resume on Sunday, October 26th

The Message of the Beatitudes

Dr. Van Arsdale will be leading a class on **three Sunday Mornings from 11:00—12:00 noon (beginning on October 26th in the Emerson Center Parlor)** on The Message of the Beatitudes. The Class will include the reading of the text in Matthew 5, along with additional readings as we reflect on these most meaningful teachings of Jesus. We will seek to connect the messages of the Beatitudes with our every day lives. What did Jesus try to say using the beautiful phrases that all begin with "Blessed ...?" What might those teachings say to us in our lives and in our age. Come join in some great fellowship as we explore the deeper meanings of the scriptures.

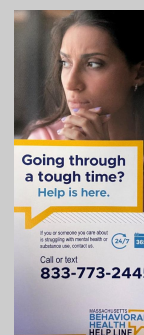


Coffee Hour

**Oct 19: BCC and Alison Miller hosting
Oct 26: Charlotte and Duane Melling hosting**

Please email Nancy Nelson to sign up:
nbnelson21@gmail.com

Many thanks,
Members of the Board of Community and Communications



The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Help Line

Learn more [here](#)



**RIM Potluck Dinner
Saturday, October 18th
5:30-8:30pm**

Come join our RIM potluck dinner sponsored by the Board of Mission and Outreach. People can sign up using link [here](#) or the QR code above. Any questions, contact Cathy Imboden at: cbimboden@gmail.com.

Hope to have you join us!

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



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



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