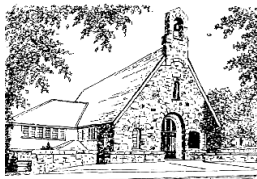


JANUARY

2020

Volume LXI

Number 1



# HOUGHS NECK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER

*310 Manet Avenue, Quincy, MA 02169*

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## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Beloved of God,

Here at the beginning of the New Year, I have been reflecting on Jesus' prayer in the seventeenth chapter of John's gospel, "that they may all be one." The "all" in his prayer means just what it says - everyone - all of us. And the "one?" All humanity: you, me, the neighbor next door and down the street, and all those sisters and brothers across the planet who are nameless to us from Arkansas to Afghanistan.

"That [we] all may be one." In a severely broken world, in what seems to be an irreparably divisive times, can you and I be an answer to that prayer? I invite each of us in this new year of 2020 to pray fervently for the unity of all people, the unity of all of us.

The God we see in the face of Jesus is a God of compassion. Imagine a circle of compassion, then imagine nobody standing outside that circle! That is the reality God has created, a reality we are called to embrace.

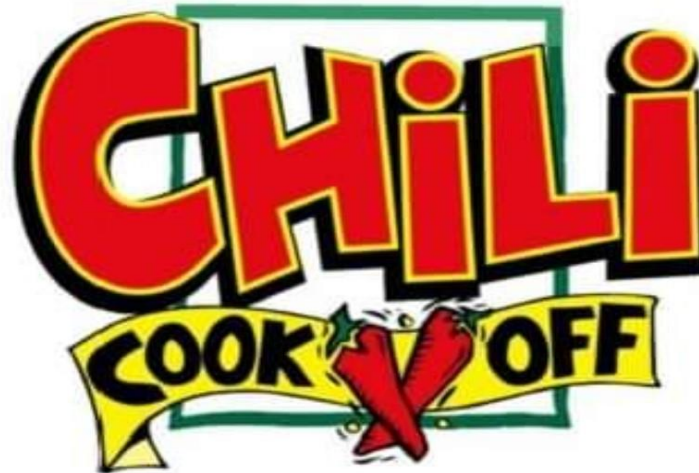
Creating circles of inclusion is not easy for us because too often when we speak of unity we really mean uniformity - "that they may all [look like, think like] us." Creating those kinds of circles is easy, we know how to start relationships with those who look and think like us. But relationships among an increasingly diverse population like ours? We're not so good at starting those relationships! That's something in seminary I was not trained to do. So what do we do? For now we may have to take the advice of poet Rainer Maria Rilke and just embrace the question, live the question until, one day, we live into an answer. For many of us if we don't immediately have the answer to a question before us we tend to despair. So perhaps part of the answer to the question of unity in 2020 is to simply keep the question before us, to look inside ourselves and into the eyes of "the other" and do all we can to become answers to Jesus' prayer that "they may all be one."

Blessings and Peace for a Happy New Year!

-Pastor Steve

# **CHILI COOK-OFF!**

*Who will win the title of "Quincy's Champion Chili"?*



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**1 – 4 P.M.**

**HOUGH'S NECK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**310 MANET AVE., QUINCY**

Prizes for the Best Individual Chili Entries

Sample up to 20 different chili recipes and vote for your favorite!

Soda, beer, hot dogs, chips, bake sale, 50/50 raffle and more!

**Admission: \$5.00 per person**

There is no fee to enter chili!

To enter or for more information, call Pam Craig at

617-471-8968 or email [pcraig1962@comcast.net](mailto:pcraig1962@comcast.net) by January 18<sup>th</sup>.

# FROZEN

## Annual Princess Party February 8, 2020

Houghs Neck Congregational Church  
310 Manet Avenue, Quincy

Crafts, nail painting, dancing and music, snacks  
\$10 per child and \$5 per adult

Two sessions: 10-noon and 1:30 - 3:30

Reservations begin on January 8 by email-  
[hncc@comcast.net](mailto:hncc@comcast.net). Be sure to indicate the number  
of adults and children and your preferred session.







## Adornment of Our Church at Christmas

The church was beautifully adorned for Advent and Christmas with: the crèche scene in front of the altar; the Advent wreath and candles; garland, wreaths and lights encircling the chancel; an amazing arrangement of poinsettia plants at the altar and beautiful evergreen wreaths on the front doors of the church. There is great symbolism in these Christmas decorations, which adorned our church as we awaited the celebration of the Christ child's birth. Thanks to all who decorated the church and participated in the Poinsettia Project.

Our Lunette Window (The Birth of Jesus) in the church's narthex above the entrance doors, helps us to appreciate and celebrate the birth of Jesus all year long. The window depicts the birth of Christ and was dedicated on Christmas Eve 1971. "Glory to God in the Highest and on Earth Peace" is inscribed at the bottom of the center panel. It was given to the church by Edwina Robinson in loving memory of Carolyn W. Ead and Lillian F. Ead. A beautiful picture of the Lunette window can be seen on the church's website along with the other stained-glass windows at [hncon.org](http://hncon.org). The detail captured in the window is most amazing and beautiful. The Christmas story comes to life. Many thanks to Laurel Wainwright for taking pictures of the stained-glass windows and putting them on the website.



## **Poinsettia project**

### **2019**

**Many thanks to all who purchased poinsettias this year.**

**Frank Puccia**-In memory of Rose, Carol and Chris Puccia

**The Gordon Family**-In memory of Ruth Gordon

**Scott and Lindsey Yardley**-In memory of Evelyn Elizabeth Yardley

**Pam and Bill Kist**-In memory of Evelyn Elizabeth Yardley

**Alice Aiguier**- In memory of Jack Aiguier

**Nancy and Ralph Jacobs**- In memory of Bette Olson- In honor of Georgette Lorenzetti and our grandsons

**Laurel Wainwright and Pat Murphy**-In memory of loved ones

**Harry Olson**- In memory of Elizabeth DiMaris Olson (Bette)

**Christine Keating**-In memory of Joe Cherico, Barbara Bertoni, Dave LeVangie, Beverly and Jack Reddington, Ebby and Mae O'Neil

**Carol and Cliff Hallett**- In memory of Carroll and Grace Jones and Clifford and Ida Hallett

**Pam and Bob Craig**-In memory of Gail, Tom, Lil, Bunny, Ruthie, Lois, Danny and Bo

**Cindy Milford**-In memory of Jack Aiguier, Mr. "Big Chick" Milford, Wayne Milford, Marcella Milford

**Alex, Luke and Jimmy Rheault**-In honor of Grammy and Pa

**Hockney Family**-In memory of John A. Nickerson and John M. Missale

**Shirley Pearson**-In Memory of Robert Pearson In honor of James and Kaitlyn Pearson

**Don Gamble**-In memory of the Gamble Family and the Maguire Family- In honor of John, Leslie, David, Bill Sr. and Jr., Mary, Doris, John Sr., Ed, Connie, Connie, Eddie, Barbara and others

**Gayle and Jim Mackay**-In memory of Jessie Taylor and Marilyn Mackay-In honor of our grandchildren

**Rosemary Gaura**-In memory of Robert J. Gaura , Herbert, Marjorie and David Dunn, Dick Kelly and Marty Blake

**Karen Weir**-In memory of her husband Brian Weir

**Jean Hawes**-In memory of her parents Helen and Joseph Cossette

**Lois Zulauf**-In honor of Steve Reed and the choir

In honor of the very best-est girlfriend ever

## HELP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Our church continued the longstanding ministry of partnering with Interfaith Social Services during the Christmas season. We adopted 14 children, who might not have had a Christmas to celebrate. Our generous congregants purchased a total of 42 gifts, three for each child, and they were delivered in time for Christmas. Thanks go out to the Seaside Social Club for participating in the effort. This is a special and important ministry to help our community neighbors at this most blessed time of the year. Thanks to all participants!

## Sunday School Garden

Again this year our Sunday School planted a beautiful and productive vegetable garden behind the church, working under a grant from Katie's Krops, which provided funds to purchase fertilizer, tools, seeds, and plants. Cam Jacobs took the lead for the second year and solicited help from his fellow Troop 6 Scouts to do a garden cleanup and preparation for planting in May as part of his Life Scout service project. Many varieties of vegetables were planted including tomatoes, potatoes, lettuce, peppers, beans, peas, squash, cucumbers, radishes and more. The garden yielded 170 pounds of vegetables, which were delivered to ISS for distribution to their clients. An additional 60 pounds of vegetables were donated by church members and also given to ISS for a total of 230 pounds donated. It was a great season. The Sunday school looks forward to another successful garden. Thanks to God for the soil, the sun and the water and the fertilizer that nourished the plants and for this opportunity to serve our neighbors through this ministry!



## HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY!!



Wish a happy birthday with a smile, a call  
or a card to our JANUARY birthday folks!

### January

1	Carol Hallett	12	Alex Rheault
3	Ann Doyle	15	Stephen Wainwright
4	Pamela Praetsch		
	Mikaela Sparks	18	Dorothy Marrocco
	Gary Shaw	19	Helen Miller
6	Christine Keating	20	Robert J. Craig
8	Holly Bishop Anderson	28	Richard Trubiano
9	Barbara Houston		Robert Trubiano
11	Richard Shaw		Chad Hallett
		31	Jim Hobbs
			Christopher Murphy

## SPIRITUAL MESSAGES



Scripture: *No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you.*  
-Joshua 1:5

Quote: *God never promises to save us from adversity, only to be with us in the midst of it.*  
-David Watson

Scripture: *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*  
-1 Corinthians 11:1

Quote: *Whoever wishes to understand fully the words of Christ must try to pattern his whole life on that of Christ.*  
-Thomas a' Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*

Scripture: *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edge sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*  
-Hebrews 4:12

Quote: *We can't really tell how crooked our thinking is until we line it up with the straight edge of Scripture.*  
-Elisabeth Elliot

Scripture: *And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.*  
-Colossians 3:23

Quote: *Live your best, act your best, and think your best each day, for there may be no tomorrows.*  
-Unknown

Scripture: *Whenever I journey to Spain, I shall come to you. For I hope to see you on my journey, and to be helped on my way there by you.*  
- Romans 15:24

Quote: *So what is God's family business? News, primarily. Christians are those who have been born again through Jesus' death and resurrection and then commissioned to carry the best news to as many people as possible from all nations, languages, and people groups of the earth.*

- John Rinehart



## PRAYER LIST

Anne Baxendale  
Linda DellaCroce  
Linda Beck  
Marie Blanchard  
Bob Craig  
Mary Giggey  
Donnie Gamble

Edward Duddy  
Elizabeth M. Orchard  
Sheena Giggey Curley  
May Keith  
Maeve Hughes  
Jane Neale  
June Paul

Martha Chase  
Jaime Toby  
Joan Kirby  
Beth Little  
Laurie Milligan  
Kelly Stewart Cassier  
Mark Paul

Jim Hogrell  
Paula Younie  
John White  
Harry Olson  
Eileen Menz  
Wink Wakelin  
Bernie Van Tassell  
Sandy White

## **hncc memories**

### **125 years**

**Keep your eyes open in newsletters throughout the rest of our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for remembrances or comments submitted by church and community members in honor of our 125<sup>th</sup>.**

When I first came to Houghs Neck, I met with the deacons and asked them how they did worship...because every congregational church has idiosyncrasies. They showed me a bulletin and said, "but you can do it how you like." So I started writing up worship bulletins and choosing songs and everything seemed to be going fine as I was getting a feel for HNCC worship and the personalities in the room. One Sunday, maybe 8 weeks in, I was saying goodbye to everyone after worship and Paula Younie came up with her Paula Younie smile and as he was shaking my hand, she looked up and said, "you have such a nice singing voice. We all love hearing you sing. We're also really enjoying learning all these new songs. When do you think we might sing some of the hymns we know?" At which point, I felt terrible at first, if one can feel terrible with Paula Younie holding your hand and smiling up at you...but I thought I had made a huge mistake. None of the song I had chosen over the 8 weeks had been unusual, so I asked Paula, "what do you mean, some of the songs we know?" To which she said, "well, most of us know our songs by heart. We don't even need to open the hymnals. And Arden used to play them without reading the music." "Can you tell me which ones they were?" I asked.

The next week, Paula came over to me and gave me a list of the 30 songs or so that everyone knew by heart, sort of the Houghs Neck repertoire, which, along with the Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving and Patriotic hymns, they had been singing together for a lifetime. The next Sunday, I picked three off Paula's song list and watching the looks on everyone's faces as they were wrapped up in the familiarity was heartwarming. That and everyone holding hands as we sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" after the blessing. Truly precious.

Submitted by:

Max Olmstead  
Pastor, Yoga Teacher, Spiritual Friend  
The Dover Church  
An Open and Affirming  
United Church of Christ



## January 2020 Daily Lectionary

*These Scripture readings are from the two-year daily lectionary of the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship (Westminster John Knox Press, 2018). The readings from the three-year Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals are not included in this document.*

### [Year 2]

#### January

Wednesday, January 1  
Morning: Pss. 98; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 99; 8  
Isa. 62:1–5, 10–12  
Rev. 19:11–16  
Matt. 1:18–25

Thursday, January 2  
Morning: Pss. 48; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 9; 29  
1 Kings 19:1–8  
Eph. 4:1–16  
John 6:1–14

Friday, January 3  
Morning: Pss. 111; 148  
Evening: Pss. 107; 15  
1 Kgs. 19:9–18  
Eph. 4:17–32  
John 6:15–27

Saturday, January 4  
Morning: Pss. 20; 149  
Evening: Pss. 93; 97  
Josh. 3:14–4:7  
Eph. 5:1–20  
John 9:1–12, 35–38

Sunday, January 5  
2nd Sunday of Christmas  
Morning: Pss. 99; 150  
Evening: Pss. 96; 110  
1 Kgs. 3:5–14  
Col. 3:12–17  
John 6:41–47

Monday, January 6  
Epiphany of the Lord  
Morning: Pss. 72; 145  
Evening: Pss. 100; 67  
Isa. 49:1–7  
Rev. 21:22–27  
Matt. 12:14–21

Tuesday, January 7  
Morning: Pss. 46 or 97; 146  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114  
Deut. 8:1–3  
Col. 1:1–14  
John 6:30–33, 48–51

Wednesday, January 8  
Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;  
147:1–10  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114  
Exod. 7:1–7  
Col. 1:15–23  
John 7:37–52

Thursday, January 9  
Morning: Pss. 46 or 47;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114  
Isa. 45:14–19  
Col. 1:24–2:7  
John 8:12–19

Friday, January 10  
Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 148  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114  
Jer. 23:1–8  
Col. 2:8–23  
John 10:7–17

Saturday, January 11  
Morning: Pss. 46 or 47; 149  
Evening: Pss. 27; 93; or 114  
Isa. 55:3–9  
Col. 3:1–17  
John 14:6–14

Sunday, January 12  
Baptism of the Lord  
Morning: Pss. 104; 150  
Evening: Ps. 29  
Gen. 1:1–2:3  
Eph. 1:3–14  
John 1:29–34

Monday, January 13  
Morning: Pss. 5; 145  
Evening: Pss. 82; 29  
Gen. 2:4–9 (10–15) 16–25  
Heb. 1:1–14  
John 1:1–18

Tuesday, January 14  
Morning: Pss. 42; 146  
Evening: Pss. 102; 133  
Gen. 3:1–24  
Heb. 2:1–10  
John 1:19–28

Wednesday, January 15  
Morning: Pss. 89:1–18;  
147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 1; 33  
Gen. 4:1–16  
Heb. 2:11–18  
John 1:(29–34) 35–42

Thursday, January 16  
Morning: Pss. 97; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 16; 62  
Gen. 4:17–26  
Heb. 3:1–11  
John 1:43–51

Friday, January 17  
Morning: Pss. 51; 148  
Evening: Pss. 142; 65  
Gen. 6:1–8  
Heb. 3:12–19  
John 2:1–12

Saturday, January 18  
Morning: Pss. 104; 149  
Evening: Pss. 138; 98  
Gen. 6:9–22  
Heb. 4:1–13  
John 2:13–22

Sunday, January 19  
Morning: Pss. 19; 150  
Evening: Pss. 81; 113  
Gen. 7:1–10, 17–23  
Eph. 4:1–16  
Mark 3:7–19

Monday, January 20  
Morning: Pss. 135; 145  
Evening: Pss. 97; 112  
Gen. 8:6–22  
Heb. 4:14–5:6  
John 2:23–3:15

Tuesday, January 21  
Morning: Pss. 123; 146  
Evening: Pss. 30; 86  
Gen. 9:1–17  
Heb. 5:7–14  
John 3:16–21

Wednesday, January 22  
Morning: Pss. 15; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 48; 4  
Gen. 9:18–29  
Heb. 6:1–12  
John 3:22–36

Thursday, January 23  
Morning: Pss. 36; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 80; 27  
Gen. 11:1–9  
Heb. 6:13–20  
John 4:1–15

Friday, January 24  
Morning: Pss. 130; 148  
Evening: Pss. 32; 139  
Gen. 11:27–12:8  
Heb. 7:1–17  
John 4:16–26

Saturday, January 25  
Morning: Pss. 56; 149  
Evening: Pss. 118; 111  
Gen. 12:9–13:1  
Heb. 7:18–28  
John 4:27–42

Sunday, January 26  
Morning: Pss. 67; 150  
Evening: Pss. 46; 93  
Gen. 13:2–18  
Gal. 2:1–10  
Mark 7:31–37

Monday, January 27  
Morning: Pss. 57; 145  
Evening: Pss. 85; 47  
Gen. 14:(1–7) 8–24  
Heb. 8:1–13  
John 4:43–54

Tuesday, January 28  
Morning: Pss. 54; 146  
Evening: Pss. 28; 99  
Gen. 15:1–11, 17–21  
Heb. 9:1–14  
John 5:1–18

Wednesday, January 29  
Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 125; 91  
Gen. 16:1–14  
Heb. 9:15–28  
John 5:19–29

Thursday, January 30  
Morning: Pss. 143;  
147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 81; 116  
Gen. 16:15–17:14  
Heb. 10:1–10  
John 5:30–47

Friday, January 31  
Morning: Pss. 88; 148  
Evening: Pss. 6; 20  
Gen. 17:15–27  
Heb. 10:11–25  
John 6:1–15

## **Contact Information**

### **FOR ALL**

#### **PASTORAL CONCERNS:**

Please contact the church office at 617-479-8778, by email [hncc@comcast.com](mailto:hncc@comcast.com) or mail to 310 Manet Ave Quincy, MA 02169

[hncong.org](http://hncong.org)

#### **FOR THE BULLETIN:**

Please remit in writing to church office by Thursday for the following Sunday or [hncc@comcast.net](mailto:hncc@comcast.net) or mail to 310 Manet Ave Quincy, MA 02169

#### **FOR THE NEWSLETTER:**

Please remit in writing to Christine Keating by the 15th of the month to appear in the following month's newsletter. [cmon1695@hotmail.com](mailto:cmon1695@hotmail.com) or mail to 16 Thomas St. Quincy, MA 02169

**Weekly service of worship**

**Sundays  
at 10:00 a.m.**

**Reverend Stephen Vandergrift**

**There is a potluck Coffee Hour each Sunday in the Conference Room after our service. All are welcome, please join us! We serve coffee, tea and whatever goodies are donated. Please volunteer to make and serve coffee and clean up!**