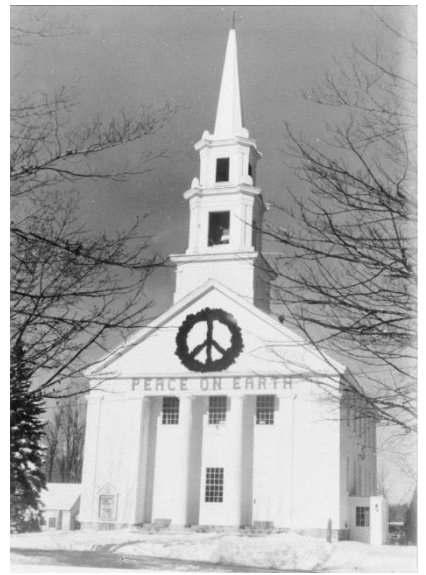


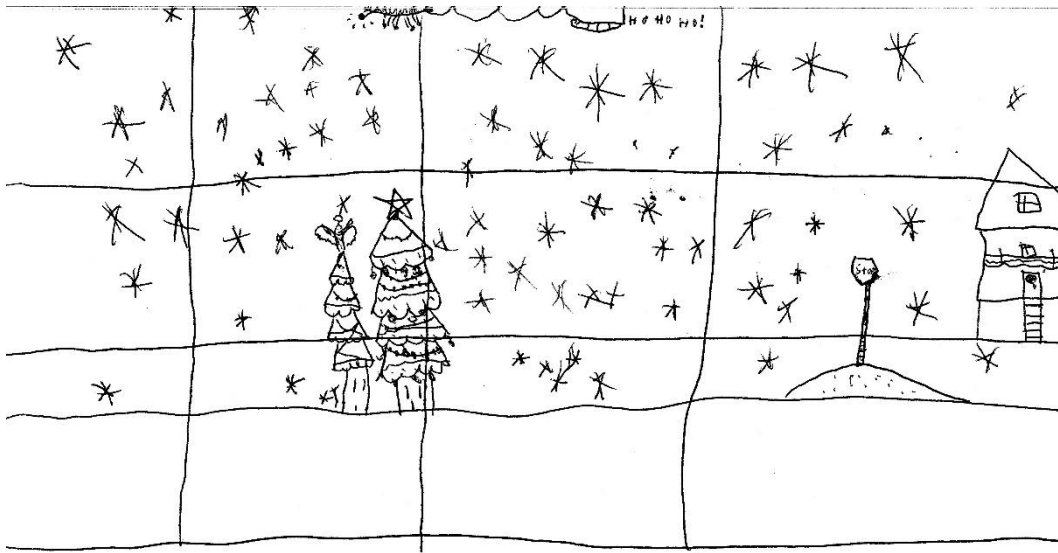
Congregational Church of Phillipston, U.C.C.
60 The Common
Phillipston, MA 01331



Phillipston
Community
Newsletter

December 2024

Vol. 38 No.12



Morgan Haley
Morgan Haley

Window

The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Our Community Church
Worship 10:00 a.m. with Children's story

Dear Friends,

I recently saw the movie "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," which I thoroughly enjoyed. Emmanuel Church has their Christmas pageant with the same blond girl playing Mary and the same children being the angels and the shepherds every year. Of course, everything is turned upside down and the most unlikely girl is chosen to become Mary for the pageant.

One of the most memorable parts of the movie for me was when the girl who played Mary kept staring at a painting of Madonna and Child. She thought Mary was sweet, and she could not possibly be sweet. The new director of the Christmas pageant explained that Mary was strong, incredibly strong. I thought about this for a couple of days and realized that all the sweet portraits of Mary do not normally show her strength, her faith, her determination.

This peasant girl had such a strong faith, and only asked the angel, "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" And after the angel explained that, "the power of the Most High will overshadow you, therefore the child will be called holy, the Son of God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your Word." What faith Mary demonstrates for all of us. Mary also realizes that generations later we would call her blessed, although we also see how much pain she endured when her Son died on the cross. Let us too magnify the Lord, and hold our mighty Lord above all else.

Your sister in Christ, Stephanie C. Flynn

Our Christmas Eve Worship service will be on Tuesday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m.

THE NEWSLETTER IS ON www.phillipston.com
January 2025 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS December 23rd
For more info go to : www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf
Email to: newsletter@phillipston.com

Valcourt Forest Management Professional Land Management

Massachusetts #277 & NH #454 Licensed Forester
Richard Valcourt Sr., 5 State Rd., Phillipston, MA, 01331
508-413-0428 DEERCHASER1@COMCAST.NET

2024 Christmas Trees

HIGH QUALITY BALSAM AND FRASER FIR 6'-9'

OPENING NOVEMBER 29

MAPLE SYRUP

VALCOURT SUGAR SHACK PETERSHAM MA

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS !

5 STATE ROAD (RTE.2A)

AT THE TEMPLETON PHILLIPSTON TOWN LINE



HOLLY BERRY FAIR



*Sponsored by the
Ladies Benevolent Society*

December 7, 2024

9 am - 2 pm

Phillipston Congregational Church

On the Phillipston Common

Christmas Vendors

Ladies Benevolent Society

Raffle Table

Lion's Lunch – Soup & Sandwiches \$

Dessert

Cookie Walk Table \$



Come take a picture with Santa.
Pets welcome! Bring your camera!



Phillips Free Public Library

Library Hours

Tuesday 9-2pm

Wednesday 5-7pm

Saturday 9-1 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting:

December 3, 2024, 6pm.

* “like” our Facebook page

Phillips Free Public Library

**** The Library will be CLOSED on Wednesday, November 27 Happy Thanksgiving!**

Evergreen Decoration Demonstration

Join us on **Wednesday, December 4 at 6pm** as Karen Perkins hosts a Holiday decoration demonstration program using fresh evergreens. Karen will demonstrate each step in creating 3 EASY pieces: a holiday swag, a festive wreath and a greenery bird. Each piece will be raffled off at the end of the program.

Story Hour

Join us for a Pre School Story Hour on **Tuesday, December 17 at 10am**. We'll enjoy stories, a craft project and a snack. No registration necessary.

New Materials

New books include: Ghost Dogs: on Killers and Kin by Andre Dubus III, The Blue Hour by Paula Hawkins, Patriot: a memoir by Alexi Navalny, and Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times by Katherine May

New Children's books include: Cozy Winter Day by Eliza Wheeler, and The Snow Thief by Alice Heming.

New DVDs include: Deadpool & Wolverine and It Ends with Us

BOOK CLUB

The Book club's December read is Hillbilly Elegy by J.D.Vance. Copies are available to borrow at the library. We will meet on **Tuesday, December 10 at 5:30** for discussion and a \$5 Yankee Swap (optional). New members always welcome!

January's book will be The Life we Bury by Allen Eskens. Watch the outdoor sign (& your email) for the bookclub date. Copies available at the library!

The Phillipston Youth Supports (PYS)

Would like to Thank everyone who made the Narragansett Craft Fair a Success. Without the vendors, volunteers, donors to the raffle and of course shoppers we would not be able to help support our Phillipston Youths.

Next Quarterly meeting will be held on December 12, 2024 at 6:30 pm at 330 Highland Ave.

All are Welcome

The Phillipston Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is inviting interested parties to apply for funds to support projects in Phillipston.

Deadline December 31, 2024

Applications are available at Phillipston Town Website -
<https://www.phillipston-ma.gov/community-preservation-committee/pages/fy25-community-preservation-project-application>

The funds can be used for public or non-profit projects in the following categories:

- **Open Space** funds can be used for the acquisition, preservation and creation of open space, including aquifers and watershed lands, agricultural lands, grasslands, fields and forest land, river, stream, lake and pond frontage, or lands that protect scenic vistas, wildlife or nature.
- **Recreation** funds can be used for the acquisition, preservation and creation of recreation lands, including community gardens, trails, non-commercial youth and adult sports, parks, playgrounds and athletic fields.
- **Historical Preservation** funds can be used for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation or restoration of properties listed on the State Register of Historic Places or determined by the town's Historical Commission to be significant in the archaeology, architecture, history or culture of the town.
- **Community Housing** funds can be used for the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of Community Housing in Phillipston.

For more information contact CPC Chair, Peter Trivisano 774-641-2512 or peter.trivisano@gmail.com

Phillipston Transfer Station will be closed on Christmas Day December 25th and on New Years Day January 1st. It will be open on Thursday December 26th and Thursday January 2nd from 3pm-6pm for your convenience.



Annual Senior Holiday Luncheon



Senior Citizens from Phillipston & Templeton, join us for the annual
NRSD Holiday Luncheon

When: Friday, December 20, 2024

Where: Middle School/High School Cafeteria

Time: 12pm

Your choice of delicious turkey or ham, served with all the fixings!
Followed by an assortment of baked holiday treats and hot coffee/tea.

RSVP no later than December 13th

svarney@nrds.org

OR

ageyster@nrds.org

(978) 939-6232 or (978) 939-6234

Christmas Toy Drive

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Again this year we will be collecting new and unwrapped toys for children ages 8 through 16 boys and girls. Boxes are located at the town hall and fire station. We will be picking up the boxes on December 18th. For more information you can contact Don Smith at 978-895-3405, again we thank you for your support each and every year.

Phillipston Lions

Meeting December 10, 2024
Christmas Party Potluck
7pm until 9pm at the church

Bells will be Ringing at Market Basket.
Phillipston Lions & Friends

Starting December 11, 2024 the Lions will be starting a
Soup Kitchen at the church.
Soup, Sandwich, Desert' Hot Coffee, Tea, Hot Cocoa.

All Free!
Phillipston Church
On The Common
12:00 Noon
No take outs.

Donations are welcome

Soup Kitchen will be open Dec. 11, 2024, Jan. 15, 2025,
Feb. 12, 2025, Mar. 12, 2025, Apr. 9, 2025 & May 14, 2025