

Week of November 12, 2023



From Woody: .I was reminded again yesterday of the power of music. This occurs every Sunday with our wonderful choir and soloists, accompanied by Karina. Yesterday it was Sam singing beautifully. Then last night Barbi and I went to the Nashua Center for the Arts, a beautiful new performance hall on Main St. where Alec's Shoes used to be. On stage were Paul Stookey and Peter Yarrow, who are both in their mid 80's and still great performers. The wonderful folk music they sang was the soundtrack of the efforts to

make a more peaceful and just world.in the '60's.

Mary Travers died several years ago but I was privileged to interview her in her apartment in New York City in 1990, just a week or so before Peter, Paul and Mary held a concert at Holman Stadium in Nashua. I asked her if there was any one of the performances they gave that stood out for her. Her answer was, "To have marched with Dr. Martin Luther King in Selma and Washington; to have sung with Bishop Tutu against apartheid; to have sung for John F. Kennedy; to have gone to El Salvador and Nicaragua; to have participated in innumerable anti-Vietnam War ralliesI'm happy and grateful to say that the last 30 years have been memorable".

Last night Peter and Paul had a choir composed of the capacity crowd in the hall. Peter Yarrow pointed out before we all sang the song, "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?", that the lyrics of the song, written by Pete Seeger, were based on a traditional Cossack song and that Seeger found the poem by a Ukrainian poet in a novel he was reading by Mikhail Sholakhov. The song is not anti military but certainly anti-war. The music we joined them in singing last night brought back the hope that we can all come together to make a world that is filled with justice and peace. That's what Jesus taught and that's what we as his followers pray for today. The music of Peter, Paul and Mary spoke to those prayers and the wonderful music of our choir inspires us each Sunday. Music reminds us that hope for the kind of world Jesus taught about continues to call us all to be a part, as best we can, in working for that kingdom. Thanks to Peter and Paul last night and over many years and thanks to Sam and Karina and our wonder choir at church.



Welcome New Members: We welcomed 4 new members on Sunday. Welcome to: Lori and Wayne Parent, Mary Philippy, and Carol Ann Burbee Hauser.



Thanksgiving Food Baskets: T

The Distributions will take place on **Saturday, Nov. 18**, starting at 10:00 am and we will be collecting donations on **Friday, Nov. 17 from 7:30-9:00 am and Saturday Nov. 18 from 7:30-8:30 am.**



We are looking for volunteers in several areas. There are sign up sheets on the church bulletin board. Or you can let Barbara Woodland know (603-487-3643):



Greeters: We are looking for greeters for Sunday worship. The job includes lighting the candles, getting water for Woody on the pulpit, and most importantly welcoming people as they come in the front door. We have had a number of new people recently and we want them to feel welcome.



Sanctuary Flowers: Volunteers are needed to provide flowers for the altar on Sunday. There is a signup list outside the office door at church, or you can email Ellen at andersel@njms.rutgers.edu It is a wonderful way to contribute to the service; one can give in memory of someone or some event as well.



Refreshments for Coffee Hour: We are looking for people to provide refreshments after church for the coffee hour. They can be homemade or bought and do not need to be elaborate. Again, this is a way to make people feel welcome.



Peace Quote: Those who seek through violence the Garden of Eden usher in the apocalypse.....*Chris Hedges*