

WEEK OF JULY 6, 2025



From Woody: First of all, thank you to our readers in yesterday's Celebration of Freedom. I felt good about the service and hope others did as well. I share a story with you from last week. I had just gotten home from the rally on immigration last week when I got a call from one of our church family about a ICE Raid in Maine. She had gotten a call from a relative in a nursing home who was very upset because ICE had come in the home and taken away a worker who they all loved. We are still trying to find out where she was taken. She was a lady who emptied the bed pans and did many other things to help the residents.

It reminds me of the poem by Maurice Ogden, THE HANGMAN, written in 1951.. The basic story of the poem is that a hangman comes to a town and builds a scaffold in the town square. He is asked what that is for and he says that he has come to hang the person who serves him best. He then begins hanging people. Finally the narrator is the only one left and the hangman calls for him. He assumes that the hangman wants him to help take down the scaffold. Here is the last part of the poem. It is food for thought: The Hangman is speaking:

*For I answered straight and I told you true;
The scaffold was raised for none but you
For who has served me more faithfully
Than you with your coward's hope, said he.
And where are the others that might have stood
By your side in the common good
Dead, I whispered; and amiably,
Murdered the Hangman corrected me
First the alien, then the Jew...
I did no more than you let me do
Beneath the beam that blocked the sky,
None had stood as alone as I—
And the Hangman strapped me, and no voice there
Cried "stay" for me in the empty square*



Next Sunday begins a sermon series on the Lord's Prayer. On July 20, Dawn Sweet will be joining us for a musical time of reflection "Praying the Lord's Prayer."



Summer Concerts: The first Concert on the Common of the year is coming up on **July 8 (postponed from June 24 and July 1)**—our annual Strawberry Festival. Cost of the Shortcakes is \$7 and \$3 for ice cream only.

We will also be looking for brownie bakers for the rest of the concerts. AND as always, helpers for our table. Please see Karen Marden or Lynn Wawrzyniak to offer help for our Dessert Stand. Schedule for the concerts can be found at:

<https://www.newbostonnh.gov/recreation/pages/concerts-comm>The scaffold was on.



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Supplies for Ukranian and Polish Children: David and Candy thank you for your supplies for their mission trip. We have now as many as they can carry with them.



Church Picnic

Sunday, August 3rd ~ after service

Please join us for food, fellowship, and fun!

Burgers, hotdogs, lemonade, and iced tea will be provided.

Please bring a side-dish to share!

There will be a dessert auction at high noon!

Sign up to bring a side-dish and/or a dessert for the auction.



Summer Flowers for the Sanctuary: For June, July and August, flowers for the sanctuary will be "Potpourri" meaning a mixture of whatever anyone would like to share from their garden or favorite garden center. Questions?? Ask Ellen Anderson, cell 973-747-2321 or andersel@njms.rutgers.edu. service.



Dress A Girl Around the World: This project will be continuing through September. Meetings at the church will be: July 19, Aug 16 and Sept all Saturdays (6,13, 20, 27). Completed dresses are due to Kristi by September 30. Any questions or if you would like to participate, contact Kristi at 603-486-9910 or email at kris_Kreations@comcast.net. Kristi is still looking for sergers. If you can help with that, let Kristi know.

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Peace Quote: This is what Jesus said, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me." That, my friends, is what morality is all about. I would hope that my colleagues in the Senate, especially those who claim to be religious, remember that very powerful passage. And let's be frank,; in no religion, not Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism or any other, is it considered moral to enrich those who need it the least while taking basic necessities-food, healthcare- away from the desperate people who need it the most. *Senator Bernie Sanders.*