

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC
Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

September 24, 2017: River Sunday

Please silence all electronic devices. Thank you!

** indicates times when you're invited to rise in body or spirit*

Gathering Music & The Ringing of the Church Bell

Greetings and Announcements

A Water's Edge Prayer

Prelude and Lighting of the Altar Lights

I've Got Peace Like a River

Mark Hayes

Call to Worship

Life flows like a river.

Saco & Saint John, New Meadows, Allagash and Kennebec.

From thawing snowpack and gentle headwaters,

From seep to trickle, then rivulet, then stream, creek, brook.

Damariscotta, Dead, Cold, Pleasant, Rapid, and Royal.

There is life in the flow of rivers: trout, salmon, sturgeon,
moss, mayfly, and mussel, algae and eel and alewife.

Sheepscot, Ducktrap, and Androscoggin, little and big:

Rivers carried the logs and powered the mills.

They have been roadways and refreshment.

Creator of all rivers, we praise You! Let us go with your flow!

***Opening Hymn:** All Creatures of Our God & King (verses 1-3) PH 64

Gathering Prayer: (UCC General Synod 2017, adapted)

Wisdom Overflowing, we are glad to be here. Encounter us on this shore, and immerse us in your grace. Stir up the pool of healing challenge so that we may know how much you love us, and long to empower us to become agents of abundant life in the world you love. We pray in the name of Jesus, who waits at this and every shore to call us into mission:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in

heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our

trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, & the power, & the glory, forever. Amen

***Gloria Patri: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end! Amen, Amen!**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 104:1-31 KJV 468 /CEB 467 /MSG 787

Blessing the Buckets: An Outpouring of Grace!

***Hymn:** Within the Maddening Maze of Things Pilgrim Hymnal 360

Pastoral Prayer: May the Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up unto the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

Offertory: *Pavanne for Healing of the Earth* Alan Wingard

***Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Reading: 2nd Kings 5:1-14 KJV 304 /CEB 289 /MSG 467

Reflection: Holy Water Rev. Holly Morrison

***Closing Hymn:** Down By The Riverside (verses 1-2, 8) Hymn Binder

Benediction

Extinguishing the Altar Lights: *Take the Light of Christ into the world!*

Postlude: *Trumpet Voluntary* John Stanley

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Hartzler Lay Reader: John Morse

Head/Asst Deacons: Ann Bradbury, Kathy Totten, Berenice Knight

Copyrighted material used with permission: CCLI License #1674439

Welcome to the Phippsburg Congregational Church! Please sign our guest book in the narthex and stay for refreshments and fellowship in the Linden Tree Meeting House following the service. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Need a Large-print bulletin, bible, or hearing-assist device? Please ask one of our deacons for these.

CALENDAR

<i>Sun. Sept. 24</i>	<i>Seasons of Creation: River Sunday</i>
<i>Mon. Sept. 25</i>	<i>Gentle & Yin Yoga, 6 PM, LTMH</i>
<i>Tues. Sept. 26</i>	<i>Church Council, 7 PM, LTMH</i>
<i>Sat. Sept. 30</i>	<i>Ordination of Pam Kittredge, Vinalhaven</i>
<i>Sun. Oct. 1</i>	<i>World Communion Sunday</i>
	<i>Special Offering: Neighbors In Need</i>
<i>Friday, Oct. 20</i>	<i>Maine Conference Retreat, Bangor</i>
<i>Sat. Oct. 21</i>	<i>Maine Conference Annual Mtg, Bangor</i>

OFFICE HOURS FOR SEPTEMBER 24-30:

This week, Holly will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 3 PM. (Other hours by arrangement.) Holly can be reached by phone or email as needed: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com.

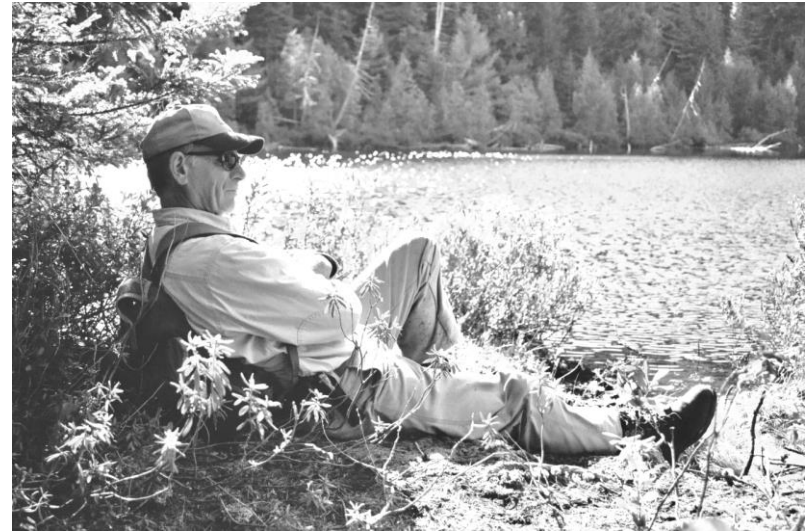
FALL BIBLE STUDY: Walking with the Word (Mondays, time TBD)

Come explore the weekly lectionary texts (the set of readings used in worship). We'll examine historical/cultural contexts and discover how these scriptures still meet us on the road today. Join us for a prayerful, personal journey towards Sunday. (Starts Monday, Oct. 2, time TBD)

BOOK GROUP: "Take This Bread" (Starts Thursday, Oct. 12, 1:30-3 PM)

Book group will be reading "Take This Bread" by Sara Miles, a challenging exploration of Christian meaning, identity and practice on the streets of San Francisco. Copies will be available at the Mustard Seed Bookstore by Sept. 30th.

RIVER SUNDAY



Go with the flow

Be thoughtful of those downstream

Slow down and meander

Follow the path of least resistance

*Immerse yourself in nature;
trickling stream, roaring waterfall,
sparkles of light dancing on water*

*Delight in life's adventures
around every bend*

--Ilan Shamir

Rev. Holly Morrison, pastor & teacher

www.phippsburgucc.org

Office: 207-389-1767 Pastor: 207-504-0107