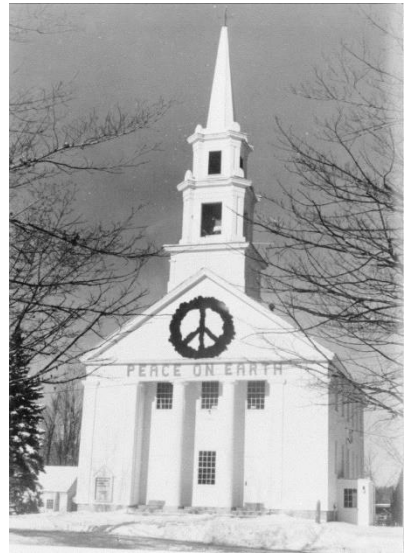


Congregational Church of Phillipston, U.C.C.  
60 The Common  
Phillipston, MA 01331



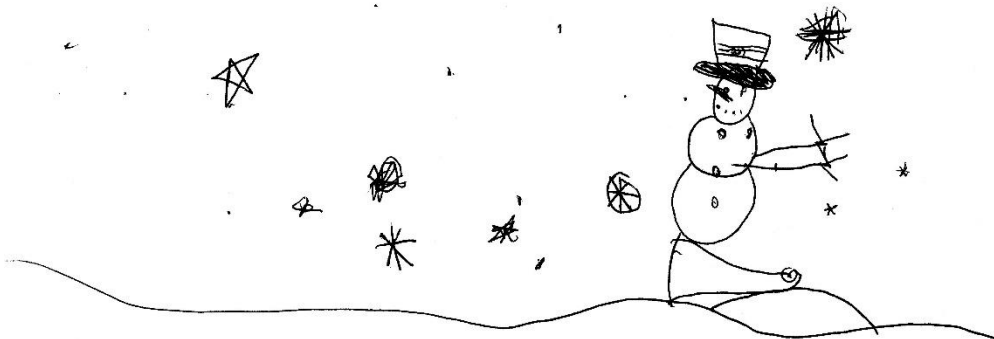
Phillipston  
Community  
Newsletter

Vol. 37      No.12

# December 2023

uhia@ue

From  
Morgan H\*



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

Dear Friends,

This is a unique year with Christmas on a Monday, so that we will have two Christmas Eve worship services on Sunday, December 24. The 4:00 p.m. worship service will be our traditional service of Lessons and Carols with a candle lit singing of "Silent Night." In addition, the choir will sing an anthem.

At the 10:00 a.m. worship service we will share our own creche sets with the congregation. We can credit the first creche to St. Francis of Assisi in 1223. The only historical account we have of Francis' nativity scene comes from The Life of St. Francis of Assisi by St. Bonaventure, a Franciscan monk who was born five years before Francis' death. According to Bonaventure's biography, St. Francis got permission from Pope Honorius III to set up a manger with hay and two live animals—an ox and an ass—in a cave in the Italian village of Greccio. He then invited the villagers to come gaze upon the scene while he preached about "the babe of Bethlehem." (Francis was supposedly so overcome by emotion that he couldn't say "Jesus.")

I think it is interesting that St. Francis chose the ox and ass to be the animals at his first nativity. This reminds me of the hymn "What Child is This, Who, Laid to Rest?" The second verse is "Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding." We will have to sing that people hymn at our 10:00 a.m. worship service. We hope to see you there.

Your sister in Christ,

Stephanie C. Flynn

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The Town of Phillipston's Senior Tax Abatement program for FY25 will be starting again in January. Applications will be accepted beginning in January for placement into the program which will run until October 13, 2024. Placement in the program is on a first come, first served basis. Please contact the Board of Selectmen's office at 978-249-6828 or [selectman@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:selectman@phillipston-ma.gov) to receive more information and an application. Please note that participation in this program will generate a W2.

THE NEWSLETTER IS ON [www.phillipston.com](http://www.phillipston.com)  
**January 2024 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS December 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**For more info go to : [www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf](http://www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf)**

# Phillips Free Public Library

## **Library Hours**

Tuesday 9-2pm

Wednesday 5-7pm

**Saturday 9-1 pm**

## **Board of Trustees Meeting:**

Tues. Dec 5, 2023 at 6pm

\* **“like” our Facebook page**

**Phillips Free Public Library**

## **Book Club**

The club is reading The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See. We will meet on Tuesday, December 12 at 5:30 for a lively discussion and (voluntary ) Yankee Swap! Copies are available for pick-up. New members always welcome!

## **Holiday Movies**

Browse through our collection of holiday movies ! Some titles to get you ‘in the spirit’ include: White Christmas, A Charlie Brown Christmas, Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town and It’s a Wonderful Life.

## **New Materials**

My Name is Barbra by Barbra Streisand, The Purest Bond; Understanding the Human-Canine Connection by Jen Golbeck, Handmade Murder by Emma Chapman, Now I See You (large print) by Shannon Wok, Forever Strong: A New Science-Based Strategy for Aging Well by Dr. Lyon Gabrielle, The Little Liar by Mitch Albom, Just Once : a Novel by Karen Kingsbury.

## **Passes Available**

Discovery Museum in Acton -When borrowed, this pass will admit 3 people at half the cost of general admission. Children under 1 year old are admitted free of charge. Call the library (978) 249-1734 to reserve the passes

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JOURNEY WITHIN – Website [journeyinyoga.com](http://journeyinyoga.com) - November newsletter

Did you have an opportunity to check the website or better yet participate in a class?

I have tried several classes and honestly, I’m grateful to have gone back on the mat and taking time for myself.

I remember practicing yoga with Danielle on Thursday evenings on the cold, hard cement floor at the Congregational church years ago. If you attended, you remember.

Danielle has a beautiful studio, many classes to offer and something for everybody. There are many teachers to assist us on the mat.

Don’t hesitate to try your journeyinyoga. It will be worth it!

I gave myself a gift for my birthday and I am forever grateful!

Happy Birthday to me! Sylvia Haley

If you have any questions, reach out to Danielle 617-803-9452.



# Annual Senior Holiday Luncheon



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

## NRSD Holiday Luncheon

**When:** Thursday, December 21, 2023

**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 12th

[svarney@nrsd.org](mailto:svarney@nrsd.org) OR [ageyster@nrsd.org](mailto:ageyster@nrsd.org)

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

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### 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 14, 2023, at 6:00 pm at 330  
Highland Ave.

All are Welcome.

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The Phillipston Lions would like to thank the community for all the support that was given  
this year.

December 14, 2023, Senior Meal / Deliver

Come to the Holly Berry Fair December 9, 2023, for a holiday lunch while you shop at the  
fair.

Serving soups, sandwich and gingerbread with whip cream.

We will be back on March 16, 2024, with the first Breakfast of the year with homemade  
Corn Beef Hash.

Come Join Us

Phillipston Lion meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month.

At the Library at 7:00 pm

Got questions? Call Marilyn @ 978-503-2269

Always looking for new people to serve our community.