Nancy Pierpont (Pape)
57 Nute Rd
Madbury, NH 03823
nancy-pape@comcast.net
(603) 969-7892

Short Bio:

Nancy Pierpont (Pape) is chair of the NH Conference United Church of Christ Immigrant and Refugee Support Group. Nancy's interest in this topic was piqued when her congregation, now called Madbury UCC began sharing their church building with an Indonesian fellowship now called Maranatha Indonesian UCC (MIUCC) more than 16 years ago. After the sudden loss of their musician Nancy was urged to play piano for the MIUCC. For many months Nancy sang tenor at the 10 am English service and played piano at the 1 pm Indonesian service every Sunday. Six or more years later she is still doing this double header once a month. That's how she knows so well the members of both congregations.

Back in 2012 the pews for the Indonesian service began to drastically empty out evoking a huge sense of grief and loss in both congregations. Nancy's pastor, Maren Tirabassi, urged her to attend the first meeting of what is now called the Immigrant and Refugee Support Group. Meetings were spearheaded by the chairperson Mary Westfall of what is now called Justice and Witness Ministries. The group's mission was to support Pastor Sandra, understand why the pews were emptying out and figure out how they could prevent it. Pastor Sandra, by then a good friend of Nancy's, volunteered her to be group secretary. A year later Nancy was urged to be the chairperson. Five years ago Nancy with help from Eva initiated the NH Immigrant Visitation Program visiting immigrants detained at Strafford County Department of Corrections in Dover, NH. Nancy has been co-leading the program with Maggie Fogarty since February of 2014.

Type of presentation: Will prepare and lead worship with a 15 minute sermon or offer a 90 minute workshop on immigration.

Presentation Title: Standing with Our Immigrant Neighbor

Presentation Description:

Welcome the stranger. Visit the prisoner. Clothe the naked. Feed the hungry. This is the call jointly received by the Madbury United Church of Christ and the Maranatha Indonesian United Church of Christ. The presentation describes how it came to pass that our two congregations share one building and a common ministry. The presentation touches on the depth of our relationship, how this has led to our jail visitation program, and the wide spectrum of the people we now support.

How is God calling your congregation to see Jesus and serve him?