

First Parish Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

East Derry, New Hampshire



We are a community of faith built upon a firm foundation of worship, prayer and education. In affirming diversity, we are dedicated to welcoming all people who seek the Word of God, Christian fellowship and service to others. In partnership with Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, we reach out to the ever-widening community through active and loving ministry.

Upcoming Events

September 3rd

CE Meeting ~ 11 in Nursery

September 6th

Deacons Meeting ~ 6:30 in Cook

September 7th

Stewardship Meeting ~ 7 in Cook

September 9th

Interfaith Peace Vigil at 7pm

September 10th

Rally Day ~ 11 in Currier

September 13th

K.I.T ~ 12:30 in Currier

September 16th

LuLaRoe Fundraiser ~ 11 in Currier

September 17th

Preservation Update/Tour ~ 11:30

September 20th

Council ~ 7 in Cook

September 24th

Make a Blanket ~ 11:30 in Currier

September 29th

Spaghetti Supper ~ 5 in Currier

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Child of God,

"Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow,
it only saps today of its joy." – Leo F. Buscaglia

Everyone worries. And nearly every culture and time period has a pearl of wisdom regarding worry. During the time of Jesus a renowned Roman philosopher by the name of Seneca said: "We suffer more often in imagination than in reality." There's a Chinese proverb: "That the birds of worry and care fly over your head, this you cannot change, but that they build nests in your hair, this you can prevent." Mark Twain said: "I've had a lot of worries in my life, most of which never happened." And let's not leave out a favorite sage, Erma Bombeck: "Worry is like a rocking chair: it gives you something to do but never gets you anywhere"

In the 6th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel Jesus talks about worry, encouraging us to avoid it! Verse 25: "Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear." Verse 28: "And why do you worry about clothing?" Verse 34: "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

Stop and think about how much you worry. Do you worry about things that are or do you worry about things that you fear may happen?

ALL ARE WELCOME

"Friend, you enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks upon your lips, and offer God today your love and your service."

- Adapted from a 12th Century Church in Hampshire, England



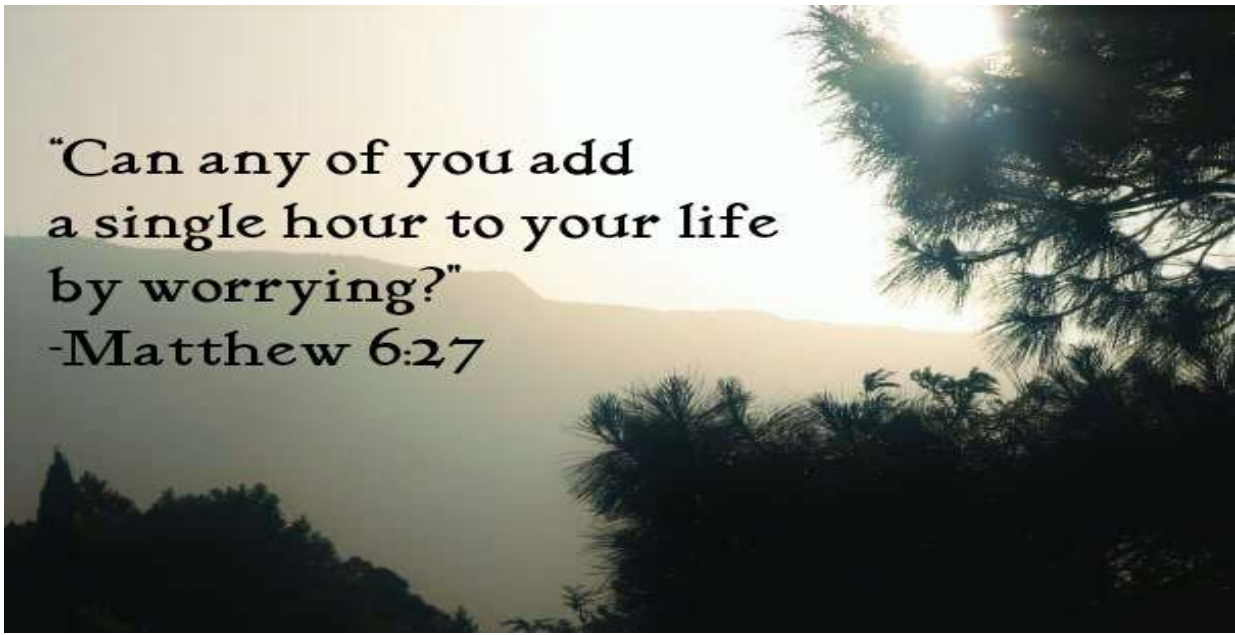
From the Pastor's Desk Continued

When I wrote “quotes about worry” into the google search on the computer there were 48 million articles! As ‘natural’ as it may be to worry, it is crucially important to be mindful about the source of that concern. With all of the articles out there on the subject, it’s possible that it is simply a bad habit. And if it is your bad habit, you can change that behavior with mindfulness. Catch yourself in the act of worry and ask yourself: “Is this (fill-in-the-blank-with-horrible-thing) happening right now?” Chances are it is not happening right now. Chances are you are safe right now. Chances are you have clothes to choose from, food to choose from, decisions you can make. Chances are what you fear most can be replaced in your mind’s eye with what you are privileged with: food, clothing, shelter, safety and on and on.

This is why expressing thanks and gratitude lists are life-savers. Recovery programs swear by them. Therapists swear by them. Self-help books swear by them. And with good reason! Your brain is constantly working AND you have control over what you focus on. Will you focus on what you are blessed with or will you focus on fear and worry? It’s a choice. We currently have three “gratitude texting” groups going on in the church. Numerous people have told me that this simple act of giving thanks each and every day has changed their lives. In some cases, it has saved them from being consumed by life’s pressures.

Giving thanks interrupts worrying. After all, Jesus asks in Matthew 6:27: “And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?”

Thanks be to God!
Let us give thanks.
Pastor Deborah



**“Can any of you add
a single hour to your life
by worrying?”
-Matthew 6:27**

News from Council

Communication, communication, communication. We can never have too much communication. And it seems that some folks feel that the church council activities and decisions are not being communicated to the wider congregation as well as they could be. So we will try harder. With notes like this in the monthly newsletter. And with announcements on Sunday morning. The primary reason people come to church on Sunday is to worship, pray, and sing. So we don't want to clutter up Sunday with a lot of church business talk. And Sunday is the only time a large number of the congregation come together in one place at the same time.

So we think we can make it quick and painless by once a month making a short announcement with a bullet point list of the items discussed at the latest council meeting, while identifying council members present that morning along with an offer to answer questions after worship during fellowship hour.

By the way, do you know who your council members are? Here they are:

Fred Merrill, Moderator;
Anne LaDuke, Assistant Moderator;
Becky Fleury, Treasurer;
Linda Webber, Clerk;
Reni Harnden, Diaconate;
Margie Ives, Stewardship;
Dee Deranian, Facilities;
Joe Weaver, Mission;
Cathy Zylinski, Personnel;
Anne Marie Merrill, Christian Education;
John Bartel, Member-at-large;

Are you interested in becoming a member-at-large? Please speak up, there are two openings.

This past month council discussed the following items:

- A new conflict of interest policy;
- Nominating Harry Handy to the Board of Diaconate;
- A fundraising proposal, i.e. a labyrinth;
- Financial Statements, (council reviews these every month);
- Pastor's Report, (also every month);
- Short (sometimes long) reports from each of the church boards.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to bring them to any council member or to Pastor Deborah. Pastor Deborah is an ex-officio member of the church council.

Blessed Be.

Submitted by John Bartel on behalf of the church council

Board of Diaconate

Greetings from your Deacons! September is here and before we know it brisk air and beautiful arrays of reds, yellows and oranges will fill every aspect of our lives. We are happy to announce that this month marks the return to our regular service hours of 10:00am with announcements beginning around 9:50am. Also, please be aware that September's **Communion will be held on September 10, 2017** rather than the first Sunday of the month. This also coincides with Rally Day, a special day that ushers in the new 17/18 School year. With the return to the normal schedule also comes the return of our wonderful Choir. We would like to offer a friendly reminder that voices and noises within Currier Hall are very distracting during Choir rehearsal. Your patience in waiting to enter the Hall until Choir has finished rehearsal is very much appreciated and offers a great time for fellowship or to greet a new face.

Additionally, over the coming months the Board of Diaconate and Board of Christian Education will be working together to establish a structured Acolyte program. Children in 4th grade and up are encouraged to explore this unique opportunity to participate in the service of worship and bring the light of Christ into our congregation. If interested or for more information please reach out to Christine Lehoullier, Christian Education Director or a Deacon.

Finally, if you have gratitude or prayer requests that you would like added to our list please call or email the office. However, if you require additional support please reach out to your Deacon and we would be happy to help in any way that we can. Peace and love to all.

Respectfully submitted by Ryan Lehoullier on behalf of the Board of Diaconate

Board of Stewardship

Fall is approaching and the Stewardship Committee is busily planning for the fall pledge process. In our planning, we are prayerfully considering ways in which this process might be more inclusive, less intimidating, and perhaps even exciting! We have been brainstorming ways to do this, and we visited a council meeting to dialogue about this with a wider audience.

Here are some of our thoughts:

- We want to emphasize and celebrate stewardship in all of its forms, and we would like Consecration Sunday to be a time when we do this. We want to celebrate all of the ways in which people *serve* at First Parish.
- We are looking to revise the pledge card, making it more user-friendly and streamlined to our community.
- We want the pledge process to be motivating and unifying! So, we are investigating methods to make it so. Stay tuned for this...

The bottom line is...we want folks to understand what it means to be a steward of the church, and we want folks to be motivated to *be* stewards of the church.

Yours in Christian service, Margie Ives, John Bartel, Joyce Pope and Sarah Keller

Board of Christian Education

SUMMER NEWS: Our summer adventures were plentiful and filled with fun and stories that illustrated important biblical lessons in an enjoyable and engaging way. Our Horton Center Campers had the time of their lives and all that attended are already planning their attendance for next year's camps! VCS was a great success and planning has already begun for an even bigger collaboration for next year's extravaganza! Summer Story Time was a magical time outside with perfect weather every weekend in which students enjoyed special stories and outdoor activities related to the weekly Common Revised Lectionary! Enjoy the following pictures as we reminisce about the great team-building experiences had by many of our Church Members of all ages:

HORTON CENTER PHOTOS



Board of Christian Education

(Continued)

HERO CENTRAL VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL



Board of Christian Education

(Continued)



RALLY DAY CELEBRATIONS SEPTEMBER 10th!

Join us Sunday, September 10th for our Annual Rally Day Kick-off and Church wide Picnic. Come draw together for the common purpose of seeking the Holy Spirit's power to "renew our energy" for worship, for digging into God's Word for the new School Year, for praying, for serving, and for witnessing.

Come visit various informational displays and opportunities to get involved in new and exciting ways from our many supportive Boards and Committees in John/Rainbow Room located downstairs. **For parents of students, please take the time to renew your child's registration with Christian Education** and discover ways you too can become involved in the education of our Church's Youth!

ATTENTION STUDENTS OF ALL AGES!

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING
IN YOUR BACKPACKS ON
RALLY DAY FOR A SPECIAL
'BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS' GIVEN BY
PASTOR DEBORAH!**



**Blessing
of the Backpacks**

Board of Christian Outreach and Missions

Zimbabwe Container

On September 9th a shipment of goods (books, school supplies, clothing, medical supplies, tools, food, etc...) will begin its long journey from Keene, New Hampshire to Zimbabwe, Africa in a 40 foot long shipping container. A journey that may take more than three months. The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions, with the help of the Congregation has been collecting items for this shipment since late July. A complete list of Priority items can be found on the FPC website at: www.fpc-ucc.org under Missions □ Zimbabwe, on the Missions bulletin board outside of the AB Classroom, and in the August Newsletter.

To date we have collected fabric, school supplies, bicycles (including kids bikes), books, and are working towards acquiring a generator. If you have any last minute items you would like to donate, please contact a member of the Missions board and we will try to accommodate.



Dangamvura Church News:

First Parish Church has received some gifts from our sister church in Dangamvura, Mutare, Zimbabwe. The Dangamvura church has a new pastor (Reverend Noel Chitende) after being without one for over a year. Reverend Chitende started last January. In Zimbabwe, pastors serve for four year terms. A letter from the church states that they have opened a church library with the books we sent last year. The letter goes on to say that they will be sending us a Pen-Pal request list so that we can revitalize this important dialogue between our two churches.



The letter will be displayed on the Missions bulletin board outside of the AB classroom. The items in the picture are made from Cow horns. There is one that is a bottle opener and one that is a pen holder all beautifully engraved. They will be on display at the church once a good location is decided.

Project Linus: The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions provides support to Project Linus which gives quilts, lap through twin size, quilted, crocheted, knitted or tied, to children who have experienced a trauma. It could be sickness, fire, foster child, etc. there are only 2 drop offs in NH: one in Keene & one in Deerfield.

We are having a Project Linus "Make a Quilt Day" at FPC on September 24th after Church. Bring your own lunch and beverage. You don't have to bring anything else unless you plan to knit or crochet in which case you can bring your own hook or needles. Please see related article elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Board of Christian Outreach and Missions

(Continued)

Food Basket Program: The Food Basket program is a vital part of our Missions work as a Church of Christ. The food basket is kept outside of Currier Hall. The food from the food basket alternates between the Derry Food Pantry and the Upper Room, both important programs supported by your missions giving. If you have donated canned goods or other food items to this program in the past, thank you. If not, please consider dropping off items in the food basket on Sunday, or anytime the Church is open. Donations are desperately needed and always appreciated

In Need of One More Member: The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions has one open position. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Missions board or would just like more information about what we do, please contact Joe Weaver at 560-0420 or talk to any member of the board.

Missions Giving: The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions is thankful to each of you for sharing so generously with those in our community who are struggling. We can do nothing without your kindness. Below is our list of charities who received your support last month:

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) \$350.00
Sonshine Soup Kitchen \$100.00
First Baptist Food Pantry \$100.00
Community Caregivers \$100.00
Derry Friendship Center \$100.00
Family Promise \$100.00
Pastoral Counseling \$100.00
Upper Room \$100.00
Pastor Discretionary Fund \$100.00

Update: We voted to send \$1,000.00 to Hurricane Harvey disaster relief.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions (BOCOM): Joe Weaver, Sue Brown, Beth Hunter, Karen Wilson, Kathy Holland, Bart Wetherbee, Melanie VanSteensburg



Historical Preservation Committee

Historical Reminders, Historical Context, and First Parish

It is exciting that First Parish and the towns and communities that were part of Nutfield will be celebrating our 300th anniversary in 2019. (As you will recall, the first European settlers-- a group of Scots-Irish families-- established a community here in 1719. First called Nutfield, this was a large geographic area that eventually became known as Londonderry, Derry, and Windham.)

There is much to celebrate about the longevity and significance of First Parish! Those who established our church were determined, religious, hardworking Scots-Irish settlers. Not only did they create a successful community, but they also introduced the white potato to the area!

The town's planning efforts for the 300th anniversary are designed to recognize many organizations, notable figures, and significant events. As we get ready to celebrate many aspects of our town's history, it seems helpful to ponder the broader context of Nutfield's story.

As I have been thinking about how First Parish fits into our town's history, I've been thinking about which highlights of Derry's history are widely recognized. Additionally, it seems useful to broaden the scope of context to think about our town's place within the history of New Hampshire.

Potentially there are many ways to explore these questions of historical context, but recently I focused on learning about the green historical highway markers as one set of selected (or curated) significant New Hampshire historical stories.

The New Hampshire Historical Highway Markers Program was established in 1958 and is administered by the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR). As of August 2017 there are 246 signs total installed across the state and there are 9 additional signs in production. The NHDHR's website explains the process by which people may submit specific suggestions for the highway signs.

Any municipality, agency, organization, or individual may propose a marker to commemorate significant New Hampshire places, persons, or events. In approving a marker, the DHR takes into consideration the distribution of markers by geographical regions, chronological periods, and historical themes. Preference is given to placing markers at locations that are not already adequately marked.

The proposals need to include research and references documenting the accuracy and significance of the place, person, or event that would be recognized on the sign. Also, because of space limitations on the signs themselves, great care must be taken to select the appropriate words to succinctly convey the topic.

There are three of these green historical highway markers in Derry: General John Stark (marker 48, located along Route 28 near Lawrence Road); Scotch-Irish Settlement (marker 58, located on East Derry Road near First Parish), and Robert Frost Farm (marker 126; on Route 28).

This trio of historical stories covers a great swath of Derry's history -- its founding generations, an important figure during the American Revolution, and a key literary figure with local ties.

The plaque about the people who established First Parish is wonderful, but as I reread it thinking about historical context and our upcoming anniversary, I was struck that the words "First Parish" don't appear in the plaque.

Historical Preservation Committee

(Continued)



SCOTCH-IRISH SETTLEMENT

In April 1719, sixteen Presbyterian Scotch-Irish families settled here in two rows of cabins along West Running Brook easterly of Beaver brook. Initially known as Nutfield, the settlement became Londonderry in 1723. The first year, a field was planted, known as the Common Field where the potato was first grown in North America.

The content of the green plaque can be likened to a summary statement, or teaser for a story. Of course First Parish is essential to the topic of Scots-Irish settlers, and we have many opportunities to convey this!

The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources web page has an interactive map, list of markers by town, list of markers by number, and instructions about suggesting a new marker:

<https://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/markers/>

Nancy Heywood (for the Historical Preservation Committee)

Rally Sunday!

RALLY SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 10, 2017!!

It always amazes me how quickly the summer flies by. Council, Boards and Committee members hope you'll join us for a celebration of the new Church year on Sunday, September 10, 2017. Immediately following worship we will kick off the event with a barbecue of burgers, chips, salads and desserts. Fred Merrill and Ross Webber will provide the chef skills. Please see Linda Webber or Cathy Zylinski if you can bring something to share.

Also, boards and committees will be setting up their tables again in the Rainbow Room on the lower level. Please stop by to see what the New Year has to offer or to see if you can offer up your talents to First Parish Church!

We look forward to seeing you and your families there!

Many, many thanks!

Linda Webber

Adult Faith Formation

September 5th marks the start of the next installment in our Bible Wonder Studies starring The Dickinson Series books, "Introducing the Old Testament." Here is some of the student commentary about the text: From Course Participants

"I've read the Bible twice from cover to cover and studied it from time to time with others, but never till now have I been able to read and understand it."

"I especially enjoyed Rev. Robertson's writing, comments, etc. and expect to re-read the material and make more use of the comments in the new (to me) Study Bible I bought."

"I really appreciated the simplicity, the humor, and questions of the lessons. I loved this study and am so glad I took it. I am now going to read the Bible for the first time!!"

"The Bible's organization and sequence make more sense to me now . . . I was shocked by how little I knew before this course."

"I was expecting boring academic stuff--but it wasn't dusty!"

"The Study Guide is exceptionally well written -- the tone is light and fun (with terrific little factoid tidbits), enough to help me wade through a Bible that I had thought was 'dreary' and 'dull'."

"I have more appreciation of how these 'primitive' writings actually have such a sophisticated understanding of human nature."

Come join us in this new journey to a better understanding of yourself and a new understanding of our faith! Please sign up on our website if you have not yet and those who have, check your emails for the arrival of your books. Thank you and we are all looking forward to another fantastic learning experience!

Build a Blanket Day for Project Linus

It's a Mission and a Time of Fellowship

Please join us and invite a friend to come. This is a free Community wide event from 11:30-3. Come learn to make a no-sew fleece blanket!

All materials will be available. You may cut, hand sew, tie, machine sew (if you bring your machine and power strip), iron, knit, crochet (please bring your own favorite needles). However fabric, fleece, yarn and donations are always appreciated.

Bring your own lunch & beverage. A snack will be provided. We will be working on various size quilts and blankets: crib - twin to be given to children who have suffered a trauma. Project Linus has a NH Seacoast Chapter located in Deerfield and FPC is a drop off spot for donated quilts. Please RSVP on or before Sunday, Sept 18.

MEETINGHOUSE UPDATES

Learn more about the latest project plans, fundraising activities, and everything related to Meetinghouse preservation at this session hosted by the Building Advisory Committee (BAC) and the Friends of the Meetinghouse:

PRESERVATION INFO SESSION AND TOURS

Sunday, Sept. 17, 11:30am - 1:00pm
Currier Hall and the Meetinghouse

Our partners Preservation Timber Framing are currently working on the Tower Base Rehabilitation project. Follow along with that progress online at: www.nutfieldhistory.org & <https://www.facebook.com/nuthist>

Always feel free to offer feedback or ask questions of any member of the BAC:
Nancy Heywood, Larry Krantz, Paul Lindemann, Nancy Murdoch, and Bob Wilson



Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is interested in hearing about your avocations. What do you enjoy doing with your "free" time? Do you have a hobby, activity, or have an interest in something that you would like to share? Please send me an e-mail at willibi1910@gmail.com and let me know, or talk to one of our Committee members.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brian Williams on behalf of the Membership Committee and Lianne Deranian, Hilary Gorgol, and Paula Robinson

Got a Favorite Hymn??

Last year, we asked if you had a favorite hymn that you hadn't heard/sung for a while. We had a great response and wondered if there are other hymns that weren't requested last year that you might like to see in the "Hymn Line-up" for this year.

It helps if the hymn is in our New Century Hymnal, but if it isn't, chances are it's in another hymnal resource and can be tracked down. Just jot down the number (if in the hymnal), the name of the hymn, and your name so if there are any questions about it I can find you to check with you. Please indicate only one hymn per piece of paper, as it's easier to keep track of things that way. Requests may be placed in the Music Mailbox in the Office or handed directly to me.

Again this year, I'll use as many requested hymns as possible. If you ask for a hymn that pertains to a special season, like Christmas or Lent, you'll need to be a bit patient until that season rolls around. General hymns can be inserted into the worship service most anytime. Let me know if you have a real gem that's been missed in the last few years or just one that you wish we sang more. It's always good to sing hymns that have special meaning and we welcome yours!

Submitted by Sue Handy



Financial Update

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Financial Report as of 7/31/2017	Received	Budgeted
Pledges to date	\$114,036	\$112,000
Plate offerings to date	\$13,224	\$16,042

Submitted by Joyce Pope, Stewardship Rep to the Finance Committee

Yankee Candle Fundraiser

Many thanks to everyone who has ordered through the fundraising catalog and website so far! Our total profits as of this week are \$428.40! For those of you that ordered through the catalog, your orders will be available for pick up this Sunday, September 3rd. Don't forget, the online sales will continue through January 10, 2018, so keep us in mind for all your scentastical needs!



LuLaRoe Fundraiser

Another LuLaRoe fundraiser will take place on Saturday September 16th from 12-3 p.m. at church in Currier Hall. Cathy Zylinski has coordinated with multiple LuLaRoe vendors to have a trunk sale. LuLaRoe sells women's leggings, tops, skirts, and dresses in unique, limited edition patterns. This event is open to the public so please help us publicize it! Invite your friends! Not sure what the buzz is all about? Come on out and see. We'll have changing rooms set up so you can try on clothes before buying. Each vendor, and the company, will offer a portion of their proceeds to the church, and again 10% of our proceeds for this event will be tithed to a church supported Mission.



A Gift

Perhaps you've noticed that large stainless steel contraption on wheels that is currently in Currier? This is, in fact, a beautiful 4-well restaurant grade warming table that was gifted to First Parish. Now that we have one – how might we use it? Will it improve our ability to serve 300 people at the Harvest Supper? Will it help us to serve Spaghetti supper or maybe even Best Breakfast?

Or will someone come up with a new church activity where this will be of utmost importance? Some of you go to church suppers in other churches. Some of you used to belong to churches that hosted church suppers. What do you think? What ideas do you have? How creative can you be and what fun project can you come up with? Speak to Pastor Deborah or a member of Council if you have an idea.

Bon appétit!

Global Drum Prayer

We were created in the image of God. (Genesis 1) We are connected. We all breathe the breathe of God. We all have a heartbeat. Imagine for just a moment the sound of our heartbeats all beating as one. The sound of heartbeats – all beating in synch with one another. And just imagine that on Tuesday evening, August 29, 16 of us created that synchronistic heart beat with people all around the globe! Over 1 million sites signed in. Each site hosted between 3 and 30 people – all beating out the rhythm of life together... as one... connecting... and connected.

Several of the participants wrote me and said: The drum prayer circle “was AWESOME. It was fun. It was meaningful. It touched my physical body, my heart and my soul.” “Inspirational!” “Sharing, caring and quite a few hearty laughs.” “Wonderful!”

We joined in a Global event that was hosted on the west coast. This is why we all met at 8pm and went until 10:30. In spite of the hour, many of us felt renewed on so many levels. Dr. Steven Durost, Founder and Director of C.R.E.A.T.E! in Manchester explained to us that studies show that one hour of drumming can lower blood pressure tremendously for weeks!

We are excited with this new way of connecting and hope to have another drum prayer circle one day soon. Don't worry, though! We want to have it from 7-8:30 so that more of you can join us. If you are interested, please let Pastor Deborah or Christine Lehoullier know.

Blessed Be. Peace. Shalom. Namaste.

Scripture Readings

*Readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary
for Sundays and Festivals – Year A*

September 3rd – 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 3:1-15 ● Ps 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b OR
Jer 15:15-21 ● Ps 26:1-8
Rom 12:9-21
Matt 16:21-28

September 10th – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 12:1-14 ● Ps 149 OR
Ezek 33:7-11 ● Ps 119:33-40
Rom 13:8-14
Matt 18:15-20

September 17th – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 14:19-31 ● Ps 114 or Ex 15:1b-11,
20-21 OR
Gen 50:15-21 ● Ps 103(1-7), 8-13
Rom 14:1-12
Matt 18:21-35

September 24th – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 16 :2-15 ● Ps 105 :1-6, 37-45 OR
Jon 3 :10-4 :11 ● Ps 145 :1-8
Phil 1:21-30
Matt 20:1-16

Worship Schedule

Deacons of the Month:

Diane Breeden & Cyndi Gray

September 3rd: Service at 9:30

September 9th: at 7pm at St Thomas:
An Interfaith Peace Vigil

September 10th: Service at 10:00
Communion
Rally Day

September 17th: Meetinghouse tour /
Informational meeting

September 24th: MID Diana Sweeney
preaching

Ushers & Greeters

Weekly Usher – Michael Bryan

September 3rd:

Ushers: Diaconate

Greeter(s): Verna Elwell & Shirley Dickason

September 10th:

Ushers: John Bartel & Brian Williams

Greeter(s): Betsy McCall

September 17th:

Ushers: Ken Gould, Dee Deranian
& Shirley Dickason

Greeter(s): Maury Davidson

September 24th:

Ushers: Holly & Stanley Gorgol
Tom & Andrea Cooper

Greeter(s): Diane Breeden

First Parish Congregational Church

PO Box 114, 47 East Derry
Road, E Derry, NH 03041

Office Hours

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 8:00-2:00
Wednesday: 8:00-2:00
Thursday: 8:00-2:00
Friday: 8:00-2:00

Check us out on the web

www.fpc-ucc.org

**Administrative Assistant,
Hannah Collier:**

officemgr@fpc-ucc.org
603-434-0628

**Senior Pastor and Teacher
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof:**
pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org



First Parish Congregational Church, UCC

You are most warmly invited:

10:00 am Sunday Worship & Church School
11:00 am Coffee Hour
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First Parish Congregational Church History

The oldest church in the immediate area, First Parish Church was founded by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in the spring of 1719. Faith was and continues to be a priority. Worship was held one day after arrival, a church body was organized in one month and a building was built in 1722. A "more imposing structure" replaced the first in 1769, and although altered and expanded through time, the main building and sanctuary remain our center of worship.

First Parish Church became an independent community church in the Congregational tradition about 1810 as new settlers came to the area. Through the years the church has always had a strong instinct for both survival and faithfulness. In 1973 and again in 1985, we made major commitments to educational and community ministry through the additions of Noyes Hall and Currier Hall. We joined the United Church of Christ in 1995.



First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
47 East Derry Road
PO Box 114
East Derry, NH 03041-0114
Address Service Requested