

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.

Come visit us! Worship is at 10 am.



From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Child of God,

I ponder with you this month the act of gratitude. Just like love, (watch the sermon "Stop, Notice, Choose" from October 26, 2014, on our FPC website) "gratitude" is not passive. It is, in fact, one of the most energizing of all activities:

"Count your blessings."

"In everything give thanks."

"Seek an attitude of gratitude."

There is good reason to believe that living in gratitude is miracle-inducing. No exaggeration.

I came across a stunning poem by John O'Donohue, who wrote "To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Blessings". O'Donohue (1 January 1956 – 4 January 2008) was an Irish poet, author, priest, and Hegelian philosopher. As an author he is best known for popularizing Celtic spirituality in the US over the last two decades. I share it here with you:

For Equilibrium, a Blessing:

Like the joy of the sea coming home to shore,
May the relief of laughter rinse through your soul.

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, November 2, 9, 16

Pledge Drive (p. 5)

Saturday, November 7th

Family Promise Fundraiser (p. 13)

Tuesday, November 11th, 2-3:30pm

Bible Wonder Begins (p. 4)

Wednesday, November 12th, 7-8:30am

Communication Cohort (p. 14)

Saturday, November 22nd

70th Sugar Plum Fair (p. 9-10)

Thursday, November 27th, 1-2:30pm

Free Thanksgiving Dinner (p. 10)

December 5 & 8

AAPR Smart Driver Course (p. 11)

Saturday, December 6th, 7:30pm

December Song Concert (p. 13)

Sunday, December 7th, 11:30am

Advent Workshop (p. 3)

Sunday, December 14th, 2pm

A Christmas Carol at Pinkerton (p. 3)

ALL ARE WELCOME

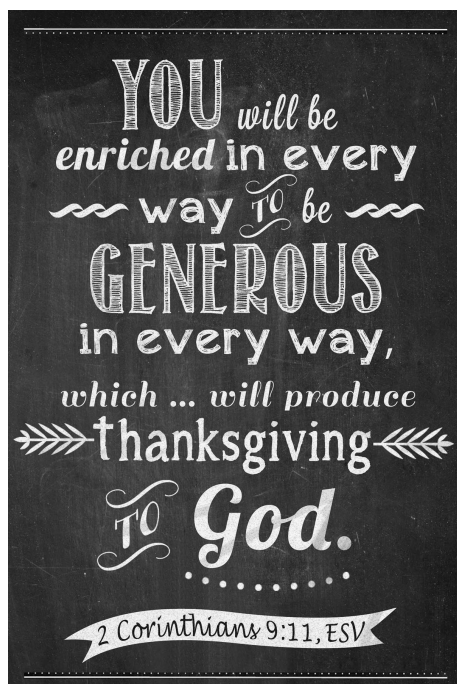
"Friend, you enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks upon your lips, and offer God today your love and your service."

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



Continued from Page 1:

As the wind loves to call things to dance,
 May your gravity be lightened by grace.
 Like the dignity of moonlight restoring the earth,
 May your thoughts incline with reverence and respect.
 As water takes whatever shape it is in,
 So free may you be about who you become.
 As silence smiles on the other side of what's said,
 May your sense of irony bring perspective.
 As time remains free of all that it frames,
 May your mind stay clear of all its names.
 May your prayer of listening deepen enough
 to hear in the depths the laughter of God."



Another great Christian mystic, Henri Nouwen, said this: "Perhaps nothing helps us make the movement from our little selves to a larger world than remembering God in gratitude. Such a perspective puts God in view in all of life, not just in the moments we set aside for worship or spiritual disciplines. Not just in the moments when life seems easy."

I invite you to find quotes and poems that express the miraculous power of gratitude. Send them in to the office and we will find a way to share them with others. John Milton said that "Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies, those transcendent moments of awe that change forever how we experience life and the world." Let's see how gratitude for the multitude of blessings that we enjoy at First Parish Congregational bestows reverence and a deeper faith walk with our loving Creating, Redeeming and Sustaining God.

Blessed be,
Pastor Deborah

Pastor's Open Office Hours

On Tuesdays, starting November 11 from **3:30 - 5:00**, you may 'drop in' to chat informally with Pastor Deborah. All are welcome. Pastor Deborah is particularly interested in hearing what your dreams and visions are for the future of the church. And what are your questions or concerns? We hope you will take advantage of this community building time.





Music Board Offers Theater Series

During our recent Capital Campaign, First Parish experienced the hacking of one of the world's most beloved Christmas stories, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. Now the Music Board is offering to set the story straight for you by sponsoring a Theater Afternoon at Pinkerton Academy's Stockbridge Theater on **December 14**.

What better way to celebrate the Christmas season than to attend a performance of Dickens' classic story of hope and redemption right in our own backyard? The Pinkerton Players only perform "A Christmas Carol" once every four years and this is the year! It's a wonderful chance for folks to enjoy a quality show with 25 of their closest church friends!

The Music Board will be taking sign-ups for tickets after church on Nov. 9 and Nov. 16. Tickets are \$10 (\$6.00 for students and seniors) and must be paid for in advance of the order being processed. In an attempt to make this event available to all ages, we will be attending the Sunday, December 14 performance at 2:00 PM.

This is the first in a series of three theater events that the Music Board is sponsoring. It is not a fundraiser – we are selling the tickets at the going rate. The fun part is that the tickets will be in an FPC block so we'll all be sitting together. The second theater offering will occur on March 29, 2015, again at 2:00, as participants will travel to the Palace Theater in Manchester to see *Godspell*. Tickets for this event will be between \$30 & \$40 and will be available for ordering on January 11 & 18. Lastly, we will end our Theater Series back at the Stockbridge Theater on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 when the African Children's Choir will be performing.

Your Music Board hopes you will plan to attend one or all of these wonderful shows!

Annual Advent Workshop: December 7th



December can be a hectic time of year, despite your efforts to "keep the Christ in Christmas." Why not let your church family help remind you what the season is all about? This year's Advent Workshop will be **Sunday, December 7th** following worship until 1:30pm.

Come join us for a light lunch of bread and soup, with ongoing Advent activities for adults and kids of all ages to explore, including: letters to shut-ins, family advent logs, ornaments, and various Christmas crafts. There is **no cost to attend**, but donations are welcome. Please feel free to bring a friend!

Organized by your Board of Christian Education

Christian Education Updates

Youth Group

Calling all youth from grades 6 through 12! Our newly formed **Youth Group** has begun meeting!

Join leaders Matt and Kerri Simpson every Sunday evening this fall from 6-8pm. All are welcome, so bring a friend. Don't miss out on this fun new way to get to know people and God!



Bible Wonder: Begins November 11

For six weeks, **Tuesdays from 2-3:30** we will look at the lectionary scripture texts for the upcoming Sunday. We are not calling this Bible "Study", because it isn't a class and no previous exposure to scripture is needed. Together we will consider the "wonder" of the Biblical texts. Together we will "wonder" about the message that God will invite us into!

Please join us for one or for all six sessions! We will meet in A/B classroom in the Noyes Building.

SPARK (Pre-K to 5th Graders) Update

We are so excited to learn about these new Bible stories, and we are thrilled to have such great support and volunteer workshop leaders. A special thank you to Anne LaDuke, Julie Turner, Tammy Lynch and Courtney DesRoches for leading Session 1 workshops. We only have a couple of dates when we still need adult leaders – please see Lianne Deranian after church (or email liannecd@myfairpoint.net) if you'd like to get in on the fun!

Session Focus	Date	Pre-K – 1st	Grades 2-3	Grades 4-5
SESSION 2: RUTH RUTH 1:1-22, 2:1-17	Week 3 (11/2)	Large Group: Exploring Communion		
	Week 4 (11/9)	Science	Games	Video
	Week 5 (11/16)	Art	Science	Games
	Week 6 (11/23)	Video	Art	Science
SESSION 3: JESUS IS BORN MATT. 1:18-25, 2:1-12; LUKE 1:26- 58, 2:1-20	Week 1 (11/30)	Music	Art	Cooking
	Week 2 (12/7)	Cooking	Music	Art
	Week 3 (12/14)	Art	Cooking	Music
	Week 4 (12/21)	Christmas Pageant During Worship		
	No class (12/28)	Family Sunday! Nursery Care Only		

Stewardship Committee

Fall is in full swing: beautiful colors adorn the leaves, a reminder that winter is on its way. The rain has put a chill in the air, and some type of heat warms our homes. Comfort for all is on our agenda. Let's welcome the change!

Our church is booming with changes and new life, as well. We are excited to welcome the new members who joined our church in October, as well as our new permanent office manager, Lindsey Roman.

The Stewardship Board is in the beginning of our Pledge Drive, a time that we start to consider what form of commitment we will make to our church. We have stuffed envelopes (many thanks to our "stuffers" – we couldn't have done it without you!), and mailed off pledge letters. The Stewardship Board members delivered short messages in October.

There is a change in the Pledge Drive. Instead of buying the pricey pledge envelopes, **we are going "green"** in utilizing the ones that have not been used. There will be no date, or member number on them. The most important factor needed when you turn in your pledge is your name, which assures you are credited for your pledge amount. Should you have any pledge envelopes that haven't been used, please return them to the office for re-distribution. Instead of a box of envelopes, you will be issued the amount that you need for the year, whether 12 or 52. **Let's work together to go "green" by sharing this support with First Parish Church.**

The Pledge Drive will run on Nov. 2nd, Nov. 9th, and Nov. 16th.

With Gratitude, Your Stewardship Board:

John Bartel - Fran Berube - Carl Hepworth - Margie Ives - Diana Roman - Sue Weaver



"Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, or worn. It is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude."

- Denis Waitley

Finance Committee

First Parish members and friends have made a splendid response to the recent capital campaign: Hurray!! Now, we need to be reminded to share our intentions to support the annual budget for 2015. The Stewardship Committee has contacted you, and we hope you will be even more generous in your pledges than you were in 2014. The Finance Committee has its sights on the 2015 budget. Can you help First Parish be the mighty presence it can be on the hill in East Derry?

Prayerfully, Your Finance Committee:

Fay Chary - Linda DosSantos - Becky Fleury - Ken Gould - Chris O'Brien

Membership Committee

We are excited to welcome the eight new members who joined First Parish Church on Sunday, October 19th: **Deb and Paul Ambler, Rebekah Kersten, Tancrede LaMontagne, Lisa Landry** and her daughter **Katelyn Whittier, Darcy LeBlanc**, and **Lauren Rosenzweig**. Please get to know them at breakfast, coffee, and at FPC events, meetings and activities.

On November 2nd, Nancy Heywood from the Historic Preservation Committee will share some historic fun facts about First Parish. On November 16th, Pastor Deborah and other leaders of the church will offer a "UCC 101; and FPC: Who's on First?" We invite everyone who joined in 2014, as well as anyone who would like to hear a refresher, to come to these light and lively talks about who we are!

Warmly, Your Membership Committee:

Sandy Carter - Nancy Cheyne - Andrea Cooper - Carol Guerrin
Ruth Honors - Suzanne Hunt



Nominating Committee

Check out the following board and committee vacancies and let us know if you can help fill one! Expected vacancies for 2015:

Board of Christian Ed (2)
Board of Christian Outreach & Mission (2)
Board of Deacons (4)
Board of Facilities (1)
Board of Music Ministry (1)

Board of Personnel (1)
Board of Stewardship (3)
Community Life Cmte (3)
Library Committee (2)

Our Nominating Committee "2014" Campaign was a HUGE SUCCESS, and now it's time to look for new and exciting opportunities for 2015!

As a committee, our goal is to always strive for 100% occupancy of all elected positions of the church, consistent with the mission statement of the church. We've even come up with our own definition of "**FPC**" - **F**ocus, **P**atience, and **C**ommitment!

We are excited to welcome the eight new members that were accepted into our congregation on October 19th and solicit your support as we embark on our 2015 Nominating Committee Campaign! Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee if you can help fill any position; we encourage "ad hoc" members, too. Thanks for your support and service to First Parish!

In Service, Your Nominating Committee:

Bill Armstrong 432-5446, Paul Dionne 244-8360, Carl and Gail Hepworth 434-2053,
Sarah Keller 425-1226 and Joe Merrill 247-3051

In Honor of Veteran's Day: Considering the Civil War Memorial, George Thom, and the GAR



The 27-ft high Civil War Memorial in front of the church, with its grand statue of a soldier, was erected in 1888. The \$3,000 cost was in part paid for with a \$1,000 bequest from Miss Emma Taylor (who, with her sister Harriet, also funded the Taylor Library).

The memorial carries the names of 148 men from Derry who served in the Civil War (local historian TJ Cullinane estimates another 100 men are missing). One side of the plaque lists those who were lost, the others list those who were honorably discharged. Many now rest a short stroll away in Forest Hill Cemetery.

General George Thom's name was the last added to the discharged list. He graduated from West Point in 1839 and served for 44 years, including working as the Chief of Topographical Engineers and creating the [official Thom Map](#) for the critical Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee. He later donated the main gate to the cemetery, as well as one of the beautiful stained glass windows that grace our sanctuary.

In a closet within that sanctuary, Ginny True and son in 1981 discovered the ceremonial flag for the local post of the [Grand Army of the Republic](#). The GAR was founded in 1866 (a year after the Civil War ended) as a memorial organization for those who fought for the Union.

Our local GAR group, Upton Post, No. 45, was named after Lieutenant [George E. Upton](#), who is listed as Killed in Action on our memorial statue's plaque.

The great-grandfather of FPC member Marilyn Ham, John E. Webster, was in the Upton Post (and is on the memorial), and her great-grandmother, Cornelia S. Case Webster, was in the related Women's Relief Corp.

Chartered in 1879, the Upton Post led Memorial Day ceremonies around our meetinghouse, ending with a big dinner downstairs. In searching Derry Town Reports, I found these examples of Memorial Day expenses the town repaid to the Upton Post: 1885: \$50, 1897: \$75, 1899: \$75, and 1930: \$150.

The ceremonial Upton Post flag is silk, with 38 gold-painted stars dating it to 1877–1890. The Historic Preservation and Restoration Committee had the flag [professionally restored](#), and it was installed in MacGregor Hall in January 2012. If you stand in just the right spot in MacGregor Hall, you can see the restored flag mounted to one side and the Civil War Memorial outside through the window, completing a circle of history.

- Submitted by: Paul Lindemann,
Historical Preservation Committee



Historic Preservation and Restoration Committee

The members of the HPC have been researching church policies and procedures on gathering and storing church documents and records. The questions guiding our research are: **What and where** should records and documents be stored? **Hard copies, or electronic, or both?**

As we continue to research these questions, we remind all of FPC boards and committees to **send monthly meeting minutes to Pastor Deborah and Lindsey**, our FPC office manager. Lindsey will organize them into binders in the office, available for all FPC members to peruse.



We welcome any and all to join us at our monthly HPC meetings and hear about our multitude of history projects. We meet the 3rd Sunday of every month, 8-9:30 in the Archive Room (located opposite the nursery) in the Noyes Building.

Respectfully submitted by your Historic Preservation Committee:

Janice Braley - Marilyn Ham - Nancy Heywood - Paul Lindemann - Ginny True - Janet Wetherbee

Capital Campaign Committee

The first phase of the Capital Campaign is complete! The "Continuity Committee" will be in charge of the second phase. The chair is Becky Fleury and she has a very capable group of people working with her. They will keep us informed of any changes and regularly send out statements similar to what we receive from Pat Crowell concerning our yearly budget pledges.

With a few dozen Letters of Intent yet to be received, we are enthusiastically hopeful of reaching beyond our goal of \$800,000. At last count we have received promises of \$786,000. Thanks be to God and thank you to everyone for your generosity and hard work on this endeavor.

The Capital Campaign Committee is very grateful to everyone who took part in the Capital Campaign. We hope that you will support the Continuity Committee as they proceed through the next 3 years and keep us informed of the progress that is happening. We know that as the work begins on our sacred building that we will all be blessed by the gifts we have given.

In Celebration of the First Phase, Your Capital Campaign Committee:

Alec Cobban - Becca Cobban - Becky Fleury - Sue Handy - Margie Ives - Betsy McCall
Pat Plouff - Linda Webber - Wendy Staggs, Moderator - The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof



70th Annual Sugar Plum Fair

Saturday before Thanksgiving: November 22nd, 9 am to 3 pm
Celebrating the Season with family, friends, and our community

We need everyone's help to make this event a success! Working together is a terrific way to forge new friendships or to rekindle old ones. Please check off any areas you would be willing to help with, and then drop this form off in the church office or offering plate. Contact Cathy Pottle (668-4215 or cpottle@yahoo.com) with questions!

- ☐ Make 2 double batches of home-baked cookies for the Cookie Walk
- ☐ Bake a pie, cake, or holiday goodie for sale on the bake table
- ☐ Help set up for the fair (5:00 pm Friday night)
- ☐ Help Clean up and set the rooms to right (3:00 pm Saturday)
- ☐ Organize the White Elephant items (Wednesday, Thursday & Friday)
- ☐ Direct Cars in Parking Lot ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M.
- ☐ Roll out dough for Pecan Rolls (other tasks also available; see Reni Hamden or Wendy Staggs)
- ☐ Work at Cookie Walk, Craft table, Bakesale, White Elephant tables, lunchroom, etc.
 ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M.
- ☐ Paint faces
- ☐ Prepare and/or Serve Lunch
- ☐ Prepare Egg Salad using 2 dozen eggs
- ☐ Prepare Tuna Salad using 4 cans of Tuna
- ☐ Donate items for White Elephant tables (drop off location:
FPC's library, after 11/2/14)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Sugar Plum Fair

Sugar Plum Fair: White Elephant Sale

Helpful hints for making the 70th White Elephant Sale the best one yet!

Please drop off your donations for the White Elephant Sale in FPC's library anytime after November 2nd. Due to space limitations, FPC will not accept furniture or clothing.

Since anything that does not sell is immediately trucked to Goodwill after the fair, **we must also observe their donation rules**. Goodwill only accepts items in "good condition" (no rips, tears, stains, cracks, rust, chips or anything broken, moldy, with missing pieces, or wet). **Goodwill also will not accept the following items – and therefore, we cannot accept them for the White Elephant Sale:**

Large appliances
Ammunition or firearms
Auto parts
Beanbag chairs
Bunkbeds
Construction debris
Computers
Copiers

Hammocks
Mattresses/waterbeds
Paints/fuels/solvents
Textbooks
Televisions
Venetian Blinds
Wall-to-wall carpeting



Thank you for your assistance! We look forward to a great event this year. - Submitted by: the Sugar Plum Fair White Elephant Committee



Free Thanksgiving Dinner

All are welcome! Come join our Derry community for a **FREE** Thanksgiving dinner as we celebrate the bounty of all we have been blessed with. Thursday, **November 27 from 1-2:30 pm** at the Church of the Transfiguration (One Hood Road, Derry, NH 03038). RSVP's preferred (432-2120).

We are looking for donations of pies (any kind) and 4 cooked turkeys to be dropped off at FPC on Tuesday 11/25 or Wednesday morning (by 10am). If you are interested, please contact Diana Sweeney (at home: 437-1861, on her cell: 965-5480, or email angel369@yahoo.com).

Sponsored by the Derry Community Meals Network:

Community Caregivers of Greater Derry – Etz Hayim Synagogue Salvation Army – First Parish Congregational Church – Derry Seventh Day Adventist – St. Luke's United Methodist Sonshine Soup Kitchen – West Running Brook Middle School – Church of the Transfiguration

AARP Smart Driver Course

December 5 & 8, 2014

Lee DeBell will present the AARP Smart Driver Course at First Parish Church on the afternoons of **December 5 & 8** (three hours each day). This six-hour course, designed specifically for the 50+ population, enables drivers to refresh their driving skills and understand how to adjust to age-related challenges.

Why to consider taking this course...

Driving isn't what it used to be. Cars have changed, traffic laws have changed, and even the roads we drive on have changed. Recent technological developments – such as anti-lock brake systems and navigation (GPS) units – that work to make driving safer, can also be dangerous or distracting when used improperly. When you add in the unavoidable physical and cognitive changes of aging, potentially including weakened vision, diminished hearing, and slower reaction time, driving can become a new challenge for those ages 50 and older. Plus, depending on their insurance company, participants may qualify for an automobile insurance discount by completing the course.

To register for the course, please call or see Lindsey in the church office. Attendance on both days is required. The cost of the course is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Payment should be made on the first day of the course by bringing a check (payable to AARP) or cash.

If you have any questions about the course, please don't hesitate to give me a call at 746-6077.

- Submitted by Lee DeBell

Adult Ed Offering: Saturday, November 29th

SoulCollage(R) is a fun, creative, intuitive and absorbing process of creating cards with collated images. Liz Greenberg has just returned from an intensive weekend workshop in which she was trained to share this process with others. Her excitement and passion is overflowing and she would love to share her enthusiasm and knowledge with her church family by **offering a 3-hour introductory workshop from 9-noon on Saturday, November 29th at FPC.** If you are interested, please RSVP by e-mailing Liz at lizgreenberg26@gmail.com. There will be a nominal cost of \$30 to will cover the cost of all materials.

- Submitted by Liz Greenberg



Family Promise Report

Thanks to all who hosted or provided meals during our last co-hosting of Family Promise (with People's United Methodist church of Fremont) during the week of October 20th. The 4 homeless moms in the program and their 9 children were all very nice, and appreciative of the great meals provided by Gloria Bingel, Liz Greenberg, Sarah Keller, Beth Nelson, and Carol Guerrin. Reni Harnden, along with a couple members of our youth group, graciously hosted the families on Friday evening.

The program is going strong and serving a real need in Rockingham County. The next week that we co-host will be the week of January 11-17. If you can help out by hosting (i.e. just being present at the Family Promise Center in Calvary Baptist church just east of our own church, on East Derry Road) from 7-9 any weeknight, cooking and serving a meal for the families, or spending a night there, please call or email me (603-612-0489, randybrown1119@gmail.com). Together we are making a difference in our community!

- Submitted by: Randy Brown

Best Breakfast Report

I'm so excited to be running best breakfast this year. We're off to a wonderful start. I'd like to thank all our old teams for returning and all the newbies for jumping on board. I'm sure we will have a very busy and fun year ahead. I also want to thank all the old folks who are doing eggs and pancakes for hanging in there with the new stove and grill. I'm sure it's been rough, but you're all doing a great job.

Thanks to Dawn Gilbert for jumping in to help with the financials for us. It's been great having Dawn on board. I would also like to thank Kevin and Diane Gordon for all their help getting things started - and for getting us our new sign for out front. I would also like to thank Liz Greenberg, Diane Gordon, and Chris Cox for doing such a great job with the shopping.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, I am available Sunday either before or after church at coffee hour. I would love any input anyone has; I am new to this and suggestions are welcome! I hope to see you on Sunday mornings between 7-9 for the best breakfast at the best price in town.

- Submitted by: Pattie DeNapoli



**Mark your calendars for the gathering of UCC churches across the country
– see www.ucc.org/synod for more information!**

GENERAL SYNOD 2015

June 26-30, 2015 | Cleveland, Ohio

Derry Community News

December Song



Performed by the Saint Anselm College Choir, directed by Father Bede Camera, OSB, at the Abbey Church on **Saturday, December 6, 7:30pm.**

This is a special service of readings and songs celebrating the Advent and Christmas seasons. The program begins in darkness with a candlelight contemplative song, then progresses through the Advent and Christmas seasons. The program is early in the Advent season, a perfect way to prepare for Christmas.

Admission is free, but the available seating fills up very early. Don't miss out!

Scrap Metal Fundraiser

The East Derry Village Improvement Society is holding a scrap metal fundraiser for the Upper Village Hall project. Please support the restoration of this historic building by donating old appliances, file cabinets, broken tools, old lawn mowers – anything metal. Bring it behind the Hall (across the street from the Church) on **November 7th, 8th or 9th.** Limited pick-up is available; leave a message at 434-6723. No



Scrap Metal Fundraiser

computers or printers please! Boat storage is also available as a fundraiser; leave a message at the same number: 434-6723. Thank you!

Family Promise Annual Fundraising Gala

One fun way you can help homeless families



is by **attending the annual Gala, on November 7**, from 6-10pm, at the Atkinson Country Club. The cost is \$45 per person and covers dinner and dessert, musical entertainment by some talented children, and a silent

auction, where you can bid on some fantastic items and services that have been donated by local individuals and firms. (You can buy tickets on line at www.familypromisegr.org or by sending a check to FPGRC, 145 Hampstead Road, Derry NH 03038.) Family Promise is also looking for additional items, so if you are a talented seamstress or knitter or craft person, or have a rental property for which you could donate a week, or have anything to contribute that others might value, please consider donating it for the Gala.

Please contact Randy to contribute something to the Gala, or would like to share a table with us at the Gala.

- Submitted by Randy Brown

*O give thanks
unto the LORD;
for God is good*

PSALM 136:1, KJV

Church Community News

Communication Cohort

We will gather for the third time on **Wednesday evening, November 12th, from 7-8:30**. Everyone is invited to come and hear the activities of the church. Each Board and Committee and major event sends two representatives to this gathering. It is community building at its best: communication between groups. Make sure that your Board/Committee/Major event is represented!

Spaghetti Supper Update



Spaghetti Supper

After five wonderful years of running successful Spaghetti Suppers, Diana Sweeney is handing the reins over to **Kevin Gordon, Bill Mann, Reni Harnden and Liz Greenberg**. Anyone interested in helping out with Spaghetti Suppers or those who have questions may contact Kevin (432-4441, gordonk5@comcast.net) or Bill (434-4063, nhmanns@msn.com).

New Permanent Office Manager

We are excited to announce that our temporary office manager is here to stay! Welcome aboard, Lindsey Roman! A note from Lindsey: "When I'm not being your Office Manager, I write a leisure blog about adventures around New Hampshire and the Boston area - food/beverage, outdoor activities, nightlife, arts/entertainment, and just whatever's on my mind! Please feel free to check it out at www.lindseyroman.com. Happy reading!"

Council has made the decision to post: "God is Still Speaking", with a rainbow comma, on both sides of the sign out front. Be sure to check it out on our sign!

God is still speaking,

uce.org

Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to all of the wonderful volunteers who have helped with serving coffee during fellowship hour, served lunches at memorial services, and helped with all-church meals! Thank you for all you do, and for pitching in whenever we need help.

- Submitted by: Connie Cox, for the Community Life Committee

Harvest Supper Thanks!

October 25th was our legendary annual turkey dinner - many thanks to **Chris Cox** and all who helped in a myriad of ways to make this fall tradition possible!

18 turkeys & 6 turkey breasts were cooked, carved and served alongside 120 pounds of squash and 150 pounds of potatoes to a total of **325 people** on Saturday – plus 42 box lunches on Sunday! Yum!



Scripture Readings

November 2nd – All Saint's Day

Revelation 7:9-17
 Psalm 34:1-10, 22
 1 John 3:1-3
 Matthew 5:1-12

November 9th – Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 5:18-24
 Psalm 70
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Matthew 25:1-13

November 16th – Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
 Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Matthew 25:14-30

November 23rd – Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
 Psalm 95:1-7a
 Ephesians 1:15-23
 Matthew 25:31-46

November 30th – First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 54:1-9
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37

Worship Leadership

Deacons of the Month

Cyndi Gray & Reni Harnden

Lay Readers

Nov. 2nd: Courtney DesRoches

Nov. 9th: Steve Davis

Nov. 16th: Melissa Glassman

Nov. 23rd: Diane Gordon

Nov. 30th: Cyndi Gray

Ushers & Greeters

Weekly Usher – Michael Bryan

Nov. 2nd: Ushers: Diaconate;
 Greeter: Verna Elwell

Nov. 9th: Ushers: Stanley & Holly Gorgol,
 Tom & Andrea Cooper;
 Greeter: Betsy McCall

Nov. 16th: Ushers: Joe Weaver, Verna Elwell
 Rod & Sue Hunt
 Greeter: Ruth Honnors

Nov. 23rd: Ushers: Ross & Linda Webber,
 Kevin & Diane Gordon
 Greeter: Bill Burke

Nov. 30th: Ken Gould, Bill Burke
 Dee Deranian, Shirley Dickason
 Greeters: David & Lorie McGrath

Nursing Home Friends

Patricia Rankin & Theo Johnson,
 Hillsborough Country Nursing Home
 Phil Guertin,
 Pleasant Valley Nursing Home

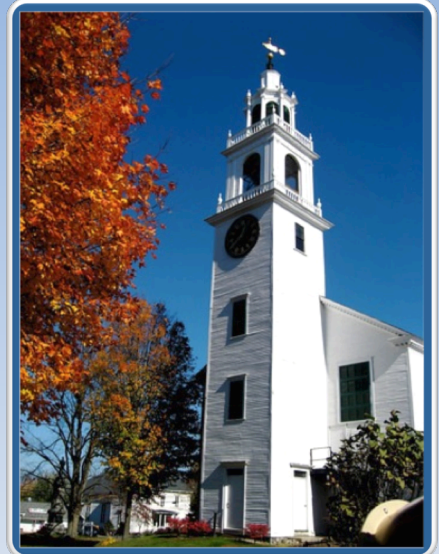
First Parish Congregational Church, UCC

NEW Church Office Hours:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 am – 4 pm
Thursday: 10:30 am – 6 pm

You are most warmly invited:

10 am Sunday Worship & Church School
11 am Coffee Hour



Check us out on the web:

www.fpc-ucc.org

Email our office manager, Lindsey Roman:

officemgr@fpc-ucc.org

Email our pastor, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof:

pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org

First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Address Service Requested

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