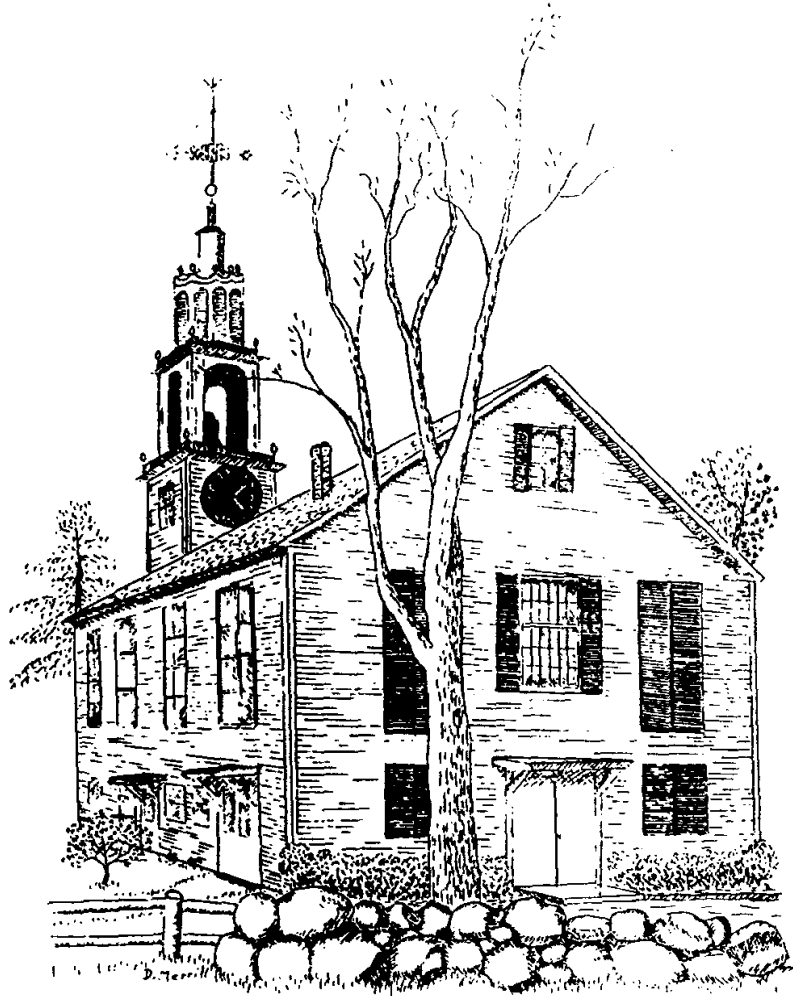


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

February 15, 2015



Doris Merrill

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)

February 15, 2015 Transfiguration

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

*HYMN NO. 182

"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(taken from the Iona Community)*

One: Gather us in, O God. Gather us in: the lost and the lonely, the broken and breaking, the tired and aching, who long for the nourishment held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: The done and the doubting, the wishing and wondering, the puzzled and pondering, who long for the company held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: The proud and pretentious, the sure and superior, the never inferior, who long for the leveling held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: The bright and the bustling, the stirrers, the shakers, the kind laughter-makers, who long for greater joys held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: From corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession, from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes, to meet, to greet, to be given a seat, to be joined to the vine, to be offered new wine, to become like the least to be found at the feast.

All: Gather us in!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

Gracious God, giver of life and breath, be present to us this day and shower us with your love. In your nearness, call us forth. Help us to see your blessings upon our lives, numerous as the stars above, and share those blessings with others. May your presence bring praise from our open hearts, service from our willing hands, and joyful spirits ready to go where you send us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE NO. 759 **Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit - Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S LITTLE CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S OFFERING

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (x4)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

In our thanks, these gifts we bring, for you give us everything. Teach us how to follow you, in all we say, and all we do. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sue Handy

Followed by THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

(Children may now go on to their classes.)

*HYMN NO. 300

"Jesus Shall Reign"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Psalm 50:1-6

(O.T. pp. 573-574)

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

(N.T. p. 16)

SERMON

Be Not Afraid

Pastor Heidi Heath

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Sing a Jubilant Song"

Stanton

WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP AND OUR PRAYERS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Who is Langston Hughes?

STAINED GLASS WINDOW - Janet Wetherbee

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Don't Be Afraid"

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

***DOXOLOGY #780 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Lord, richly bless and multiply these offerings of gratitude that all whose lives they touch may know the grace and power of your love. Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE A LOVING, SERVING GOD

*HYMN NO. 610

"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"We Will Take What You Offer"

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

First Parish Congregational MISSION STATEMENT: This is who we are!

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is 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.

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

Members of the Congregation
Diana Sweeney and Julie Turner
Diana Sweeney
Ken Gould, Bill Burke
Dee Deranian, Shirley Dickason
Michael Bryan
Ruth Honnors
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff Delangie
Lindsey Roman
Heidi Heath

GREETER(s)
PASTOR
AFFILIATE PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
CE DIRECTOR

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, February 15

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
8:00am Fun Raiser Meeting ~ Currier
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Music Room
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Kids Church Program ~ John
11:15am Hand Chime Choir Rehearsal ~
MacGregor
12:00pm All Committees Meeting ~ Currier
6:00pm Youth Group Mission Night ~
Aurora Senior Center

Monday, February 16

7:00pm Troop 405 Meeting ~ Currier
7:00pm Troop 405 Patrol Leader's Council ~
John

Tuesday, February 17

10:00am Nutfield Gym ~ Currier
4:00pm GS Trp 20993 ~ Currier
6:15pm GS Troop 20321 ~ Luke
6:30pm GS 20570/BSA Venture 570 ~
John
6:30pm AA ~ Library
7:00pm OA ~ A/B

Wednesday, February 18

6:00pm GS Trp 13152 ~ Luke
6:00pm Lenten Supper ~ Currier
7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service ~ Currier

Thursday, February 19

12:15pm Ecumenical Prayer & Communion ~
A/B
6:15pm Sacred Dance ~ Sanctuary
6:30pm CS Pack 405 ~
A/B/John/Luke/Currier
7:00pm Sr. Choir ~ Music Rm.

Friday, February 20

7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B
9:30pm AA Fri Night Assoc. ~ A/B

Saturday, February 21

7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, February 22

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
8:00am HPC ~ Archive
8:00am Youth Ministry ~ A/B
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Music Room
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Kids Church Program ~ John
11:15am Hand Chime Choir Rehearsal ~
MacGregor
6:00pm Youth Group ~ Luke

Pastor Deborah will be on vacation from
February 12-17. For pastoral
emergencies, please contact Pastor
Heidi at pastorheidiheath@gmail.com or
508-564-2179.

First Parish Congregational Church
General Announcements
February 15, 2015 Transfiguration

Welcome Visitors! As members of the United Church of Christ we say: "No matter **who** you are or **where** you are on life's journey, **you** are welcome here! We mean it!" Please introduce yourself to an usher and come meet Pastor Deborah.

If **you would like** information about our church or would like to be added to our mailing list, please fill out a bright yellow "How May We Serve You"/ "Communication Options" card located in the pews and at the back of the Sanctuary. We also have cards available in the church office. Thank you for worshiping with us. We are blessed to have you with us today.

Reminder: The Fun Raiser meeting that was canceled today has been moved to February 22, 8:00am in Currier Hall.

See you then!

Ecumenical Prayer and Communion: Is your spiritual tank feeling a little empty? Wondering what to do on your lunch hour? We've got some ideas. How about seeking meaning, solace, prayer, and ritual in community? Join us for weekly ecumenical prayer and communion on **Thursdays at 12:15 PM in A/B beginning January 29**. Freshen up a long-held faith or go deeper with a new one! All are welcome.



LENTEN WORSHIP

Lenten Services: Ash Wednesday is February 18. We will gather for a light supper and then share in a worshipful time together. This will set the path for us to gather five more Wednesday evenings during Lent. Please join us for food, fellowship, worship and community as we observe and reflect on this time in the life of Christ.

Readers Theatre: Please note that the Readers Theatre previously planned for March 15 at 2:00 has been canceled. However, on the six Sundays in Lent, during the worship service, we will present one complete chapter from the Gospel of Mark in the Readers Theatre style. **Worship readers are needed for these Sundays in Lent.** If you would like to read, please give your name to Cyndi Gray or Pastor Deborah. Be sure to indicate the dates you would be available.

Christian Ed: This Sunday we will have our final week of rotation on John the Baptist! Next week will be a fun, one-room school house lesson for school vacation week. The K-5 kids will be downstairs. K-2 will do some fun games, while our 3-5th graders will film a drama lesson they earned earlier in the unit! Middle and High Schoolers continue their study of Mark. Middle School meets in A/B and High School meets in John! Interested in becoming a workshop leader for our next round of curriculum? Please see Pastor Heidi or any member of the CE board.

CPR AED Course: Kick off the year by celebrating "National Heart Association Month"! We Never Skip a Beat presents a Heartsaver CPR AED course on **Saturday, February 28 from 10-2pm** (in "John", the basement of the Noyes building). Sign up today by contacting the Instructor Jesse Davis at (617) 538-7298 or by email at neverskipabeat@yahoo.com. The cost is only \$75, but the first 10 people to sign up and mention this post will receive 15% off the course for just \$65.00! Hurry and sign up Today!



Newsletter: The deadline for March newsletter submissions is **Wednesday, February 18**. If you would like to send something in, please email Lindsey at officemgr@fpc-ucc.org.

Kayla Bertolami Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser & Banquet: There will be a Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser & Banquet held in honor of Kayla Bertolami on **Friday, March 13, 2015 from 7:00 – 11:30 p.m.** at Castleton Banquet and Conference Center, 92 Indian Rock Road, Windham, NH Please join us for a celebration of Kayla's life and help us pay it forward! Kayla, a very special young lady, tragically passed away due to a pulmonary embolism on July 29, 2014. She was just 21 years old. She believed in helping people and we've created a scholarship fund in her name to help NH students who need help affording their tuition. There will be a sit-down dinner, cash bar, DJ & dancing, raffles, silent auction and door prizes. Tickets can be purchased online for \$75 on Eventbrite (www.KaylaBertolami.Eventbrite.com). Tickets must be purchased in advance. If you have any questions, please call Karen at 603-490-3518 or email her at kbertolami@hotmail.com.

Marion Gerrish Community Center: The MGCC needs donations!! The Marion Gerrish Community Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing meeting space for over 150 different organizations, groups and clubs from Derry and surrounding communities. Most of the support for the MGCC comes from sales in our Thrift Shop, which runs completely via donations. We do not receive funding from the town of Derry. **We accept gently used clothing, books, household items, shoes, CD's & DVD's, toys & games, small furniture, small appliances, jewelry, linens, kitchen goods and decorations.** The Thrift Shop is located in the basement of our center. You can access the Thrift Shop via the side entrance with the blue awning. **Due to theft and damage, donations are only accepted during normal business hours; Monday & Saturday from 9 am – 4 pm and Tuesday through Friday from 9 am – 7 pm.**

We cannot accept text books, encyclopedias, Reader's Digest (any kind), National Geographic magazines, computers (includes keyboards, CPU's, monitors, etc.), televisions, microwaves, stereo equipment (includes speakers), ski boots, car seats, mattresses, and large furniture. If you have any questions concerning your items, please contact us.

We are a 501(c)3 corporation. All donations are tax deductible.

Nutfield Fundraiser: Join the fun at a Parent's Night Out fundraiser for Nutfield Cooperative School! Snack, sip and socialize at **You're an Artist**, 16 Manning Street #108 in Derry. Bring your friends and family! \$40 per person includes all supplies. Space is limited and will be first come first serve. Reserve your canvas at: <http://tinyurl.com/nutfieldpaintnight>
Hope to see you there! Can't make it on Friday but still want to paint and support Nutfield? Sign up for regular classes at 4:00 and 6:30 pm Sunday.

New Creation Healing Center:

Anxiety: Freedom from Fear

Date: March 14, 2015

9:00am – 4:00pm (Snow Date 3/21/15)

Place: New Creation Healing Center, Kingston NH

New Meeting House Building

Registration Fee - \$45 by March 5th (\$50 after that date)

Please contact Marlene at 603-642-6700

First Parish Congregational Church United Church of Christ

PO BOX 114, 47 East Derry Rd East Derry, NH 03041 Tel. 603.434.0628 Fax. 603.437.3001

Our website www.fpc-ucc.org Find us and 'friend us' on Facebook www.facebook.com/fpcucc



Scriptures – February 15

Psalm 50

A Psalm of Asaph.

¹ The mighty one, God the LORD,
speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

² Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God shines forth.

³ Our God comes and does not keep silence,
before him is a devouring fire,
and a mighty tempest all around him.

⁴ He calls to the heavens above
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

⁵ ‘Gather to me my faithful ones,
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!’

⁶ The heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge.

Selah

Matthew 14.22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, ‘Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.’

²⁸ Peter answered him, ‘Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.’ ²⁹ He said, ‘Come.’ So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’ ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, ‘You of little faith, why did you doubt?’ ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, ‘Truly you are the Son of God.’