



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

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 8, 2015 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany Scouting Sunday

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

*HYMN NO. 22

“Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us together to worship this morning.

All: From our work and play within the world, we gather here in God’s presence.

One: God gathers us together to worship and praise God;

All: We give thanks for creation's goodness, for the strength to labor, and for the wisdom to relax.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

Almighty God, Creator of us all, how thankful we are that you have come into our lives through your Holy Spirit. We pray today for God's children - all the children of the world. May they find peace and love in their families and schools and learn the love of Jesus Christ. We also pray for our young people, who are seeking a cause which is worthy of their life's commitment. We know that our youth must deal with a host of options. We give thanks that scouting shows one path and we pray that they may follow the way of love as shown by Jesus, our Christ, our Teacher, our Friend. 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

CHIME CHOIR

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

Ken Williams

SCOUTS SHARE OATHS AND PROMISES

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. 553

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 40:21-31	(O.T. p. 741)
GOSPEL	Mark 1: 29-39	(N.T. p. 36)
SERMON	Source of Strength	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP AND OUR PRAYERS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH – Who is Fannie Lou Hamer?

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Scouting Litany

Scout: The Scout Law and work toward being trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Congregation: The Scout law is a guiding light to millions of boys and young adults throughout the world today, beginning with principles of the Law from ancient days:

Scout: A Scout is trustworthy.

Congregation: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Exodus 20:16)

Scout: A Scout is loyal.

Congregation: Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. (Luke 16:10)

Scout: A Scout is helpful.

Congregation: You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord. (Lev. 19:18)

Scout: A Scout is friendly.

Congregation: Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. (Psalm 133)

Scout: A Scout is courteous.

Congregation: Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. (Ephesians 4:29)

Scout: A Scout is kind.

Congregation: A righteous man has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel. (Proverbs 12:10)

Scout: A Scout is obedient.

Congregation: Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" —this is the first commandment with a promise: "so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Congregation: A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken. The mind of one who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly. All the days of the poor are hard, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast. (Proverbs 15:13-15)

Scout: A Scout is thrifty.

Congregation: Go to the ant, you lazybones; consider its ways, and be wise. Without having any chief or officer or ruler, it prepares its food in summer, and gathers its sustenance in harvest. (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Scout: A Scout is brave.

Congregation: Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Scout: A Scout is clean.

Congregation: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in God's holy place? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. (Psalm 24:3-5)

All Scouts Together: A Scout is reverent, he is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

Congregation: And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and greatest commandment. (Mark 12:30)

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Don't Be Afraid"

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

"Those you hope in the LORD will renew their strength; they will fly up on wings like eagles; they will run and not be tired; they will walk and not be weary." And they will give generously and joyously for they give back a mere portion of what they have been given. "God loves a cheerful giver!"

OFFERTORY MUSIC CHOIR ANTHEM

"Sing a Jubilant Song"

Stanton

***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

May the gifts that we now offer up to God be a sign of our trust in God's promise of a new tomorrow, a better day, a sign that love and forgiveness have indeed found a way. Amen.

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

*HYMN NO. 6

"Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good"

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

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

Members of the Congregation
Diana Sweeney and Julie Turner
Various Scouts
Ross and Linda Webber
Kevin and Diane Gordon
Michael Bryan
Becky Fleury
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff Delangie
Lindsey Roman
Heidi Heath

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, February 8

Scouting Sunday

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
7:30am Nominating ~ 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 Boards Meeting ~ Currier
(see back page for information)
6:00pm Youth Group – Jewelry Making ~
Luke

Monday, February 9

7:00pm Troop 405 Meeting ~ Currier

Tuesday, February 10

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

Wednesday, February 11

12:30pm K.I.T. ~ MacGregor
6:00pm GS Troop 13152 ~ Currier Kitchen
7:00pm Council ~ Cook

Thursday, February 12

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 13

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

Saturday, February 14

1:00pm CS Pack 405 Blue and Gold ~
Currier
2:30pm Tri-Ess ~ MacGregor
7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, February 15

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
11:30am Mission ~ A/B
12:00pm All Committees Meeting ~ Currier
(see back page for information)
6:00pm Youth Group Mission/Game Night ~
Aurora Senior Center
(meet at FPC at 6)

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 8, 2015 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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.

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.

Godspell: Tickets for Godspell will go on sale starting this week, and will be available for purchase the next two weeks! The show is **Sunday, March 29 at 2:00pm** at the Palace Theatre in Manchester. We have seats on the floor (as opposed to the balcony). The ticket price is greatly reduced from the general ticket price. We are able to sell our 25 tickets for **\$20.00** (normal price is \$39.00). Reservations must be accompanied by payment. Checks should be made payable to Holly Gorgol.

Christian Ed: This week we head into the last couple of weeks of our exploration on Jesus and John the Baptist. The K-5th graders will explore video and science together in the big classroom. The Middle and High Schoolers continue their reading of Mark's Gospel. They will be digging into the importance of taking time out from our busyness for rest and renewal as Jesus did amidst his ministry. Middle School meets in A/B and the High Schoolers meet in John.

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!



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



Scout Sunday February 8th

Mark 1:29-39

29As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.
30Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

32That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. 35In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." 38He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." 39And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Isaiah 40:21-31

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22 It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;

23 who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

25 To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
'My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God'?

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

31 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.