

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

**May 31, 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)

**May 31, 2015    Second Sunday of Pentecost**

**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.

Feel free to join us for refreshments in Currier Hall immediately following the service.

**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 worshipping with us. We are honored to have you with us today.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

\*HYMN NO. 277

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Pentecost is here and we are together.

**All: Will the works of God be known among us today?**

One: God comes to us as a gentle breath or violent wind.

**All: Catch your breath, God’s breath, and live.**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

**Spirit of truth, come among us to guide us in the footsteps of Jesus.**

**Amaze and astonish us with the gifts already present among us. May our meditations be pleasing to you and our service to others be truly helpful, that your great and glorious day may be realized in our midst. Amen.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #756 - **Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo ;            Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.**

**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

Pastor Heidi

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.**

\*HYMN NO. 264

*“Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us”*



## Scriptures – May 31

### Psalm 104

<sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul.  
O LORD my God, you are very great.  
You are clothed with honour and majesty,  
<sup>2</sup> wrapped in light as with a garment.  
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,  
<sup>3</sup> you set the beams of your chambers on the waters,  
you make the clouds your chariot,  
you ride on the wings of the wind,  
<sup>4</sup> you make the winds your messengers,  
fire and flame your ministers

### John 15:26-27

<sup>26</sup> ‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup> You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

### John 16:7-15

<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup> ‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup> He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup> All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

*First Parish Congregational Church*  
*General Announcements*  
*May 31, 2015 Second Sunday of Pentecost*

**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.**

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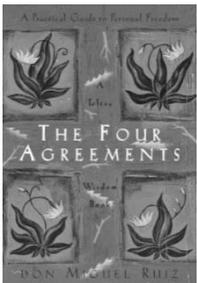


*Upper Village Fun Day!*

**Upper Village Fun Day:** Don't forget! Today from 1:00-3:00pm is Upper Village Fun Day! This event is held by Nutfield School, First Parish, Taylor Library and Upper Village Hall for all in the community to attend. Each location will offer open houses and activities for visitors. Our wonderful **Historic Preservation Committee** will be **providing tours** of our historic Meetinghouse from 1:00-3:00. There are two tour options: a guided tour (about 30 minutes long, at 1:00, 1:45, and 2:30) or explore-and-ask-questions

anytime between 1:00-3:00 (these explorers can use a self-guided tour brochure and ask the HPC members questions). Janet Wetherbee will also be doing the kids story she offered during the Founder's Day service. Come join us for a day of fun, learning, and community!

**Celebration "Word":** This is a reminder that we want to **CELEBRATE** First Parish on **June 14**. Can you celebrate who we are? Do you celebrate the leadership: The Staff? The **BOARDS?** The Committees? Do you celebrate our choir? Our children? 296 years? The history? The Meetinghouse? UCC? ONA? Please write your word on the paper provided. Thank you for participating in our celebration!



**The Four Agreements:** On **April 30** and **May 21** groups gathered. On **June 25**, groups will gather again to read this book together. We will begin at **6:30** and end close to **8:00**. We read together and discuss some of the basic understandings. It is hoped that all elected members and friends of First Parish will set aside a few hours to read this important book, either in one of the formal sessions or on their own.

This summer, when our worship service is from 9:00 - 10:00, we will have book discussions that are open to whoever has read the book. These sessions are tentatively scheduled for **July 12** and **26** and **August 16**.

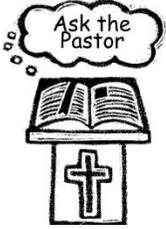
Please consider reading this simple yet profound book. The church has 10 copies that are circulating. Some folks have found the book on sale for as little as 50 cents. Keep your eyes open! Please see Pastor Deborah if you have any questions or concerns.

**Sacred Dancers:** The wonderful First Parish Sacred Dancers are now on the search for new members of **all ages!** The Sacred Dancers meet every Sunday in the sanctuary from 11:30am-12:00pm. For more information, please contact Darcy at 603-845-6743 or Danc4Lif@yahoo.com.



**Christian Ed:** The K-5th graders begin a new unit on Queen Esther! We'll begin together in John downstairs for storytelling. The K-2nd graders will stay in John to do an art lesson with Pastor Heidi. The 3-5th graders will go upstairs to Currier to have a cooking lesson. MS/HS is a combined class this week downstairs in Luke.

**Vacation Church School:** Vacation Church School is back at First Parish Congregational Church for kids from K-8th grade! This year's theme is "The Incredible Quest". We will learn about Bible characters who faced amazing challenges. Vacation Church School runs from **Monday, July 20-Friday, July 24** from **9:00am-12:00pm**. Early registration is \$13 per child for applications received by July 13. Registrations received after July 15 will be \$15 per child.



**Ask the Pastor:** On June 21, we will have our first "Ask the Pastor". Rather than a sermon, Pastor Deborah will answer questions you have: about Scripture, about UCC polity, about church in general, etc. You will write your question on an index card and hand it to an usher that morning. Spontaneous! Honest! Spirit-filled!



**"Art of Healing" at PCS:** Pastoral Counseling Services (PCS) welcomes the community to an open house at our offices in the Manning House. Partnering with the NH Institute of Art, PCS will display many works of art from alumni of NHIA. This is an opportunity to see PCS offices, meet Staff and Board, and enjoy art by local artists. The gathering will happen on **Tuesday, June 2, 5:30 - 7pm** in the offices of PCS, 2013 Elm Street in

Manchester. You may browse or purchase the art and 10% of all purchases will be donated to PCS. Come to see PCS and support the arts!