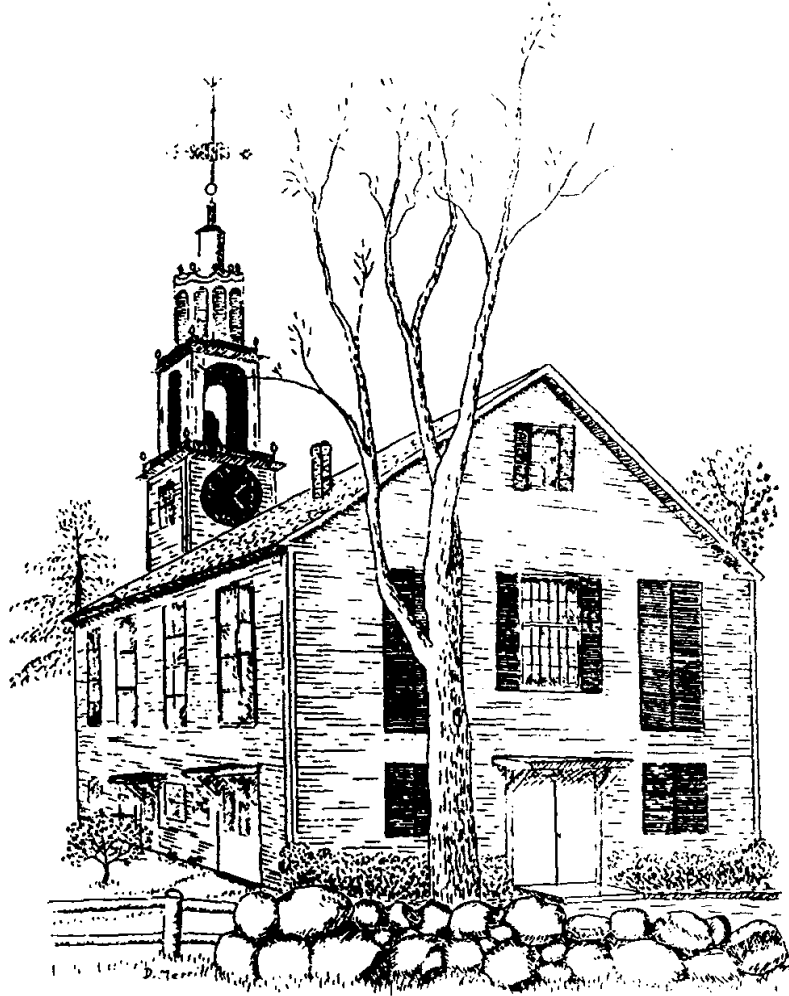


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

August 16, 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)

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 worshiping 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. 26

“We Worship You, God”

*CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSE

One: God is gracious and merciful and trustworthy.

Let us join our voices in giving thanks.

All: The works of God are all around us.

Those who share in God’s work lack for nothing.

One: We are called to faithfulness, as God is faithful.

We are people of the covenant, gathered to please God.

All: Holy and awesome is God’s name.

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

One: Come, then, as wise and faithful people.

Come as a beloved community of the redeemed.

All: We are amazed that God remembers us.

We reach out to the God who cares for us.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

God of steadfast love, your works delight our hearts and expand our thoughts.

Your grace and mercy draw us together to praise you and to celebrate your

wonderful deeds. Dwell among us today, and reign within the lives of each one gathered here, helping us to grow in discernment and understanding.

*SONG OF PRAISE #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

“I’m Gonna Sing”

I’m goin’ a sing when the Spirit says sing (x2)

I’m goin’ a sing when the Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (insert) Mikayla Elizabeth Henrick, Madison Marie Pinault,
Jackson Drew McClafferty

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 onto their classes.)

*HYMN NO. 290

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Psalm 111

(O.T. pp. 622-623)

NEW TESTAMENT

John 6:51-58

(N.T. p. 101-102)

SERMON

"Present Tense"

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

SPECIAL MUSIC

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

Marie Greene

WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

As we make melody to God with our hearts and voices, let our hands also be employed in service. We here offer ourselves the fruits of our labor that God may bless and multiply the good to be accomplished through them and us. May our riches be employed for the common benefit of all God's children.

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 (UNISON)

Your generosity, O God, is beyond our deserving. You grant health to our bodies and minds. You surround us with vast resources and with people who love us. You allow us to make decisions about the use of our time and possessions and relationships. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to share with others some of what we have received. Help us to use all our gifts as you intend. Amen.

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

*HYMN NO. 451

"Be Now My Vision"

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated.)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

Members of the Congregation
Diana Sweeney and Reni Harnden
Fred Merrill
Ken Gould, Joe Weaver
Dee Deranian, Shirley Dickason
Michael Bryan
Ruth Honnors
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman
Heidi Carrington Heath

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

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, August 16

8:00am Historic Preservation Committee ~ Archive
8:00am Youth Ministry ~ A/B
9:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
11:00am All-Church Cookout ~ Cobban House
11:30am Mission ~ A/B

Monday, August 17

9:00am Center for Life Management "Bright Beginnings" Class ~ John

Tuesday, August 18

9:00am Center for Life Management "Bright Beginnings" Class ~ John
6:15pm GS Troop 20321 ~ Luke
6:30pm AA ~ Library
7:00pm OA ~ A/B
7:00pm Finance ~ Cook

Wednesday, August 19

9:00am Center for Life Management "Bright Beginnings" Class ~ John
7:00pm Council ~ Cook

Thursday, August 20

1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive ~ Currier

Friday, August 21

7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B

Saturday, August 22

7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, August 23

9:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary

Scriptures – August 16

Psalm 111

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- ² Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.
- ³ Full of honour and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- ⁴ He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.
- ⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.
- ⁸ They are established for ever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant for ever.
Holy and awesome is his name.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practise it have a good understanding.
His praise endures for ever.

John 6.51-58

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'