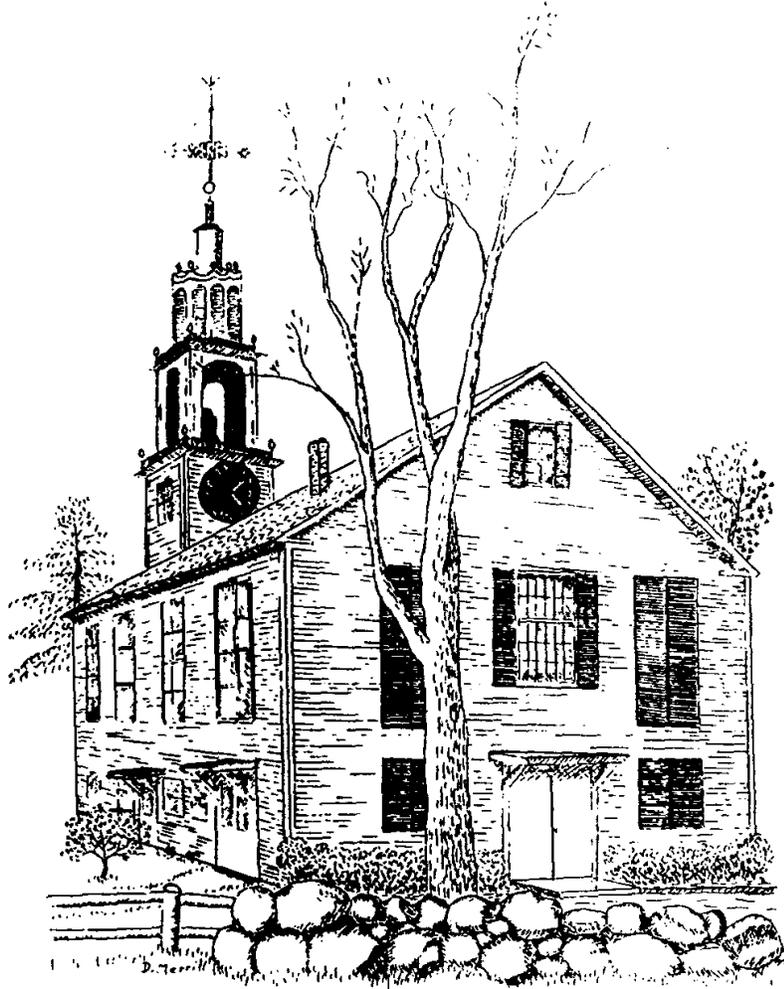


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

October 11, 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 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 (see insert)

“The Summons”

*CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSE

One: Come, all who look for God!

All: We want to hear and understand God’s Word.

One: The Word of God is living and active.

All: God understands our thoughts and intentions.

One: This is the time to embrace new ways.

All: Here we are strengthened for every day’s challenges.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

We gather as children of your realm, loving God. Open our thoughts and feelings so we may learn even better ways. We approach you with boldness, daring to question and make requests, knowing that your grace and mercy exceed our wildest imagining, and your guidance is ever available to those who ask. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #236 – Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja.
Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja.

WE INVITE FORWARD GOD’S LITTLE CHILDREN

CHILDREN’S OFFERING

“Jesus Loves Me”

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. 531

"God Speak to Me" (vs 1,2)

WE ARE CALLED INTO STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE – Beth Hunter

*HYMN NO. 531

"God Speak to Me" (vs. 3,4)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

NEW TESTAMENT

Hebrews 4:12-16

(N.T. p. 236)

GOSPEL

Mark 10:17-31

(N.T. p. 47)

SERMON

"For God, All Things Are Possible"

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Offertory"

Beck

WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Jesus said to the young questioner who asked about eternal life: "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." As long as our reliance is on things we have accumulated, our Christian discipleship is threatened. We give out of thanks to God and concern for our neighbors.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #785

**We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Thank you, God, for the wealth you have entrusted to us. As we share a portion of that wealth, we pray that it may never become the object of our affection. We dedicate our time, money, and ourselves to the reign of God among us, praying that all whom our gifts may reach may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Amen.

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

*HYMN NO. 448

"Take My Life, God, Let it Be "

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated.)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

FLOWERS Offered by Liz Greenberg in honor of our new Associate Pastor

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

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

Members of the Congregation
Pat and Dick Plouff
Reni Harnden
Becky Fleury, Verna Elwell
Joe Weaver, Sue Hunt
Michael Bryan
Beth Hunter
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman
Heidi Carrington Heath

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, October 11

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~
Music Room
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Handchime Rehearsal ~
MacGregor
11:45am Potluck Lunch ~ Currier

Monday, October 12

7:00pm Finance ~ Cook

Tuesday, October 13

4:00pm GS Troop 20993 ~ Currier
6:15pm GS Troop 20321 ~ Luke
6:30pm AA ~ Library
7:00pm Bible Wonder ~ Cook
7:00pm Music Committee ~ Nursery
7:00pm OA ~ A/B

Wednesday, October 14

12:30pm K.I.T. ~ MacGregor
6:00pm GS Troop 13152 ~ Luke
7:00pm Congregational Communication
Gathering ~ Currier
7:00pm AA 12 Step Workshop ~ A/B

Thursday, October 15

4:00pm Daisy Troop 11080 ~ John
6:30pm CS Pack 405 ~
Currier/AB/John/Luke
6:30pm BSA Venture Crew 570 ~
MacGregor
7:00pm Sr. Choir ~ Music Room
7:00pm Alzheimer Group in Cook

Friday, October 16

2:00pm Setup Nutfield Family Fun Night ~
Currier
6:00pm Nutfield Family Fun Night ~
Currier
7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B

Saturday, October 17

7:30am Derry Original Roundup ~
Currier/AB/MacGregor
7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, October 18

7:00am Best Breakfast
8:00am HPC ~ Archive
8:00am Youth Ministry ~ A/B
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~
Music Room
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Handchime Rehearsal ~
MacGregor
11:30am Mission ~ A/B

Scriptures – October 11

Hebrews 4.12-16

12 Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.¹³ And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

14 Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession.¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Mark 10.17-31

17 As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, ‘Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’¹⁸ Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone.¹⁹ You know the commandments: “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.”’²⁰ He said to him, ‘Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.’²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, ‘You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!’²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, ‘Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’

28 Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’²⁹ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’