# First Parish Congregational Church United Church of Christ East Derry, New Hampshire

We are 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 everwidening community through active and loving ministry.

Come visit us! Worship is at 10 am.



# From the Pastor's Desk

"All the Good"

Dear Child of God.

Perhaps you have heard it said: "Singing is praying twice". I wonder if anyone has ever counted the number of times that sacred scripture suggests that we sing! "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises." (Psalm 98:4): or "They lift up their voices, they sing for joy; they shout from the west over the majesty of the Lord." (Isaiah 24:14); or "O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things." (Psalm 98:1): to name a few.

I joined a chorus in Concord a year ago. We had one concert last May and I was blessed that several folks from First Parish came to hear us. I am very excited to announce that this Spring we will do our regular concert in Concord on a Saturday night AND we will be doing a concert right here in East Derry in the Meetinghouse on April 3<sup>rd</sup>! This is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "Songweavers" and it will be such fun to sing with them in our own sanctuary!

**Continued on Page 2** 

# **Upcoming Events**

Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> Advent Devotional Group (p.4)

Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

First Fridays – Game Night (p.11)

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

Pastor Heidi's Ordination (p.11)

Sunday, December 13th

Advent Workshop (p. 4)

Tuesday, December 15th

Blue Christmas Service (p.11)

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Services (p.11)

Friday, December 25th Merry Christmas!

## **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 12<sup>th</sup> Century Church in Hampshire, England



#### **Continued from Page 1:**

One of the songs we are preparing is especially meaningful considering the world we live in. The words are: "I can't do all the good that the world needs – but the world needs all the good that I can do." How incredibly profound! What if we lived by those lyrics? What if we also did variations on a theme? Perhaps: "I can't say all the prayers that the world needs – but the world needs all the peace that I can say." Or: "I can't make all the peace that the world needs – but the world needs all the peace that I can make"?

Our world is in turmoil: vicious attacks on innocent people, contentious arguments over whose safety is more important, and belligerent bullying on local levels. "I can't do all the good that the world needs - but the world needs all the good that I can do." What "good" can you do? How about the basics: say please and thank you, smile to strangers, look for solutions rather than living in the struggle? St. Francis' prayer for peace was never more crucial than today: "Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy." The world needs ALL THE GOOD THAT YOU CAN DO. Sow love. Be forgiving. Express your faith. Give people hope. Luke 11:33 says: "No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar, but on the lampstand so that those who enter may see the light." In Matthew 5:14 Jesus says: "You are the light of the world."

This year, at Christmastide, be love, be joy, be faith, be hope. Embody these attributes that are gifts of our faith. The world needs all the love and joy and faith and hope that you can give! Merry Christmas! Thanks be to God!

John 1:16. Pastor Deborah

# THE FOUR AGREEMENTS: AGREEMENT FOUR ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST

#### YOUR BEST:

Your best is never going to be the same from one moment to another. Regardless of the quality, keep doing no less than your best. Accept your best and recognize that it feels good to give your best because doing your best feels productive and is not based on expecting a reward. Do your best to live up to the other three agreements:

- Be impeccable with your word.
- Don't take anything personally.
- Don't make assumptions.

#### **HOW TO DO YOUR BEST:**

- Work for "Win/Win" instead of "Win/Lose" results. Since dissatisfaction drives people to change, you should do your best to uncover the dissatisfactions of others. Remember to avoid focusing on the problem, but rather to work toward a solution. Focusing on a problem reduces energy, results in blaming, and leads others to see their resources as limited
- Develop a "preferred future." Ask what it would look like "If I got it right..."
- Set rules for brainstorming. Good rules for brainstorming include:
  - Don't judge ideas
  - Don't discuss ideas
  - The more ideas the better
  - Build on others' ideas
- Bring new resources to the table.
- Set your first steps to explore other's opinions or implement an agreement.

## **Associate Pastor's Pen**

In spite of war and terror, Mary gives birth to the Prince of Peace. In spite of hunger, Mary gives birth to the Bread of Life. In spite of lost sheep, Mary gives birth to the Good Shepherd. In spite of hearts pregnant with hatred, Mary gives birth to LOVE.

It is not done!
It is not done!
It is not done!
The birthing is not over.
The blessings continue.
Angels wait in the wings!
- Ann Weems

Associate Pastor's Pen

It is not done. God is not done with this world. Advent is the season when we prepare our hearts for the new possibilities that God is birthing into our lives. God is working on a great reversal and it begins with Mary, a lowly peasant pregnant with a King. Then the Word made flesh is born, unable to speak a word. The mystery of God is revealed as a baby who only has the ability to love and be loved.

God is turning everything on its head. The love that comes down at Christmas is not about power. Or control. It's about vulnerability. It's about selfless action. It's about hope.

So, this Advent, you are invited to journey with the God who will not leave us in fear and darkness but instead, whose light shines and makes all things new.

Let us have the courage to turn towards the light this Advent, Christmas and Epiphany.

See you in church,

Pastor Heidi

# Faith Formation: Offerings for ALL AGES!

# **Sunday School Teachers**

It's that time again! We are in need of church school teachers for January-June. Never done it before? No problem! Want to chat about it more before you sign up? We can do that. Our teachers have so much fun, and regularly sign up to do a second rotation in a year. This is a GREAT way to get to know our church kids better. See Pastor Heidi or a member of the CE Board for more info! Keep an eye out for us at fellowship hour in late November-December too!

# All I Really Want for Advent...



...is an awesome faith formation group! Our next round of adult faith formation kicks off on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM! We'll be using Quinn Caldwell's fabulous book "All I Really Want: Readings for a Modern Christmas" as our

guide. Quinn is one of Pastor Heidi's mentors, a fabulous writer, and also a really funny dude. This challenging, fun, poignant devotional is one of the best resources of the season. Join us for discussion, fellowship, and faith building. Books will be provided, but please do RSVP to Pastor Heidi at: <a href="mailto:pastorheidiheath@gmail.com">pastorheidiheath@gmail.com</a> so she knows how many to get.

# **Advent Workshop**

The always popular Advent workshop returns this year on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:45 AM – 1:15 PM. There will be crafts, food, and fun for the whole family. As always, we need lots of volunteers, and lots of crockpots of soup! Please see Rachel Cobban, or Janet Wetherbee to sign up with any questions. Note: Lunch will begin while hand chime choir is still rehearsing, but food will be available for those in hand chimes after rehearsal.



# **Church School Tidbits**

For the month of December, the K-4<sup>th</sup> graders will be learning about and participating in Advent related activities. The 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders will continue their study on the Bible and more with the reform curriculum. The high schoolers will continue to have weekly discussion on the lectionary text and fellowship time. There will also be some opportunities for helping with mission during the month of December too! There will be NO church school on December 27<sup>th</sup> or Sunday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will resume church school on January 10<sup>th</sup>!

# **Nominating Committee**

#### What Can First Parish Church Do For You?

To give the Nominating Committee a better perspective on your interest in available openings on Boards and Committees for the upcoming year, we would appreciate you filling out this survey to let us know of places that you think that you could serve the church. You may drop it off in the church office or give it a member of the Nominating Committee. If you are uncertain about any of the open positions, please feel free to contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

"Nominating Committee has a place for you in 2016."

Our goal is always "No Vacancy."

Positions A	vaila	ble:
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Please place your name and phone number next to positions that you are interested in.						
Board of Christian Outreach and Mission- (1)						
Board of Christian Education- (3)						
Board of Diaconate- (3)						
Stewardship Board- (3)						
Personnel Board- (1)						
Finance Committee At Large- (2)						
Nominating Committee- (5)						
Community Life Committee- (3)						

Thank you for your support,

The Nominating Committee: Bill Armstrong, Paul Dionne, Carl and Gail Hepworth





The Sugar Plum Fair has been held at First Parish Church for decades, traditionally on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. We hope that you were able to attend this year.

Originally, the fair was coordinated by the Se-Lo-Ki women's group at First Parish Church. Prior to the Sugar Plum Fair, Se-Lo-Ki held a Strawberry Fair in August as a fundraiser for FPC, with similar activities and sales of crafts, food, plants, candy and aprons.

Se-Lo-Ki was a women's organization at FPC dating back to 1953 and perhaps growing from the Ladies Aid Society that dated back to 1949. The name stands for:

- Se: service (for our Master),
- · Lo: love (for all mankind) and
- Ki: kindness (for our Brethren).

The group sponsored many activities and educational opportunities and held monthly meetings, often inviting husbands to join them (sorry bachelors!). Women prepared for the Sugar Plum Fair throughout the entire year. Originally, all the women of FPC were asked to produce 12 items to be sold at the fair, one for each month of the year.

During the 1980's, the Sugar Plum Fair was coordinated by FPC member, Melanie Van Steensburg. She introduced the famous Cookie Walk, in which each participant would fill a coffee can (decorated with Christmas wrapping paper) with homemade cookies, prepared by FPC parishioners. The fair also opened up to the community to rent spaces and participate in sales.

It has continued to be a regular fundraiser for FPC and it is held on a weekend when many churches, schools and organizations also hold craft fairs in Derry, attracting

enthusiastic visitors to town. Cathy Pottle, FPC member, has coordinated the Sugar Plum Fair for the past several years and she welcomes volunteers, bakers and crafters to participate in this fun event.

We look forward to this historic FPC event each year so put it on your calendar for next year, the Saturday before Thanksgiving. It's a great opportunity to volunteer or do your Christmas shopping, enjoy a handmade lunch, pick up bargains at the White Elephant sale and take home wonderful pecan rolls!

- Submitted by Janet Wetherbee, Historical Preservation Committee

# **Board of Christian Outreach and Missions**

<u>Angel Tree</u>: Each year at Christmas time, Missions sponsors the Angel Tree program which assists families in need in providing a little more Christmas joy for their children.

The Missions board is currently obtaining a list of children's names within our community who need your help. Each child is assigned a number in order to maintain autonomy. The children's information (age, gender and wishes) will be available in Currier Hall during coffee hour on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. We need all gifts at the church by Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Please leave gifts on the stage in Currier Hall and Missions will pick them up from there.

The following are instructions for the delivery of gifts to the Church. These instructions will also be available when you pick up the child's information.

After you have purchased your gift, please:

- 1. Remove the price tags
- 2. If this item may have to be returned, place tags and receipt (if possible) in an envelope with the child's number on the front and tape the envelope to the back of the package.
- 3. Everyone loves presents! Please wrap each gift separately and place gift certificates in a separate box.
- 4. Stick or tape a label with the child's number to the top front of the present. **This is very important!** Missions will replace this label with one that has the child's name before delivering the gift.

<u>Christmas Fund</u>: The Christmas Fund Offering (formerly the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross), one of five Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ (UCC), is an important way of sharing our joy at God's renewing and life-giving grace. The Offering, which is administered by the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance of the Pension Boards on behalf of the UCC, is an expression of joy and gratitude to, and for, those who serve the church.

Gifts to the Christmas Fund help provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income retirees, emergency assistance to the families of clergy and lay employees and Christmas Gift Checks to hundreds of annuitants.

Your gifts are needed more than ever to help the growing number of retirees whose lower-income annuities make it difficult to meet increasing living costs. This is your opportunity to participate in God's promise of renewal by enabling this ministry of compassion and care.

**Zimbabwe Pen-Pal Program**: The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions is in the process of revitalizing the Pen-Pal program with our sister church in Mutare, Zimbabwe. We have been in talks with Rev. Michele Bagby Allan of the North Hampton, UCC who has recently led a delegation of youth to Zimbabwe. We are planning to have someone come in from that delegation to give a Mission Moment probably at the end of February. Please stay tuned as more information becomes available. We look forward to restarting this wonderful program.

Continued on Page 8...

#### Continued from Page 7...

<u>Monthly Giving:</u> Mission is thankful to each of you for sharing so generously with those in our community who are struggling. We can do nothing without your kindness. Below is our list of charities receiving monthly Mission support:

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM):		
Sonshine Soup Kitchen:		
First Baptist Food Pantry:		
Community Caregivers:	\$90	
Vintage Grace:	\$90	
Family Promise:	\$90	
Pastoral Counseling:	\$90	
Upper Room:	\$90	
Pastor Discretionary Fund:	\$90	

Respectfully submitted,

**The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions (BOCOM):** Joe Weaver, Gloria Bingel, Sue Brown, Beth Hunter, Katelyn Whittier, Karen Wilson, Linda McCarthy

## **Finance Committee**

So you have done some estate planning and have named First Parish as a beneficiary of your 401K. Good for you. We call that planned giving and we thank you very much,

No, you haven't done that yet? Want a simpler suggestion? Why not send First Parish a Christmas card and slip a modest bonus check in the envelope. We know you can do that and we thank you very much.

2015 has been a year of great optimism in our church and we want to thank all members and friends for the steady and generous giving. May you all enjoy a peaceful and joyous December.

- Debbie Ambler, Pat Crowell, John Bartel, Fay Chary, Chris O'Brien, Ken Gould

P.S. If you would like to help with the 2016 budget, we meet on December  $7^{th}$  at 7 PM in Cook. Come help us.

# **Fundraising Committee**

The Fundraising Committee welcomes new members, especially to help with managing the gift card program. Ideally, we would like to have a team of four people so we can take one Sunday a month to staff the Gift Card table. If interested in helping with this, see Liz Greenberg. Training provided!

#### HANNAFORD'S GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER:

Cards can be purchased or reloaded every Sunday before or after church services during Best Breakfast or at Social Hour following church in Currier. Gift cards can be loaded with any amount from \$5-\$500 by personal check made payable to First Parish Church with "gift card" in the memo line, or by cash. Cards will be activated by the next day and available to use. Please remember that cards must be reloaded through the church in order for the church to receive our 5% incentive! Think about ordering some Hannafords gift cards for Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers! Cards ordered on Sunday can be picked up the following Sunday.

#### **FPC Dining for Dollars:**

We have scheduled another popular First Parish dining out event at Panera Bread in Derry. SAVE THE DATE: January 11<sup>th</sup>, 4-9 PM. Watch for flyers to bring with you! These events are a great opportunity for fellowship and fun. Why not invite one of our many new members to join you for a meal, get to know them better and extend some of our famous First Parish warm hospitality!

FUNDRAISING
UPDATE

A huge thank you to La Carreta Restaurant for their VERY generous donation of \$700 following our FPC dining out event in October at the restaurant!

- Submitted on behalf of Fundraising Committee, by Liz Greenberg

# Where is Pastor Heidi?

With the recent transition to an Associate Pastor position, we wanted to share Pastor Heidi's updates schedule! Beginning the week of December 7<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Heidi will be in the office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. General office hours will be: 12PM-8PM on Tuesdays, and 9AM-5PM on Thursdays. As always, specific hours may flex based on the needs of the church and programming. She takes Sabbath on Mondays and Fridays, and does not respond to calls or messages on those days. If you have an emergency, please feel free to call her cellphone! Stay tuned for more information on her "out of office" community office hours beginning in the New Year. A note on vacation: Pastor Heidi will be on vacation from December 28<sup>th</sup>-January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please be in touch with Pastor Deborah or the church office should you need anything during this time.

# **Tower Top to Be Dismantled and Stored Offsite**



PTF's storage shed and workshop building (lower right) in Nottingham, NH where the tower top, weathervane, and bell will be stored and refurbished.

In September, our experts Arron Sturgis and Preservation Timber Framing (PTF) successfully removed the top of the Meetinghouse tower and lowered it onto the lawn. There is much upcoming work to do on the tower box (the lower section of tower still attached to the Meetinghouse) and on the tower top (currently located on staging) as well as significant work on the Meetinghouse foundation and roof. First Parish knew that there was extensive rot in some of the timbers within the tower. With the removal of the tower top, and placement of the temporary roof on the tower box, the church is more stable and better able to withstand severe weather.

In assessing the situation after the top takedown, the Building Advisory Committee (BAC) and PTF have had several exchanges

regarding the safety of the weathervane, issues with the bell, and overall security and stability of the tower top. PTF recommended dismantling the tower top before winter and storing all the components in their secure warehouse in Nottingham, thus protecting them from theft and further weather damage. The BAC thoroughly reviewed the recommendation and discussed the pros and cons of disassembling the tower top at this time. Also, several committee members visited the storage facility.

The BAC decided that the disassembly of the tower top should take place this year, and PTF plans to do this work in December. It will involve removing the lantern from the belfry frame, extracting the bell and removing the weathervane, and also carefully dismantling and cataloging all the components in the entire top. The trim boards and other material removed from the tower and now stored on church property will also be moved to the Nottingham facility.



Moving the tower also presents savings in two areas: eliminating the ongoing rental costs of the staging currently positioned around the tower top on the lawn, and avoiding the planned need for some storage unit onsite for the removed trim and materials. In addition, security concerns for the weathervane and liability related to someone being hurt around the tower platform are addressed by the move.

If you have questions, please see one of the BAC team.

- Nancy Heywood and Paul Lindemann (submitted on behalf of the Building Advisory Committee: (Paul Ambler, Larry Krantz, Bill Mann)

## **Around Our Church**

### **Christmas Services**

On **Tuesday**, **December 15**<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary, there will be a Blue Christmas service. The holidays can be a difficult time for many people who may not be feeling so merry. Anyone is welcome to attend this service as a safe space to feel whatever you may be feeling during the holiday season.

We offer three Christmas Eve services on December 24th:

4:30 PM: Family/children's service

• 7:00 PM: Candlelight service with choir

• 10:00 PM: Candlelight service with handchime choir

## First Fridays!

Don't forget! We're kicking off First Fridays fellowship, food, and fun on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> with game night! Chris Cox and Katie Cobban will be hosting from 6:00-8:00 PM. Bring your favorite board game, and a spirit of fun. Snacks will be provided. All ages welcome! Note: We will NOT meet in January as the First Friday is New Years Day, but will resume again in February. We need volunteers to lead different fellowship nights each month. See Pastor Heidi or Pastor Deborah if you'd like to jump in.

# Wanted: Christmas Eve Hand Chime Players

Ken Williams is looking for college-aged Hand Chime players for the late service on Christmas Eve. We will rehearse after church on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and on Christmas Eve before the service. Anyone interested should call Ken at 603-434-7683 and leave a message.

## **Pastor Heidi's Ordination**

A reminder that Pastor Heidi's Ordination will be held **December 6**<sup>th</sup> **at 3:00 PM** at Old South Church in Boston! FPC has reserved a bus to transport those who wish to travel together to Boston. The bus will leave promptly at 1:00 PM from the FPC parking lot. Tickets will range from \$10-\$25 depending upon how many folks sign up. Please contact Lindsey in the office if you would like to reserve a spot on the bus.



### FPC officeadmin, Contacts, First Parish Church UCC, FPC Events, Holidays in United States, Nutfield, Other Groups

#### Dec 2015 (Eastern Tim

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
		9:30am - Nutfield Gym ~	6pm - GS Trp 13152 ~ Luke	10am - School pictures ~	6pm - Game Night, First	7:30pm - AA ~ Currier
		4pm - GS Trp 20993 ~	6:30pm - Deacons ~ Cook	4:30pm - GS Trp 11080 ~	7pm - AA Serenity Sisters ~	
		6:15pm - GS 20321~Luke	7pm - AA 12 Step	6:30pm - BSA Venture Crew		
		6:30pm - AA ~ Library		6:30pm - CS Pack 405 Mtg		
		7pm - Faith Formation ~		7 pm - CE ~ Nursery		
		7pm - OA ~ A/B		7pm - Sr. Choir ~ Music		
				7pm - Stewardship ~ Cook		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7am - Best Breakfast ~	7pm - Finance ~ Cook	9:30am - Nutfield Gym ~	6pm - GS Trp 13152 ~ Luke	4:30pm - GS Trp 11080 ~	6pm - Nutfield School	2:30pm - Tri-Ess ~
9am - Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~	7pm - Trp 405 Board of	4pm - GS Trp 20993 ~	7pm - AA 12 Step	6:30pm - BSA Venture Crew	7pm - AA Serenity Sisters ~	7:30pm - AA ~ Currier
10am - Worship ~	7pm - Trp 405 Mtg ~	6:15pm - GS 20321~Luke	7pm - PPRC ~ Offsite	6:30pm - CS Pack 405 Mtg		
10:15am - Sun. School ~	7pm - Trp 405 ~ Nursery	6:30pm - AA ~ Library		7 pm - Sr. Choir ~ Music		
11:15am - Children's Choir		7pm - Faith Formation ~				
11:35am - Handchime		7pm - Music Committee ~				
3pm - Pastor Heidi		7pm - OA ~ A/B				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
7 am - Best Breakfast ~	7pm - Trp 405 Board of	9:30am - Nutfield Gym ~	12:30pm - K.I.T. ~	4:30pm - GS Trp 11080 ~	5pm - Spaghetti Supper ~	7:30pm - AA ~ Currier
9am - Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~	7pm - Trp 405 Mtg ~	4pm - GS Trp 20993 ~	6pm - GS Trp 13152 ~ Luke	6:30pm - BSA Venture Crew	7pm - AA Serenity Sisters ~	
10am - Worship ~	7pm - Trp 405 ~ Nursery	6:15pm - GS 20321~Luke	7pm - AA 12 Step	6:30pm - CS Pack 405 Mtg		
10:15am - Sun. School ~		6:30pm - AA ~ Library	7pm - Council ~ Cook	7pm - Sr. Choir ~ Music		
11:15am - Children's Choir		7pm - Faith Formation ~				
11:35am - Handchime		7pm - OA ~ A/B				
11:45am - Advent		7:30pm - Blue Christmas				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
7am - Best Breakfast ~	7pm - Trp 405 Board of	9:30am - Nutfield Gym ~	6pm - GS Trp 13152 ~ Luke	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Day After Christmas Day
8 am - HPC ~ Archive	7pm - Trp 405 Mtg ~	4pm - GS Trp 20993 ~	7pm - AA 12 Step	4:30pm - Family Service ~	7pm - AA Serenity Sisters ~	7:30pm - AA ~ Currier
8 am - Youth Ministry ~ A/B	7pm - Trp 405 ~ Nursery	6:15pm - GS 20321~Luke		7pm - Candlelight Service		
9am - Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~		6:30pm - AA ~ Library		7pm - Sr. Choir ~ Music		
10am - Worship ~		7pm - OA ~ A/B		10pm - 10:00 PM		
10:15am - Sun. School ~						
11:15am - Children's Choir						
11:30am - Mission ~ A/B						
11:35am - Handchime						
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
7am - Best Breakfast ~	7pm - Trp 405 Board of	4pm - GS Trp 20993 ~	6pm - GS Trp 13152 ~ Luke	New Year's Eve		
10am - Worship ~	7pm - Trp 405 Mtg ~	6:15pm - GS 20321~Luke	7pm - AA 12 Step			
	7pm - Trp 405 ~ Nursery	6:30pm - AA ~ Library				
		7pm - OA ~ A/B				

# **Scripture Readings**

Readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary for Sundays and Festivals – Year B

## December 6<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday of Advent

Mal 3:1-4 or Bar 5:1-9

Luke 1:68-79

Phil 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

## December 13<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday of Advent

Zeph 3:14-20

Isa 12:2-6

Phil 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

## December 20<sup>th</sup> – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:46b-55

Heb 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

#### December 27<sup>th</sup> – First Sun. after Christmas

1 Sam 2:18-20, 26

Ps 148

Col 3:12-17

Luke 2:41-52

# **Worship Leadership**

## **Deacons & Lay Readers**

#### **Deacons of the Month**

Fred Merrill and Julie Turner

**December 6<sup>th</sup>: MacKenzie Kittery** 

December 13th: Sarah Keller

December 20<sup>th</sup>: Diana Sweeney

December 27th: Steve Davis

### **Ushers & Greeters**

Weekly Usher - Michael Bryan

**Dec. 6**<sup>th</sup>: Ushers: Diaconate

Greeters: Verna Elwell & Shirley Dickason

Dec. 13th: Ushers: Stanley & Holly Gorgol

Tom & Andrea Cooper Greeters: Becky Fleury

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>: Ushers: Becky Fleury, Verna Elwell

Joe Weaver, Suzanne Hunt

Greeter: Beth Hunter

Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>: Ushers: Ross & Linda Webber

Kevin & Diane Gordon Greeters: Betsy McCall

## **Nursing Home Friends**

Theo Johnson

Hillsborough Country Nursing Home

Phil Guertin

Pleasant Valley Nursing Home

# First Parish Congregational Church, UCC

#### **Church Office Hours:**

Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Friday: 9 am - 4:30 pm

#### You are most warmly invited:

10:00 am Sunday Worship & Church School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

#### Check us out on the web:

www.fpc-ucc.org

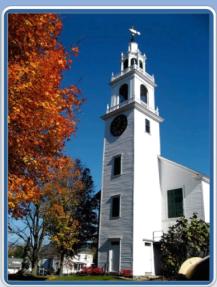
Email our office manager, Lindsey Roman:

officemgr@fpc-ucc.org

Email our pastor, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof:

pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org

Call our office: 603-434-0628





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