# 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 ever-widening community through active and loving ministry.

### From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Child of God,

This past Sunday the prayer response that we sang together was one of my favorites! It was the refrain from "On Eagle's Wings", which is based on a passage from Isaiah, as well as various Psalms. The greater context of the Isaiah passage is found in chapter 40, verses 28-31:

"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."

God is giving voice to the voiceless and strength to the powerless right here in our midst. We are experiencing a renewal of energy and a renewal of spirit. If you were at the Annual Meeting, you heard that fewer pledging units achieved an all-time high in our general fund goals. Our God is a God of abundance! When we share what we have, God is able to multiply our efforts in wondrous and

#### Upcoming Events

February 12, 19, 26
Adult Faith Formations ~ 6:30

February 10<sup>th</sup>
CE Meeting ~ 11:30

February 11th

Finance~ 7:00

February 13th

K.I.T. ~ 12:30

February 14th

Happy Valentine's Day

February 15th

Contra Dance ~ 7:00

February 17th

Mission ~ 11:30

February 20th

Council ~ 7:00

February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Spaghetti Supper ~ 5:00

February 23rd

Prepared to Serve ~ 8:00

February 26th

Facilities ~ 7:00

February 27th

Deacon ~ 6:30

#### **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



### From the Pastor's Desk Continued

mysterious ways! We have much work to do, to be sure! We also passed a deficit budget with a high figure in the fund-raising line item. And God will multiply our efforts, for sure.

We have been given a gift – a precious gift. God can and will multiply our efforts whenever we work toward the goal of creating a better and safer space for any child of God, whether in our church or in our community. Our focus need no longer be on our own issues or problems. Rather, with God's help, we can and will heal internally when and while we also focus our efforts externally. We are called to look to God's work in the world.

In hope and faith, let us envision together a church that ensures inner healing and growth by turning our efforts outwards into the community. All the while a new ministry, the Ministry of Care Team, develops and grows to meet the needs of our own members, we have emerging energy around a young person-driven project that will speak to the needs of the homeless and helpless in Derry. That is one example.

In our culture today, we are pelted with a way of thinking that emphasizes "either...or". We are either right or we are wrong; we are either going in the right direction or we are going in the wrong direction; we are either working on internal problems or we are working on external problems. This is not the way of God. God works mysteriously and simultaneously on the inside and on the outside.

In fact, let me say this: I am not blind to the sorrow in our midst. I am not ignoring the pain of those who feel alienated from their beloved First Parish. Nor am I ignoring the grief of those who continue to attend services here and miss their friends who are not here. I see the pain and I feel the sorrow. I pray for healing for everyone and I will do what I can when I can. I will count on you to talk to me directly if you see something more that I could be doing.

Remember that God is mysteriously and simultaneously present in both our rejoicing and in our grief. We are experiencing wonderful growth and energy all the while acknowledging the pain and loss of division and difference of opinion. With God's help, let us imagine one "both...and" scenario after another. In God's will we can know a reality where we are healed by healing others, where we receive by giving away and where we grow in faith all the while we help others grow in faith.

Let is work to this end faithfully and tirelessly in His name and for His sake.

"And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,

Bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun,

And hold you in the palm of His Hand."

Let us together be raised on eagle's wings! Together!

Peace and all good,

Pastor Deborah

### Christian Education/Adult Faith Formation



Fear not! I's not too late to sign up for this year's UCC Conference! This year's event we are planning a full schedule for the day that includes time for worship, attending workshops, viewing exhibits, and enjoying food and fellowship with folks from all over New Hampshire. With over 50 different workshops offered on a variety of topics, we are hopeful that this day will be meaningful and productive for all who attend. Workshop sessions do fill up quickly, so register early for the best selection! Download the event brochure to get a preview of this year's workshop selections.

## \*Mark your Calendars\* YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

To our Youth Group attentees: don't miss this weekends festivities! We will be congregating at Hampstead Congregation's Campus located at 61 Main Street, Hampstead, NH 03841 along with Atkinson Congregation's crew. We hop to see you there. Don't forget to plan for next month's extravaganza right here at First Parish Church, March 3<sup>rd</sup>!

CE BOARD MEETING ~ February 10<sup>th</sup> ~ NURSERY

### Christian Education/Adult Faith Formation (continued)

March 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ First Parish Church's first #KINDNESS ROCKS PROJECTS rock painting gathering of 2019! Join us between the hours of 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm in the John Conference Room (Rainbow Room). All supplies needed will be provided, but donations are also accepted. Let's help grow this movement by creating kindness and cultivating compassion right here in our Greater Derry Community! Find out more here:

https://www.thekindnessrocksproject.com/

#### March Wednesday Lenten Loaf and Ladle Services:

If anyone would like childcare to during our Wednesday evening Lenten Service throughout March we would love to help you out, please let us know ahead of time by contacting Christine Lehoullier @ cedirector@fpc-ucc.org

#### HORTON CENTER

Horton Center is a UCC summer camp with programs for children, teens and adults that sits atop Pine Mountain in the heart of the Presidential Range in Gorham, NH.

Many options available throughout the summer starting May 24<sup>th</sup>- October 6<sup>th</sup>. Programs run various lengths. Details available www.hortoncenter.org/camp/schedule/ or in the office.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT! Automatically get last year's prices when you register by February 15<sup>th</sup>!

#### February Adult Education - Tuesday Night Bible Wonder - 6:30 - 8:00

No class on February 5. The next three Tuesdays we will read together from the New Testament concentrating on the letters of Paul.

Over the last few months we read together the book of Acts, written by the Gospel writer Luke. It was an eye-opening journey of the early church. How astonishing were the hurdles that the early Christians had to overcome!

In February we will read some of the 13 letters that are attributed to Paul. I'll let you in on a little secret: Paul did not write all of them! Plagiarism was a known and respected practice. (Wait! What?)

Come Tuesday in February to Bible Wonder to learn more.

### Council

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you can read about the task force that is working on a plan for our congregation's recovery from the brokenness that has led to some deep divisions within this community. The word that is being used and which I have heard more and more often lately is covenant.

Merriam Webster defines covenant as a usually formal, solemn, and binding agreement or a written agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action. The word is not usually part of our everyday vernacular but is used frequently in legal contexts for example in property transactions.

Here at First Parish, we have a covenant with Pastor Deborah and she with us and all of us with each other. The task force is trying to develop guidelines, in great specificity, in the form of a covenant, which can be proposed to the congregation to define what we believe is the behavior of a Christian congregation in their interactions with each other, their pastor, and the wider community.

Bob Dylan wrote a song called "Covenant Woman" in which he seems to be singing about his covenant with a specific woman, but if we take a step back I think we can apply the words to any relationship and in particular to our congregation's current efforts.

In the first verse he sings:

Covenant woman got a contract with the Lord Way up yonder, great will be her reward Covenant woman, shining like a morning star I know I can trust you to stay where you are

So the woman, or the congregation has a contract with the Lord and the reward for keeping that covenant will be great in eternity. And in the chorus he sings:

And I just got to tell you
I do intend
To stay closer than any friend
I just got to thank you
Once again
For making your prayers known
Unto heaven for me
And to you, always, so grateful
I will forever be

### Council (continued)

And then in the second verse:

I've been broken, shattered like an empty cup I'm just waiting on the Lord to rebuild and fill me up And I know He will do it 'cause He's faithful and He's true He must have loved me so much to send me someone as fine as you

We are all broken, aren't we? Individually and collectively. Can we trust that by listening for the guidance of the Holy Spirit we can find wholeness? As in the words of the chorus are we always grateful?

And in the final verse:

Covenant woman, intimate little girl
Who knows those most secret things of me that are hidden from the world
You know we are strangers in a land we're passing through
I'll always be right by your side, I've got a covenant too

If we can ignore the "little girl" phrasing, maybe we can imagine that in community we do know each others shortcomings and strengths. And that this earthly existence is only temporary, and we all have a covenant to be honored. And as the chorus emphasizes again we have much to be grateful for.

Blessed Be.

Submitted by John Bartel on behalf of Church Council

### BRICKS BRICKS BRICKS

The Brick Memorial/Welcoming Garden is still happening. Once winter is over and weather allows the Brick Memorial/Welcoming Garden will begin on Phase One of the brick installation. Bricks are already on site ready to go. If you have not yet ordered a brick to honor someone or an event, or have not yet decided what you'd like to do, it is NOT TOO LATE

Cathy Pottle is still accepting orders and if you order before March you can be sure your brick or bricks will be in Phase One of the installation.

Valentine's Day is coming. A good time to remember a loved one with a permanent heart felt valentine. The information for purchasing a brick and the directions for the inscription follows.

So, consider getting your brick now. The information to do so is this:

OPTION 1 SEE CATHY POTTLE AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS or

Pick up a form at the church, in the Narthex outside the office or Ask Michelle for a form in the office OPTION 2

Go to the Friends of the Meetinghouse website https://fotmh.org/bricks/

**OPTION 3 CONTACT CATHY POTTLE** 

(603) 668-4215 or <u>clpottle@yahoo.com</u> Cathy will mail you a form with instructions.

I do hope we will sell 500 inscribed bricks. That would do much to get our congregation back into the Sanctuary.

Submitted by Nancy Murdock

### Board of Christian Outreach and Missions

<u>Derry Friendship Center:</u> On Sunday, January 27th, Carol Bowden of the Derry Friendship Center gave the Mission Moment highlighting the contributions of the Derry Friendship Center to our community which we support through your Missions giving. The Derry Friendship Center is a non-profit community organization that provides a safe and supportive environment for twelve-step recovery regardless of race, creed, color, gender or ethnic origin. For over 30 years, The Derry Friendship Center, Inc. has provided a safe, confidential, alcohol and drug free environment for people seeking and/or maintaining recovery from substance abuse and to participate in activities and ongoing rehabilitative peer support to people in recovery from alcoholism and drug abuse. If you would like to donate online or volunteer you can visit them at:

www.thederryfriendshipcenter.org. The Center is open to the public as a drop-in center – when

www.thederryfriendshipcenter.org. The Center is open to the public as a drop-in center – when staffed by their volunteers and is located at 6 Rail Road Avenue in Derry.

<u>Health Access Sumbawa (HAS)</u>: Health Access Sumbawa (HAS) is one if the Missions we support. HAS improves access to vital health services such as malaria control for people living in malaria-endemic communities. <u>HAS health & community development programs</u> focus on the needs of families on the remote island of Sumbawa, Indonesia, but are not limited to any particular geographic location.

Undernutrition is prevalent during the long dry season which runs June through November. HAS is improving the deficient diet by introducing irrigated, fenced kitchen gardens and small orchards. The key elements to these programs include low-cost irrigation systems, living-fence field enclosure systems, fruit, vegetable and nut crop introductions, and nutrition education. HAS recently launched a major effort to introduce nut farming to farmers in their service area, with special emphasis on cashews. Farmers could increase their income 60% on land they switch to cashews growing from corn. HAS will test the concept by planting 400 cashew nut trees on 2 hectares this fiscal year. If successful, HAS will scale up substantially in the years ahead. For more information and if you would like to donate to this worthy cause you can visit them at: <a href="https://www.healthaccesssumbawa.org">https://www.healthaccesssumbawa.org</a>. They are also available at facebook.com/healthaccesssumbawa. More information is also available on the Missions bulletin board outside of the AB classroom.

<u>Food Basket Program:</u> The Food Basket program is a vital part of our Missions work as a Church of Christ. The food basket is kept outside of Currier Hall. The food from the food basket alternates between the Derry Food Pantry and the Upper Room, both important programs supported by your missions giving. If you have donated canned goods or other food items to this program in the past, thank you. If not, please consider dropping off items in the food basket on Sunday, or anytime the Church is open. Donations are desperately needed and always appreciated.

### Board of Christian Outreach and Missions (continued)

For more information about the First Baptist Church Food Pantry you can visit them on their website at: <a href="https://www.fbcfoodpantry.org/">https://www.fbcfoodpantry.org/</a>. Here is a list of their most needed items:

Fruits & Vegetables	Protein Items	Mixed Items
Vegetables (canned)	Peanut butter	Mac and cheese
Fruit (canned)	Canned meats (i.e. tuna,	Canned meals (i.e.
Grains & Cereals	chicken)	ravioli, spaghetti)
Pasta	Baked beans	
Rice	Fresh/frozen meat (when	
Breakfast cereals and	available)	
bars	Drinks	
	Milk (shelf milk)	
	Juice	

#### The Liberty House:

The Liberty House in Manchester, NH has been providing a safe, supportive, substance-free housing community for more than a decade for American veterans transitioning out of homelessness. If you would like to donate at Church there is a donation basket outside of Currier Hall. The donations are regularly transferred to Liberty House in Manchester. If you would like to donate online or volunteer you can visit them at: <a href="http://libertyhousenh.org/how-to-get-involved/">http://libertyhousenh.org/how-to-get-involved/</a>. The following is their current "Needs Wishlist".

The following is their current. Needs wi	15111151 .		
<u>Food</u>	Camping Gear		
Canned Meats (i.e., tuna, chicken, etc.)	Tents		
Peanut Butter and Jelly	Sleeping Bags		
Canned Pastas	Backpacks		
Soup	Tarps		
Clothing	Gifts Cards		
Warm Weather	Gifts cards are especially helpful (\$10,		
Shorts and Pants	\$15, \$20, \$25 amounts work well)		
Short Sleeve Shirts	Market Basket		
Sweatpants	Hannaford		
Underwear	WalMart		
Light Coats or Hoodies	Gas Cards		
Sneakers	Manchester Transit Authority Bus		
<u>Cold Weather</u>	Passes		
Pants			
Long Sleeve Shirts			
Sweatpants			
Underwear			
Winter Coats			
Winter Boots			

### Board of Christian Outreach and Missions (continued)

#### Missions Giving:

The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions 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 that received your support last month:

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM) - \$350.00

Sonshine Soup Kitchen - \$100.00

First Baptist Food Pantry - \$100.00

Community Caregivers - \$100.00

Derry Friendship Center - \$100.00

Pastoral Counseling - \$100.00

Pinkerton Homeless Program - \$100.00

Upper Room - \$100.00

Pastor Discretionary Fund - \$200.00

Family Promise of Nashua - \$100.00

Please note that the amount of funds available for Missions work is what you designate on your Pledge card. You may also designate money towards special needs throughout the year by writing Missions in the memo field of your check followed by where you want the donation to go. For example: *Missions: Hurricane Irma Relief.* The Missions board will send the donation to its destination in the most efficient way.

Respectfully submitted,

The Board of Christian Outreach and Missions (BOCOM): Joe Weaver, Sue Brown, Beth Hunter, Karen Wilson, Kathy Holland, Bart Wetherbee, Melanie VanSteensburg, Sharon Hartmann

### Music Ministry

The Children's Choir is back in full swing, but it may not look like the Children's Choir you've been used to seeing. We are finding that our children's parents, and the children themselves, have very busy weekends. To ask them to stay after worship for a Children's Choir rehearsal cannot guarantee consistent enough attendance for learning songs to sing and enjoy. So is having a Children's Choir realistic? I still say yes!

With the cultural shift from Sunday being dedicated to church activities, to church now being one item in the "salad bar" of weekend options, we need to look at a children's choir through a new lens. We already have our children's presence and attention during Sunday School. So I've been providing them with the opportunity to learn more there through singing!

This month — Black History month — we are singing songs of the Underground Railroad and learning about Harriet Tubman. You will learn about these songs as well when we turn one of our Children's Message times into a time for the Children's Choir. This provides both the Sunday School children and the rest of the congregation an opportunity to enjoy the gift of song in both worship and in Sunday School.

We look forward to sharing and singing what we're learning with you in worship!

Debbie Gline Allen, Interim Director of Music Ministry

### Board of Deacons

By the time this article is read we will have completed our Annual meeting here at First Parish Church. I always feel this is the beginning of our new church year. We have new people starting new boards and committees. We have a new budget. We have recently gone through Advent and the birth of Jesus. This is a season of renewed hope.

The Diaconate and Pastor Deborah have worked hard this past year to continue to make our temporary worship space as inviting and sacred as possible. We applaud all of Diane Breeden's time and effort. We have also started a Fabulous Fifth Sunday, any month with a fifth Sunday will have the last Sunday doing something a little different, like cafe church or a guided reflection. There is a new caring group that will help the diaconate keep in touch and help with outreach within our congregation.

We encourage everyone to wear their name tags on Sunday, if you do not have one, you can sign up for one in the office. We also have welcome bags for any guest. Please see an usher or Deacon, if you know of someone that could use one.

For those of you that would like to try a worship service that is a little more contemporary we invite you to try the Wonder Wednesday service put on once a month.

The Diaconate encourages all of you to work at finding joy in the little things and be a positive voice this new year. Spread kindness wherever you go. Let us make 2019 our best year ever!

Do you have any ideas about what you might like to see in worship? Did you do something in a different church that you might like to try here? Talk to any Diaconate or speak with Pastor Deborah. We look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces this year.

Happy New Year!

Diane Dunn, Cindy Pingree, Julie Turner, Diane Breeden, Ryan Lahollier, Sue Lindemann, Carol Bates, and Jo Worthen.



### Task Force

#### THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE

Great song, isn't it? We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord.

Unfortunately for us, it's a lot easier to sing this than to practice it. It requires that we be patient when we are in a hurry to get things done. It requires that we be kind when we are angry. It requires that we speak respectfully when we disagree. It requires that we put the good of the church as a whole ahead of our personal wishes. It requires that we forgive when we've been wronged and want to exact justice. It requires that we love our neighbor as ourselves. It even requires that we love our enemy.

The beauty of Christianity is that the rules are simple and compelling: Love thy God above all else, and love thy neighbor as thyself (i.e., do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Yes, the Golden Rule.) So how can such a simple sentence be so hard to live by?

Our church has been through some tumultuous times, and we have often failed to act in love. We are better than this.

The purpose of the Task Force for Moving Forward Together is to develop guidelines to help us be the people we are called to be, and want to be, but have so much trouble being. The idea is to start with a covenant that lays out these guidelines, put them out to the congregation for review and discussion about what we are willing to commit to as a group, and then make that commitment. The Task Force has met 3 times so far, and while we are far from finished with our work, here's what we are currently thinking should be the foundations of the covenant. The overall guiding principle is that we need to commit to practicing the Golden Rule. In practice, this means:

#### Behave like Christ expects us to

- 1. Pray for one another
- 2. Regularly worship and study
- 3. Forgive one another
- 4. Seek what's best for the church as a whole, not what is best for individuals or small groups
- 5. Make positive investments in each other's lives by caring for and supporting each other

#### Keep an open mind

- 1. Recognize that others' views/opinions are valid
- 2. Acknowledge that conflict and differences are a normal part of life in the church
- 3. Believe the best about each other. Put the best construction on what others say and do.
- 4. Honor and support the decisions of the group

#### Communicate clearly and listen carefully

- 1. Do more listening than talking
- 2. Listen to one another with respect, openness, and with genuine desire to understand them
- 3. Practice "active listening" -- on sensitive topics, repeat back what you think the other person said
- 4. Speak for yourself and not others; represent others fairly, avoiding stereotyping
- 5. Speak the truth, in love
- 6. When you have a problem or conflict with someone, talk directly to that person to work it out.
- 7. Ask questions for clarification, instead of making judgments
- 8. Focus on interests and concerns, not positions
- 9. Focus on problems and issues, not people (i.e., no blaming of others)

### Task Force (continued)

This is still a work in progress and we want your feedback on how to refine these draft guidelines. Please contact any of the Task Force members by phone, email, or in person to give us your views:

Randy Brown	Beth Hunter	Deborah Roof
Randybrown1119@gmail.com	Beth.hunter2@comcast.net	pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org
Steve Davis	Alan Pawl	Melanie VanSteensburg
wonalancet@gmail.com	apawl@comcast.net	mvansteensburg@gmail.com
Anne Engelhardt	Cindy Pingree	Cathy Zylinski
annehardt@comcast.net	Cinpin24@comcast.net	czylinski@hotmail.com

If we can live by such a covenant, they'll *know* we are Christians by our love.

The Task Force for Moving Forward Together

### Ministry of Care

The Ministry of Care team has met several times. We have discussed how we can work together as a community of Christians to care for each other when we face challenges in our lives.

One of our goals is to streamline the process of helping members of our congregation who are in need of "care". That care could be a home cooked meal, a visit, a phone call or a card etc. Communication is key to making this ministry work. Communicating a need to the congregation and making sure the congregation has a way of communicating a need to us.

We have produced forms that can be used to help with this process. Some will be used within the group to communicate a need and there is one that we hope you will fill out if you would like to help in this ministry. These forms are available in the office. You can fill out the form and give to Michelle or any members of this group.

The following people are coordinating specific needs:

Intake Coordinator: Beth Hunter 505-0704/Deborah Roof 585-472-4284

Coordinator of Cards: Connie Cox 479-9150

Coordinator of Visits: Wendy Williams 860-287-1750 Coordinator of Food: Anne Engelhardt 321-9428

Coordinator of Calls:

By having these coordinators, we hope that in our enthusiasm to help we do not overwhelm anyone. Mostly with food, visits or phone calls. You can never get too many cards.

This ministry is a work in progress and we would love any input you can give us.

Your Ministry of Care team,

Mary LaFrance, Karen Wilson, Connie Cox, Pat Plouff, Wendy Williams, Anne Engelhardt, Beth Hunter, Diane Dunn, Pastor Deborah, Rachel Cobban

### Ministry of Care Team

Questionnaire for Ministry of Care:	
My name is	<u></u>
The best way to contact me is:	
I would be happy to do the following tasks	: (Put an x in the column and provide comments
as needed.)	

Ministry Task		Yes	No	Comment
*Intake coordinator	Beth Hunter			
	(603) 505-0702			
*Coordinator of	Connie Cox			
cards	(603) 479-9150			
	I will write cards			
*Coordinator of visits	Wendy Williams			
	(860) 287-1750			
	I will visit homes			
	I will visit nursing homes			
	I will visit hospitals			
	I will visit to hospice			
*Coordinator of calls	ŚŚ			
	I will make calls			
*Coordinator of food	<b>Anne Engelhardt</b> (603) 321-9428			
	I will provide meals			
	I will pick up a restaurant meal			
	I will go to the store for basics and deliver			
Other: Is there another task that you could provide?				

### Fundraising Committee

We had a very exciting fundraising committee meeting on January 6th after church. We had 16 people attending who were bubbling over with enthusiasm and ideas for ways to close the church budget gap. In a freewheeling, no holds barred, no bad ideas, imaginative brainstorming session we came up with a dizzying 32 different ideas!

In an effort to provide some guidance and direction to Council, we narrowed that list down to the top seven ideas that had energy and/or a champion ready to take the lead and to move an idea to a reality. Those top seven plans include: Vendor Bingo, a Savers Clothing Drive, increased utilization of the Hannaford Gift Card program, a monthly Best Breakfast, a monthly Ham and Bean Supper, Bimonthly Dining For Dollars events at local restaurants, selling ads for a new placemat to be used at all our food related events.

Some of the ideas still simmering on a back burner but ready for more development include a summertime Pig Roast (Amphora Restaurant is interested in helping us), Blessing of the Bikes and Breakfast or Chicken Barbeque in conjunction with Laconia BikeWeek, a Road Race (assisted by Dave Breeden), bus tours, a food truck rodeo, and a Virtual Yard Sale.

Other ideas included Concerts in Currier Hall, a Talent Show with our own members, A Christmas Tour of historic East Derry/Derrybuildings, a Scrapbooking Day, or a quilt raffle, among others.

As you can see there was a real creative flow and lots of enthusiasm. Now we need willing workers to help make some of these wonderful ideas a reality! Our next committee meeting will be on Sunday, February 10th after church. All are welcome! If you can't make the meeting but feel inspired to help on one or more of these projects, let us know!

Presented by Liz Greenberg, Committee Chair



Join us on Friday, March 8th when First Parish Church will host an exciting evening of VENDOR BINGO from 5:30 to 8:30 PM.

This event is sponsored by the FPC Fundraising Committee. There will be 10 Vendors and 10 Bingo games; each vendor will donate a prize for one of the games!

Admission is free but the cost is \$10.00 for 10 Bingo games. Guests will have an opportunity to shop before the games, during an intermission half way through, and after the games.

There will be food available for purchase beginning at 5:30.

WHAT FUN: SHOPPING! BINGO! DINNER! RAFFLE PRIZES!

If you are a vendor and are interested in having a table, table rental is \$25 and you will be asked to donate a \$25 gift. Please contact Stephanie Berg at tulipstephie29@yahoo.com

This event supports First Parish Church, Friends of the Meetinghouse, a Community Outreach Mission Stephanie Berg, Cathy Zylinski, Carol Guerrin

### February is Black History Month

DREAM LIKE MARTIN

LEAD LIKE HARRIET
FIGHT LIKE MALCOLM
THINK LIKE GARVEY
WRITE LIKE MAYA
BUILD LIKE MADAM CJ
SPEAK LIKE FREDERICK
EDUCATE LIKE W.E.B

BELIEVE LIKE THURGOOD

CHALLENGE LIKE ROSA

INSPIRE LIKE OBAMA

### New UCC Logo



### Scripture Readings

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

#### February 3rd

Jeremiah 1:4-101 Luke 4:1-30

#### February 10th

Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13) Luke 5:1-11

#### February 17th

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Luke 6:17-26

#### February 24th

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Luke 6:27-38

### Worship Schedule

**Deacons of the Month:** 

#### **Ushers & Greeters**

Weekly Usher - Michael Bryan

#### February 3<sup>rd</sup>:

Ushers: Diaconate Greeter: Boy Scouts

#### February 10th:

Ushers: Brian Williams, Margie Ives

Greeter: Liz Greenberg

#### February 17th:

Ushers: Ken Gould, Dee Deranian,

Nancy Berry

Greeter: Joyce Pope

#### February 24th:

Ushers: Stanley Gorgol, Holly Gorgol, Tom

Cooper, Andrea Cooper Greeter: Carol Guerrin

### First Parish Congregational Church

PO Box 114, 47 East Derry Road, E Derry, NH 03041

#### **Office Hours**

Monday: 9:00-3:00 Tuesday: 9:00-3:00 Wednesday: 9:00-3:00 Thursday: 9:00-3:00 Friday: 9:00-3:00

### Check us out on the web www.fpc-ucc.org

Administrative Assistant, Michelle Guerrin: officemgr@fpc-ucc.org 603-434-0628

Senior Pastor and Teacher The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof: pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org

### First Parish Congregational Church, UCC

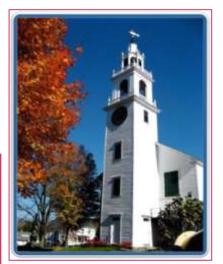
You are most warmly invited:

10:00 am Sunday Worship & Church School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

## First Parish Congregational Church History

The oldest church in the immediate area, First Parish Church was founded by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in the spring of 1719. Faith was and continues to be a priority. Worship was held one day after arrival, a church body was organized in one month and a building was built in 1722. A "more imposing structure" replaced the first in 1769, and although altered and expanded through time, the main building and sanctuary remain our center of worship.



First Parish Congregational Church United Church of Christ 47 East Derry Road PO Box 114 East Derry, NH 03041-0114 **Address Service Requested**