

# *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.

## *Upcoming Events*

12/1 Advent Workshop  
 12/5 Labyrinth Talk 'n Walk  
 12/7 Christian Ed Meeting  
 12/9 Finance Meeting ~ 7:00  
 12/12 KIT~ 12:30  
 12/14 Santa Breakfast ~8:30  
 12/16 Mission Meeting ~ 6:00  
 12/17 Blue Christmas ~ 7:00  
 12/18 Council Meeting~ 7:00  
 12/19 Deacon Meeting~6:30  
 12/20 Contra Dance~7:30  
 12/24 Christmas Eve  
     4:00 Pageant  
     7:00 Candle, Choir,  
     Lessons & Carols  
 12/25 Merry Christmas!  
 12/27 Spaghetti Supper ~5:30

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Child of God,

Please consider this beautiful poem by Renee Swope:  
 The Manger of My Heart

This Advent, Lord, come to the manger of my heart.  
 Fill me with Your presence from the very start.  
 As I prepare for the holidays and gifts to be given,  
 Remind me of the gift You gave  
     when You sent Your Son from Heaven.  
 The first Christmas gift, it was the greatest gift ever.  
 You came as a baby born in a manger.  
 Wrapped like the gifts I find under my tree,  
 Waiting to be opened, to reveal Your love to me.  
 Restore to me the wonder that came with Jesus' birth,  
 When He left the riches of Heaven  
     and wrapped Himself in rags of earth.  
 Immanuel, God with us, Your presence came that night.  
 And angels announced, "Into your darkness, God brings His Light."  
 "Do not be afraid," they said, to shepherds in the field.  
 Speak to my heart today, Lord, and help me to yield.  
 Make me like those shepherd boys, obedient to Your call.  
 Setting distractions and worries aside, to You I surrender them all.  
 Surround me with Your presence, Lord, I long to hear Your voice.  
 Clear my mind of countless concerns and all the holiday noise.  
 Slow me down this Christmas, let me not be in a rush.  
 In the midst of parties and planning, I want to feel Your hush.

## **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



## *From the Pastor's Desk Continued*

This Christmas, Jesus, come to the manger of my heart.  
Invade my soul like Bethlehem, bringing peace to every part.  
Dwell within and around me, as I unwrap Your presence each day.  
Keep me close to You, Lord. It's in Your wonderful Name I pray.

This is my prayer for us, fellow members of the faith family of First Parish: that we may invite Jesus to the manger of our hearts: that the sounds of compassion and kindness would drown out the urgings of incivility and greed and that the light of Christ's love would shine more brightly than the din of consumerism.

Watch and wait – and **know** that the Prince of Peace is coming our way.

Liz joins with me in sending our heartfelt blessings to you and yours this Christmas season.  
Pastor Deborah

## *Board of Christian Outreach and Missions*

Thanksgiving and Christmas are happy family times for many, but there are also people who struggle. First Parish church for many years has given **Thanksgiving baskets** to local families in need. This year you gave enough food to fill baskets for 21 families. Some of those families are clients of Community Caregivers and are elderly and home bound. Other names are given to us from the Upper Room and still others are suggested by members of FPC. Your generosity helped to make Thanksgiving a happier time for many people.

There are other ways you can help families during the holidays. After church on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> missions will have **Angel Tree** gift tags for children of the families who received Thanksgiving baskets. You can choose 1 or many of these tags and purchase Christmas gifts for these children. Because there are only 3 weeks between thanksgiving and Christmas this year you will only have 2 weeks to return your wrapped gifts to FPC. We will need to have these wrapped gifts returned by Sat. Dec 14<sup>th</sup> so we can get them to the families.

At Christmas time we also take a special offering to help retired and active clergy who are facing financial difficulties. This is the **Christmas Fund**. There will be envelopes in the Sunday bulletins on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. They will also be in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

There are many ways you can help make the holidays happier for those less fortunate than we are. The members of the mission committee want to thank you for anything you are able to do.

Beth Hunter, Melanie Pawl, Bart Wetherbee, Kathy Holland, Sue Brown and Karen Wilson

## Board of Christian Education & Adult Faith Formation



### Christmas Pageant & Rehearsals

**Hark the Herald Angels Sing! We are so excited for this year's performance of the Nativity Story.**



Parents and students, please do your best to attend all December Sunday School classes as they will be our opportunity for proper preparation and costume fittings!

Thank you all for your joyful participation in honoring the birth of Jesus!

**Please mark your calendars: Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12:00 – 1:30 pm**  
**will be our final dress rehearsal followed by a Happy Birthday Jesus celebration including food and refreshments for all involved!**



### Advent Workshop



Help us prepare our hearts for the season of Advent, a season of Faith, Hope, Joy, Peace and Love, by joining together for an afternoon of food, crafting and Advent festivities. This year's featured craft will be the Christmas Swag Decorations you can hang from your front door or inside your home. Come make your own modern advent wreath, an advent calendar chain or make some tasty chocolate covered pretzels! There's something for everyone! December 1<sup>st</sup>, after service all hands on deck for set-up! The event runs until 2:00. Children are invited to a special story time with Miss Katie while lunch is being set up.



### January Adult Faith Formation

Our next Adult Faith Formation Class will feature Anne Robertson's latest publication, Priorities, in her newest series, Exploring Justice: The Ten Commandments.

Join us Tuesday evenings

at 6:20 starting January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

You may sign up after services during coffee hour.

You may also contact Christine Lehoullier

at [cedirector@fpc-ucc.org](mailto:cedirector@fpc-ucc.org)

or call the front office at 603-434-0628.

## *Christian Education & Adult Faith (Continued)*

**No other gods. No graven images. Don't take God's name in vain.** Those are the commandments that focus this first volume of our new series: [\*Exploring Justice: The Ten Commandments\*](#). Do you think idols are merely statues from a false religion? Think again.

In this first volume, you'll think about the primary values of your faith and learn the history behind some of today's difficult issues: When did the Pledge of Allegiance change and why? How did Charles "Lucky Lindy" Lindbergh taint the original "America First" movement? Who was the first monarch in history to grant the full freedom of religion and which Christian minister made it happen?

"This book is the launch volume of a projected multi-volume work on the Ten Commandments. The series promises to be a state-of-the art offer, the best resource we have on the commandments and their contemporary pertinence for a life of faith. As executive of the Massachusetts Bible Society, Anne continues and extends the strong legacy of the Society in its engagement with scripture as a primary way in which to empower the faithful life of the church."

Walter Brueggemann  
Columbia Theological Seminary

## *Blue Christmas*

Every year the Deacons and Pastor Deborah offer a "Blue Christmas Service". The term is used by many churches who want to offer a space for those who struggle at Christmastime. It's just not culturally "cool" to be sad at Christmas. And yet, it is at Christmas that the suicide rate is at its highest. It is at Christmas that there is a spike in doctor's appointments and prescriptions for anti-depressants. There are so many happy Christmas songs and Hallmark Christmas movies. What about sadness and grief? What about people who have lost someone special during the year and this year is the first Christmas without that beloved person?

During the Blue Christmas service we allow space for lament and we honor the struggle that accompanies conflicted feelings. If you have lost someone this year, join us to honor the gift of sadness that comes from loving someone who has died. You are invited to bring a friend or invite someone you know who might be struggling. This service is open to the community.

**Tuesday, December 17 at 7pm. We hope that you will join us.**

## *Financial Stewardship at Christmastime*

December is when “gift-giving” is foremost on our minds. We are so grateful for our abundant blessings. Financial appeals are plentiful and your charitable dollars are sought from every direction. What’s in it for you? Where is your ROI – return on investment?

First Parish is a Christ-centered presence in our community and in our world, and you are a beneficiary. You participate on some level with a three centuries old Christian institution that has fed the hungry, clothed the naked and welcomed the stranger - time and time again! You support a church that provides ministries of care and comfort in life’s rough waters. Our Christmas wish is to end this year in the black.

- *Perhaps* this year, you can offer First Parish a financial Christmas gift. (Send a check or bring it with you to a service. Write “Christmas Gift” in the memo.)
- *Perhaps* this Christmas season when you shop on Amazon, you will go through **our** church website on your computer. Please visit our website [www.fpc-ucc.org](http://www.fpc-ucc.org) and then click the Amazon logo to do your shopping. Share this link with family and friends.
- *Perhaps* you will arrange for a Hannafords card through our church to do your grocery shopping or buy a gift card for a family member. (Come Sunday morning or call the office to get your card.)

Looking ahead to 2020 we have received 43 pledges. We would love to receive 43 more! Please pray about what your gift to the church might be next year. Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Submitted by Margaret Ives, Joyce Pope and Pastor Deborah

## *First Parish Church Bylaws Article IV*

Copies of Bylaws Article IV is available in the church office as of December 1st for your review. It is too long to put in the newsletter. There will be no informational meeting in the month of December but if you have a question please feel free to reach out to anyone on the committee. We wish you and your family a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Anne Engelhardt, ([annehardt@comcast.net](mailto:annehardt@comcast.net)) Chairman, Fay Chary ([fc5320@earthli8nk.net](mailto:fc5320@earthli8nk.net)), Cathy Zylinski ([czylinski@hotmail.com](mailto:czylinski@hotmail.com)), Ryan Lehoullier ([rlehoullier@hotmail.com](mailto:rlehoullier@hotmail.com)), Wendy Williams ([wmw03087@gmail.com](mailto:wmw03087@gmail.com)), Lianne C Deranian ([liannecd@myfairpoint.net](mailto:liannecd@myfairpoint.net)), Reni Harnden ([rharnden@comcast.net](mailto:rharnden@comcast.net)), and Pastor Deborah Roof ([pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org](mailto:pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org)).

## *ADVENT TALK 'n WALK - December 6 at 7pm*

### *Walking While Waiting: Labyrinth Style*

I want to personally invite you to join me on Friday, December 6 at 7:00pm in Currier Hall. I will be offering you an opportunity to learn more about the labyrinth and why it is such an important tool. My interest in this ancient metaphor has grown over the years. I will talk about my own experience, as well as the origin of this symbol and how it has re-emerged in modern society.



We will begin promptly at 7:00. I'll talk for about 20 minutes. I will then facilitate a group walk. Even if you have walked the labyrinth before – even if you have heard the explanation before – it will enhance your experience to join us right at 7.

Advent peace in the waiting,  
Pastor Deborah

## *Sugar Plum Fair*

The 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Sugar Plum was an amazing event! So many people pitch in to make it happen. Thank you to everyone who helped set up, prepare, bake, create, build, cook, volunteer and clean! We raised \$6,314.70!

A Special Thank You to Cathy Pottle but  
Cathy would say, "It takes a village!"  
Thank you one, thank you ALL!

## *Music Ministry*

Welcome Advent!

Thanksgiving is already behind us and the Christmas Decorations are beginning to appear! Here in the choir room we welcome new choir member Deanna Butler, who has also helped me in warming up the choir since she is a retired organist! Welcome Deanna. We are hard at work getting ready for all that December brings with special music.

The chimes choir began rehearsing and are getting ready for their 2019 debut on December 22. It isn't too late to join us! Come to our rehearsals after coffee hour, after Sunday service, in the nursery. Please let Chris Cox know of your interest.

During this Winter season, choir rehearsals have moved to 6:30 pm and run until 8:00 pm on Thursday nights. We will not be rehearsing on December 26th.

Merry Christmas to all,  
Joan Virga

## *2020 Ukama Delegation to Zimbabwe*

The Ukama Partnership Mission Group of the New Hampshire Conference is opening the application process for people interested in joining the delegation planning to travel to Zimbabwe in August 4-18 of 2020. The Mission Group will select 9-12 persons for this delegation, which will attend the Christian Youth Fellowship's Annual General Meeting as well as visit partner churches. Cost is estimated between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

An application for and description of the attributes is available by contacting Rev. Richard Slater at [rslater@nhcucc.org](mailto:rslater@nhcucc.org) . Deadline is January 17, 2020

## Advent Action Items

### Here are ways you can embody HOPE during the first week of the Season of Advent:

**Monday: REDUCE** | Make a plan to bike, walk or take public transportation to work once a month or more to reduce your carbon footprint. Stick with the plan. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Tuesday: RECORD** | Using a smartphone or computer, record a Christmas carol for a loved one who lives far away and send it to them. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Wednesday: PICTURE** | Have children at church draw pictures for residents of a local nursing home. *#LoveOfChildren*

**Thursday: RESTORE** | Spend time outdoors connecting with God's creation to seek harmony and see hope in the beauty of the natural world. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Friday: CARE** | Prepare and share a covered dish with an elderly neighbor or friend from church who lives alone. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Saturday: SABBATH** | Unplug from the digital world and take a time of rest and recreation with the children in your life. *#LoveOfChildren*

What image depicts the promise of God's HOPE awaiting fulfillment in your life?

Share it on social media with **#3greatloves**

### Here are ways you can embody PEACE during the second week of the Season of Advent:

**Monday: SNIP** | Make recycled paper snowflakes, especially if you live where you don't often get real snow. Think of the peacefulness of a snowy night and the beauty in God's handiwork.

*#LoveOfCreation*

**Tuesday: FORGIVE** | What better time than this week to "make peace." Reach out to a friend or relative with whom you have had disagreements. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Wednesday: CREATE** | Cut seven green and red paper strips. On each strip, write the name of a place in our world that is in need of peace. Staple the strips as links in one long garland. Each day pick a strip of paper and pray for God's peace to come to that place. *#LoveOfChildren*

**Thursday: REUSE** | Save all of the candle ends from candles at your church (and your own, too). Collect pinecones, melt the candle ends and drizzle some of wax on the pinecones to make eco-friendly fire starters. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Friday: SHARE** | Share Christ's peace - give a care package to someone who needs a pick-me-up. This might be someone who lives alone or has no family nearby to share time with during the holiday season. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Saturday: BUILD** | Create your own nativity scene at home - do it slowly so that you all may find peace as you 'see' the story of Christmas. Use any objects you can find as the characters - let your mind be creative. *#LoveOfChildren*

What image depicts the promise of God's PEACE, awaiting fulfillment in your life?

Share it on Social Media with **#3greatloves**

## Advent Action Items

### Here are ways you can embody JOY during the third week of the Season of Advent:

**Monday: REJOICE** | The season is always a great time to see the wonder of creation and give joyful thanks for it. Take a moment today to rejoice in the earthly beauty all around you. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Tuesday: DONATE** | Over 1 Billion people lack access to clean water. Donate to an international mission effort working to bring water to those in need. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Wednesday: SING** | Ask your local children's hospital or ward if you can bring your choir to sing for their patients this week. The love you will see on their faces will thrill everyone - young and old. *#LoveOfChildren*

**Thursday: ANTICIPATE** | Food banks and direct service centers receive an abundance of donations during this season. However, need extend well beyond this season to all year round. Plan ways to care for the needs of other in your community in January, February, and even next summer. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Friday: RECYCLE** | It is estimated that by 2050 there will be more plastics in the ocean than fish. Recycle, reduce or find ways to eliminate single use plastics like straws, water bottles or plastic bags. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Saturday: VOLUNTEER** | Volunteer to care for small children at a crisis center, your church or a hospital. *#LoveOfChildren*

What image depicts the promise of God's JOY awaiting fulfillment in your life?

Share it on social media with *#3greatloves*

### Here are ways you can embody LOVE during the fourth week of the Season of Advent:

**Monday: ADVOCATE** | Donate food to a local food pantry, but also advocate for food justice in the community. Speak to local government representatives about the need for inner city access to nutritious foods. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Tuesday: CONSERVE** | Whether there's snow or sunshine outside your windows this time of year, it's always a good time to save on home energy use. Schedule an energy audit for your church or home in the New Year. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Wednesday: WATCH** | Choose a socially conscious family movie like Brave Girl or The Lorax to watch together as a family or with the children at church. Discuss ways to be caring and conscious with others. *#LoveOfChildren*

**Thursday: CALL** | Reduce your carbon footprint by personally calling some of your close friends and family instead of mailing them a Christmas card. Tell them about your intentional change and encourage them to do the same. *#LoveOfCreation*

**Friday: GIVE** | For every gift you buy for a family member, give a gift of your time to a local charity group. Encourage your family to buy fewer gifts for each other and give more time to others in need. *#LoveOfNeighbor*

**Saturday: ARRANGE** | Plan a get together of different congregations or community groups and build new relationships on common ground. Maybe these groups can all participate in a recurring mission project together. *#LoveOfChildren*

What image depicts the promise of God's LOVE, awaiting fulfillment in your life? Share it on Social Media with *#3greatloves*

# Community Meals Network

## COMMUNITY MEALS NETWORK

October 2019 - May 2020

Please join us for free, family-friendly meals, served in a relaxed atmosphere. Meals are generally held as posted below, but may be rescheduled for holidays. Please call the facility to check on holiday times. *We look forward to seeing you!*

### FACILITIES

- Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration ("DECOFT"), 1 Hood Road, Derry (603-432-2130)
- Etz Hayim Synagogue ("EHS"), 1-1.2 Hood Road, Derry (603-432-0004)
- First Parish Congregational Church, 47 East Derry Road, East Derry (603-434-0628)
- St. Jude Parish Community, 435 Mammoth Road, Londonderry (603-432-3333).
- St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 63 East Broadway, Derry (603-434-4767)

12/08/19-Dinner at DECOFT, 5-6:30  
 12/15/19-Dinner at EHS, 5-6:15  
 12/21/19- Dinner at St. Luke's, 5-6:30  
 12/27/19-Dinner at First Parish, 5-6:30  
 12/29/19-Breakfast at DECOFT, 9-10  
 12/29/19- Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30- 2:30

01/12/20 -Dinner at DECOFT, 5-6:30  
 01/18/20-Dinner at St. Luke's, 5-6:30  
 01/19/20-Dinner at EHS, 5-6:15  
 01/26/20 Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30- 2:30  
 01/31/20-Dinner at First Parish, 5-6:30

02/09/20-Dinner at DECOFT, 5-6:30  
 02/15/20- Dinner at St. Luke's, 5-6:30  
 02/16/20-Dinner at EHS, 5-6:15  
 02/23/20-Breakfast at DECOFT, 9-10  
 02/23/20- Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30- 2:30  
 02/28/20 - Dinner at First Parish, 5-6:30

03/08/20-Dinner at DECOFT, 5-6:30  
 03/15/20-Dinner at EHS, 5-6:15  
 03/21/20- Dinner at St. Luke's, 5-6:30  
 03/27/20-Dinner at First Parish, 5-6:30  
 03/29/20- Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30- 2:30

04/12/20 - Easter Sunday  
 04/18/20- Dinner at St. Luke's, 5-6:30  
 04/19/20-Dinner at EHS, 5-6:15  
 04/24/20-Dinner at First Parish, 5-6:30  
 04/26/20-Breakfast at DECOFT, 9-10  
 04/26/20- Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30- 2:30

05/10/20 - Mother's Day  
 05/16/20- Dinner at St. Luke's, 5-6:30  
 05/17/20-Dinner at EHS, 5-6:15  
 05/29/20-Dinner at First Parish, 5-6:30  
 05/31/20- Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30- 2:30

For more information, please visit:  
<http://freemealsinderry.blogspot.com>

*Bon Appetit!*



Sunshine Soup Kitchen

Serving free hot meals, five days  
 per week in Derry, NH since 1989

## *Worship Service Highlights*

### **December 1st ~ Communion**

Please write out your announcement to be read by Pastor Deborah

### **December 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Blue Christmas**

A quiet reflective service for those of us who are grieving, lonely, sad, not feeling particularly festive or just in need of a time of quiet in the busy-ness of the season

### **December 24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve**

4:00 Christmas Pageant

7:00 Candlelight, Choir, Lessons and Carols

## *Holiday Connections*

Christmas is fast approaching. Some of you might like to invite a FPC member/friend or two to join you as you celebrate the holiday. On the flip side, maybe for a myriad of reasons you might like to be on the receiving end of another's hospitality. Either way, if you would like to be the host or guest this Christmas, please let Barbara or Brian Williams know, and they will try and make the connections. You can call them at [603-432-3530](tel:603-432-3530) or e-mail Brian at [willibi1910@gmail.com](mailto:willibi1910@gmail.com).

## *Wish List for Family Promise*

In years past we here at Family Promise have reached out to our congregations for support when we needed it most. As we go into the winter months, we find ourselves needing supplies that will help our families on their road to success. These are supplies that all of us take for granted in our daily lives but are very quickly gone through in a building housing 10 families. We are running very low and I am hoping that we might be able to get some of these items as part of any donation drives that might be coming up. Every bit helps.

Sugar	Flour	Vinegar
Ground Coffee	Condiments	Salad Dressing
Juice bottles	Canned Fruit and Vegetables	Olive Oil
Kid's Snacks	Canned/Boxed Soups	Creamer
Spaghetti	Spaghetti Sauce	
Hamburger/Tuna/Chicken Helper	Sides: Rice, Stuffing, Noodles, Ramen, Pasta Sides	
Toilet Paper	Paper Towels	
Napkins	Tissues	
Trash Bags		



**First Parish Church**  
 47 East Derry Rd, East Derry  
 603-434-0628  
[www.fpc-ucc.org](http://www.fpc-ucc.org)

## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST with SANTA!**

**Saturday, December 14th**

**8:30am - 11:00am**

**\$10 adults/ \$5 ages 3-8/**

**Free for 2 & under**

**Take a photo as Santa visits your table!**

**Crafts & games for children!**

**Raffle prizes for all ages!**

**Enjoy pancakes, bacon, fruit, OJ,  
 milk & coffee!**

**Proceeds to benefit  
 various Missions of the Church**

**[www.facebook.com/fpcucc](https://www.facebook.com/fpcucc)**

## *Contra Dance- Holiday!*



### **Contra Dance, December 2st- 8-11pm**

**Join us for Line Dancing meets  
 square dancing! Holiday Themed!**

Introductory Workshop starts at 7:30

No partner is necessary and all dances are taught

The monthly band is JumpStart and includes  
 Paul Lizotte- fiddle; Victor Troll- piano; Gene Albert- bass.

The caller this month is Bob Peterson and featured musician  
 is Carol Bittenson -fiddle.

## Scripture Readings

*Readings are from the Narrative Lectionary for  
Sundays and Festivals – Year 2*

### **December 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Communion Sunday First Sunday of Advent**

#### **Promise of the Messiah**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Mark 8:27-29

### **December 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Second Sunday of Advent**

#### **Isaiah of the Exile**

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-4

### **December 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Third Sunday of Advent**

#### **Rebuilding the Temple**

Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13

Luke 2:25-32

### **December 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent**

#### **Zechariah's Song**

Luke 1:5-13{14-25} 57-80

Psalm 113

### **December 24<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Eve**

#### **Birth of Jesus**

Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Psalm 146:5-10

### **December 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Beginning of Good News**

Mark 1:1-20

Psalm 91: 9-12

## Worship Schedule

### **Ushers & Greeters**

#### **December 1<sup>st</sup>**

Ushers: Diaconate

Greeter: Tom Woods

Deacons: Ryan Lehoullier, Diane Dunn

Lay Reader: Julie Turner

#### **December 8<sup>th</sup>**

Ushers: Dee Deranian, Nancy Berry,

Michael Bryan

Greeter: Jean Brouder

Deacon: Sue Lindemann

Lay Reader: Ryan Lehoullier

#### **December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Ushers: Stanley Gorgol, Holly Gorgol, Tom

Cooper, Michael Bryan

Greeter: Shirley Dickason

Deacon: Brain Willaims

Lay Reader: Anne Engelhardt

#### **December 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Ushers: Jack Martin, Michael Bryan

Greeter: Diane Dunn

Deacon: Joanne Worthen

Lay Reader: Beth Hunter

#### **December 29<sup>th</sup>**

Ushers: Brian Williams, Margie Ives,

Michael Bryan

Greeter: Carol Guerrin

Deacon: Rachel Cobban

Lay Reader: Dee Deranian

**Christmas Fund is  
December 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>**

## **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  
Thursday: 9:00-3:00  
Friday: 9:00-3:00

### **Check us out on the web**

[www.fpc-ucc.org](http://www.fpc-ucc.org)

**Senior Pastor and Teacher  
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof:**  
[pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org](mailto:pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org)

**Michelle Guerrin:**  
[officemgr@fpc-ucc.org](mailto:officemgr@fpc-ucc.org)  
[603-434-0628](tel:603-434-0628)

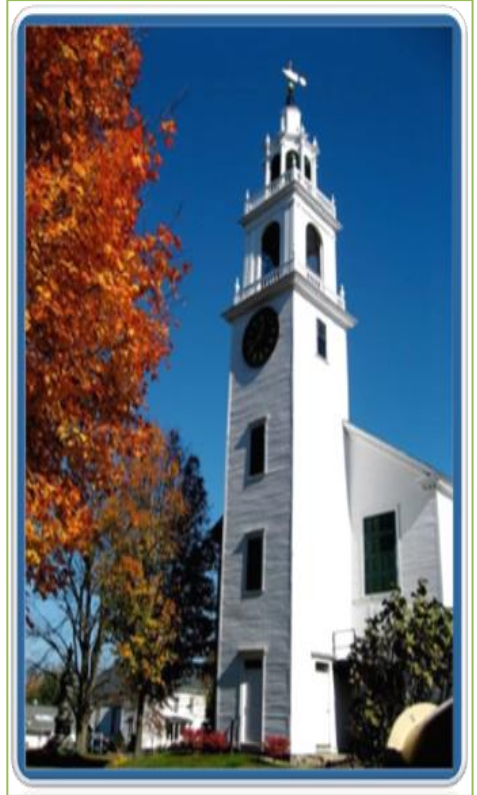
# **First Parish Congregational Church, UCC**

### **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***