

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.

"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

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19

Dear FP Friends and Members,

I'm enjoying reading articles & studies related to the post-pandemic church and what the 'new normal' might look like.

Earlier on, in the thick of the pandemic over half (53%) of regular church-goers said they had streamed their regular church online within the past four weeks. (Another 34 percent admitted to streaming a different church service online other than their own, essentially "church hopping" digitally.) (BARNA.)

As people reflect on their lives and faith now that 'things' are beginning to open up, Pew research found that nearly 3 in 10 US adults say the outbreak boosted their faith and 4 in 10 say it has tightened family bonds. Most previous church goers still attended online only their pre-COVID Church. And while attendees were lost when they went digital, some churches noticed attendees that were new to them. Most congregations plan to continue an online worship experience even as they return in-person to their physical worship spaces.

Churches have been sharing what new ministries they began during the pandemic. Some of these were to keep their people connected like a phone 'buddy-system.' Others report setting up

small teams to stop by members houses without family nearby to make sure they had what they needed; one talked about a youth-calling-youth program. Another highlighted a soloist carol sing at Christmas (choir members socially distant standing behind) outside nursing home windows. Many plan to retain these practices beyond the pandemic.

The Deacons, Facilities Committee and Council are reading lots themselves, considering next steps to safely regathering in our church building. As you can imagine, it is not always as easy or fast as we might like it. Of course, everyone will be kept up to speed on developments as they come into view. We can stretch our patience as we appreciate the size of the task before them.

When Isaiah spoke to the people of Israel he often reminded them that “God is doing a new thing.” They could *perceive* this ‘new thing’ right now -- if they took the time to look and notice. We have been doing some of this ‘noticing’ in our conversations about how this year has been for you and what you have noticed that could point to the new thing/s God is doing.

It’s been a gift to hear the thoughts and the wisdom you shared with each other as we consider what the ‘new normal’ might look like here. Thanks for your time doing this, for your thoughtfulness and reflection.

Blessings,

Pastor Linda

P.S. If you’d like to read articles cited above left me know and I will send them along.

Board of Christian Outreach and Missions

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: The OGHS is a Lenten mission providing sources of clean water and food, education and health care, emergency and disaster relief, refugee assistance, development aid and more to over 100 countries. Due to your generosity, First Parish Church recently donated \$270.00 to support this important offering.

Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Galations 13:16

MISSIONS MONTHLY DONATIONS: Thank you for your monthly donations.

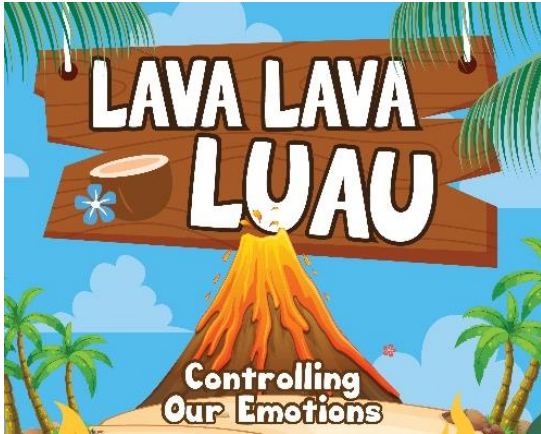
Community Caregivers \$100
 Family Promise \$100
 Our Church’s Wider Mission \$350
 Pinkerton Homeless Program \$100
 Upper Room \$100

Derry Friendship Center \$100
 First Baptist Food Pantry \$100
 Pastoral Counseling \$100
 Sonshine Soup Kitchen \$100

Respectfully submitted by BOCOM members: Nancy Murdock-Chair, Karen Wilson, Melanie Pawl, Heather Paradzick, Bart Wetherbee, Carol Guerrin, Sue Brown-Treasurer

Christian Education and Faith Formation

EXCITED!!! Now that's an Emotion worth hearing about... Lava Lava Luau Vacation Church Camp!



Hot weather isn't the only time to "Keep cool" when things get hot!

Emotions are like a force of nature, but with God's help, we can learn to take control of and understand our emotions before a storm hits! During our fun weeks at Vacation Church Camp's Lava Lava Luau, we'll see what God's Word says about anger, sadness, jealousy, and frustration and learn how we can respond to others who may be feeling these emotions as well.

Children will receive supplies and goodies for each exploration. Contribution is \$5.00 per person/ maximum of \$15 per family.

If you have any questions email cedirector@fpc-uc.org.

Register @ <https://vbsmate.com/events/FPCEastDerryNH/20270>

Virtual games and lessons available throughout July 5-9 & July 12-16

AND DON'T MISS OUR IN-PERSON LAVA LAVA LUAU SEND-OFF PARTY on July 16th!

Congratulations Nina Paradzick and Molly DesRoches!

Nina is graduating this year from high school and has plans to study engineering at UMaine Orono and Molly will graduate with her master's in special education curriculum design from Southern NH University! We know the additional challenges she and all students have been facing during these past 2 years. Please know we are here for you and wish you all the best as you start your new journey in life. Congratulations!



Back by Popular Demand

Yes... Summer Storytime Series will continue starting June 27th. Summer Storytime Series will be available for all students to access on the website and Facebook page every week and finds a story to accompany the Narrative Lectionary Scripture's message every week during the summer.

Pinocchio you ask? Noooo...It's something better!

Keep your eyes and ears open for our First C.E. Preschool In-person Puppet Show. Our younger students will be able to enjoy the play followed by... Wait if I tell it won't be a surprise.



Celebrate Your Roots!



Help CE put leaves on this bare tree for Father's Day. Let's celebrate the Fathers and the Father Figures in your lives that have supported you through life by emailing us **what they have taught you** and we will write each lesson on a leaf and fill out this tree just like we added petals to our flowers for Mother's Day! Leaves can also be found at the church in the lobby if you'd like to write down your own and add it yourself!

Mother's Day Bouquet of Flowers celebrating motherhood in ALL it's many beautiful forms. Thank you sharing your love.



Outdoor Worship Service- June 6th

Join us in the parking lot! We hope the weather will allow for Tupelo style parking and seating. We will Zoom & Facebook as usual and this is Communion Sunday, so please bring your elements with you.

There are no planned children's activities, so we do ask that you keep your children in your seating area. If they are restless the cemetery is a great place for a walk. If there is inclement weather, we are discussing an alternate plan. Please look for many more details in the eblast on Friday June 4th.

Back to the Sanctuary

Back to the Sanctuary update: the fundraising arm of this committee is pleased to report that we have almost two thirds of the amount needed for this year's phase. The congregation has been so generous although we still hope to get \$50,000 more to finish the interior and outside painting and repairs. We thank each and every one for your generosity and commitment.

Feel free to call on any of us with your questions. Sue Lindemann, Margie Ives, Anne Marie Merrill, Cyndi Gray

Submitted by Cyndi Gray

Derry Community Meals- Month of June / Spaghetti Supper

The Derry Community Meals will provide free bag meals to go. Please share with your family, friends and neighbors.

6/5/21- **St. Thomas Parish**- Breakfast 10 AM to 10:30 AM

6/13/21- **Church of the Transfiguration (DECOFT)/Elijah's Table (EHS)**- Lunch 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM

6/19/21- **St. Thomas Parish**- Breakfast 10 AM to 10:30 AM

6/19/21- **St. Luke's Church**- Lunch 12:00 PM to 12:30 PM drive around to back door

6/25/21- **First Parish Church**- 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM drive up to side door

6/27/21- **St. Jude's Parish**- Lunch- 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Sonshine Soup Kitchen – Serving drive by, to-go meals from 4:30-5:30 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

Charleston Wrap – Fundraiser- ending June 7th!

We have raised \$311 so far!

Hurry and place your order! The last day for us to receive credit is June 7th. Many people have already received their items and are raving about the quality and the safe way it is packaged for shipping. If you're looking for that special gift to celebrate spring, Graduation, Father's Day check out Charleston Wrap [on line](#). Catalogs available at the church.



ATTENTION! Please REGISTER NOW for First Parish Church Spring Fundraiser's fundraiser!

It's super easy! Please help support our fundraiser by following the steps below to register online today. When you register, we'll know you're committed to supporting our fundraiser and helping us reach our goals. To help our organization even more, send 10 email invitations to friends & family and spread the word about our need for help. With over 2,500 gift ideas, supporters can shop and accomplish all of their gift giving needs, all while supporting our important cause.

Will you follow the instructions below and register today? It's easy, it's simple, and it's important!

Here's how to register today and help us spread the word!

Invite friends and family (even if they're out of town), online orders ship directly to the purchaser!

Organization ID:

21682



Step 1: REGISTER at www.charlestonwrapstore.com
(use organization ID to the left)



Step 2: Use our Email-Invite Generator to invite out-of-town friends & family to shop and support! Plus, share your unique invite links via text and social media.



Participant Registration



Charleston Wrap
BETTER PRODUCTS. BETTER FUNDRAISING

Meetinghouse Preservation Update

Steady work through May has focused on:

- completing electrical, fire alarm, and carpentry tasks for the Connector Interior, and
- removing shutters and storm windows and doing various repairs in preparation for the Exterior Painting of the Meetinghouse.

One highlight was cutting then breaking through the cement foundation of the Noyes building to create the rough passageway from the Accessibility connector to the John/Rainbow classroom downstairs.

Lead paint abatement—hand scraping and legal disposal—should begin in late June, starting with the south side. Needed carpentry repairs will follow; painting will follow that, probably starting in late July.

We've gratefully received more Rehab Funds this month through the Back to the Sanctuary Campaign and other donations. The Elevator Installation and Exterior Painting projects are fully covered, and now we have a bit more than half the funds needed for the Connector Interior project.

We hope to have the Connector finished and the Elevator in service as the normal busy life of the facility resumes this fall. We still need \$40–50,000 more to do this; please consider helping us reach this goal if you can.

Please direct any concerns or questions to your Building Advisory Committee:

Paul Lindemann (paul@nutfieldhistory.org), Larry Krantz, Bill Mann, and Bob Wilson

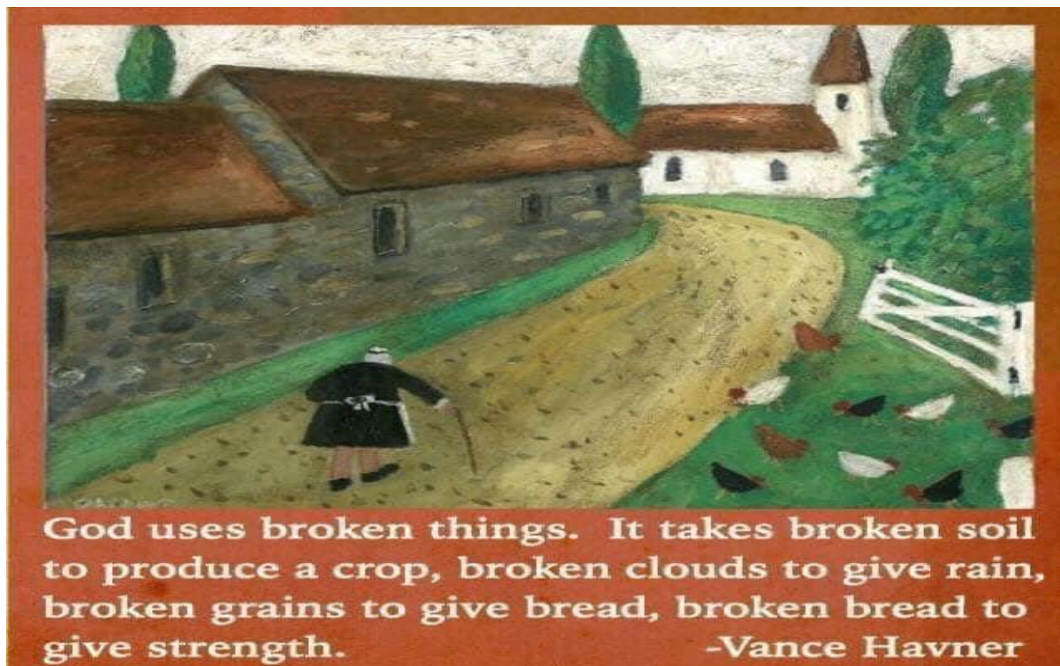


Pentecost Continues

“There is a quiet light that shines in every heart. It draws no attention to itself, though it is always secretly there. It is what illuminates our minds to see beauty, our desire to seek possibility, and our hearts to love life. Without this subtle quickening our days would be empty and wearisome, and no horizon would ever awake our longing. Our passion for life is quietly sustained from somewhere in us...Each person has a unique intimacy with God.” *John O'Donohue*



“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.” *Romans 8:26*



“Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time.”

Habakkuk 2: 2- 3a

June Worship Services and Events

Worship Services are Sunday mornings at 10:00am. These are currently virtual-only. Participate with Zoom (see the pre-service church eBlast for meeting details) or live on our Facebook page (facebook.com/fpcucc).

Worship Services using the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) Year B

June 6

Communion Meditation

Psalm 100, John 1: 14-17

Greeters: Jack Martin, Sue Lindemann

June 13

The Bread of Life

Psalm 13, John 6: 35-40

Greeters: Rachel Cobban, Katie Cobban

June 20

The Good Shepard

Psalm 23, John 10: 1-4

Greeters: Jack Martin, Sue Brown

June 27

A Way in the Wilderness

Psalm 30, Isaiah 43: 1-2, 16-21

Greeters: Rachel Cobban, Sue Lindemann



**Fundraising Yard Sale –
Parking Lot- Saturday June 5th
8-12:00 – Join us to shop!**

**Outdoor Worship Service June
6th 10:00am, Communion – This
will be available online as well.**

**Charleston Wrap Fundraiser –
Tuesday, ending June 7**

**Spaghetti Supper- To-Go
Friday June 25 at 5:00-6:00pm**

**Newsletter Deadline – Sun
June 27th**

**First Parish
Congregational Church, UCC**

(603) 434-0628

Mailing Address:
PO Box 114
E Derry, NH 03041

Location:
47 East Derry Road

Office Hours

Temporarily closed to the public;
please call to make an appointment.

Monday – Friday
9:00am – 3:00pm

Online

www.fpc-ucc.org
facebook.com/fpcucc

Administrative Assistant

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

Senior Pastor and Teacher

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
pastordeborah@fpc-ucc.org



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