

# THE CONGREGATOR

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## *A Letter From The Pastor*

Dear Falmouth Congregational Church,

During the summer the church marks time in weeks since Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit came upon the Disciples, like a rushing wind, and showed them how to spread the good news of God’s love far and wide. Counting time with Pentecost seems appropriate this summer; it is shaping up to be quite the whirlwind. It is as if we are trying to pack two or three summers into one as we attempt to see everyone we have been missing, attend postponed and rescheduled events, and soak up the summer sun before Jack Frost comes for our noses! Each weekend at the church is a flurry of weddings, funerals, and special events, and each week is spent in preparation for them.

The busyness is good. It is a blessing to be able to gather again, to hug, share food, host and be hosted. It is blessing to be in worship together as we travel through the questions asked for the Ask Me Anything sermon series.

The busyness can also be overwhelming- if we let it, our calendars start to run us, instead of the other way around. I pray that as you ping pong between things this summer you will make time to connect to God, whether in private prayer, weekly worship, through our summer (beach read friendly) book list, or through some other intentional practice. God is with us, even in the midst of life’s whirlwinds, whispering songs of peace, renewal, and good news for all people: even for busy busy you!

~Yours in Christ,

Pastor Amelia

*Ask Me Anything*

Why be a Christian?  
 How does God choose who gets a miracle?  
 Why do bad things happen to good people?  
 What does it mean to be saved?  
 Why be a Christian?  
 Why do some people dislike Christians?  
 What do you believe about miracles?

Summer Sermon Series at the Falmouth Congregational Church  
 Beginning June 6th

Falmouth Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 267 Falmouth Rd Falmouth, Maine  
 We are an Open & Affirming Congregation- All Are Welcome  
[www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org)

# COUNCIL Corner



## *A Message from our Moderator*

Hi – I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying summer!

A quick update on our financials. Through May we are just about breaking even. For the five months ended in May, we reported income of \$118k and a net loss of \$219. We did incur some unexpected parsonage repair expenses in May and that offset the \$4k we had in net income through April. We will continue to monitor finances over the summer.

We are actively looking for a few volunteers to chair/co-chair the Holly Days Fair. As many of you know the Holly Days Fair generates substantial income for the church – typically north of \$10k. And given that restrictions are easing, COVID cases are declining, and many people are vaccinated, we are hoping to hold a more traditional event this year. But right now, we are without a Chairperson. In the past the fair has been run with a single chair, co-chairs and even tri-chairs. If anyone is interested in chairing or co-chairing this very important fundraiser, please let me know. Our prior tri-chairs have offered to help with the transition and provide some mentorship to the incoming chair(s).

The kitchen renovation is moving right along and we hope that it will be complete by mid to late July.

The Council will be taking July and August off and resume meeting again in September.

Many blessings,

~ Kim Hendry, Moderator

[khendry1972@gmail.com](mailto:khendry1972@gmail.com)

[207-756-9343](tel:207-756-9343)



### **Holly Days Fair**

While we realize that it is only July and with our really warm temperatures, it is difficult to think about the holidays.

However, we all know that the holidays will be right around the corner once summer is over. And we need to start planning for our Holly Days Fair which generates around \$10k for the Church annually.

**We are actively looking for a few volunteers to chair/co-chair the Holly Days Fair.** In the past, the fair has been run with a single chair, co-chairs and even tri-chairs. If anyone is interested in chairing or co-chairing this very important fundraiser, please contact Kim Hendry. Our prior tri-chairs have offered to help with the transition and provide some mentorship to the incoming chair(s).



# Annual Calendar Planning Meeting Potluck Monday, August 23 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Please send your event date requests to the office ASAP

## FALL CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 8th  
6:30 PM Ringers & Singers Potluck  
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal Resumes

Sunday, September 12th  
10:00 AM Choir Resumes at Worship

Wednesday, September 15th  
6:30 PM Handbell Choir Resumes

Sunday, September 19th  
10:00 AM Kids' Church Kick-off

Sunday, September 26th  
8:30 AM New Member Breakfast

Falmouth Congregational Church, United Church of Christ



For more information:  
[www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org/](http://www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org/)

# MINISTRY OF *missions*



## Plant for the Pantry

Families from all economic backgrounds appreciate fresh vegetables! This summer please consider planting a few more vegetables than you will personally need and sharing any extra garden produce with families in need. For more details, please contact Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670. Thank you!



Many many thanks to all who donated tuna fish during the past three months. We don't know who you are and therefore can't thank you personally, but please know that many families in our community were very for**TUN**ate to have had your help!

Questions:

Did you know that a raisin, a peanut, and an oat sat down and ordered a drink?

The bartender said, "What do you think this is, a **granola bar**?"

What is a lemming's favorite granola bar?

### A CLIF BAR

Our church will be collecting **GRANOLA BARS** for the Food Pantry during July, August, and September. If you would like, please put boxes of **GRANOLA BARS** into the collection bin outside Fellowship Hall, and they will be given to grateful Food Pantry families.

The Falmouth Food Pantry continues to do an entirely doorstep delivery distribution system. Boxes of food are being packed at the Pantry and delivered by volunteers to all area families. If you have questions or know someone with an urgent need, please call Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670. Thank you for your continuing support.

## *A New Opportunity to Help Those in Need!*

Maine Needs is an organization based in Portland that provides items to local families who have specific needs. These needs change as the families and their situations change. Each month the Congregator will include some of the greatest immediate needs that can be dropped off in the bin at church. We will then deliver them to Maine Needs. In addition, if our Family Promise families have specific items that we can't fulfill, we can request these from the Maine Needs organization to see if they can assist. Unless otherwise noted, gently used items are welcome.



### This months needs include:

- Men's Pants/Shorts
- Medium Women's Clothes
- Women's New Underwear (5-7)
- Men's New Underwear (M-XL)
- Kid's Clothes (esp. SIZE 6-12)
- Boy's Underwear (2-10)
- Baby Boy Clothing (9MO-3T)
- Baby Wipes





# MINISTRY OF *community life* *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

It's time to celebrate the birth of our country! If we got our Covid-19 shot and followed the guidelines of the CDC and doctors' findings we could enjoy the festivities of an almost normal 4th of July. Maybe the results of Memorial Day events we'll factor in our future plans.

Our Bible gives us many passages about the people who follow God's word and they were rewarded. Speaking of celebrations, we just celebrated Pentecost (the birth of the church), people joining our church, a baptism, students graduating and Eagle Scouts awards.

When I was browsing my calendar for the summer months, I realized there were no major events after July 4th. Summer months are a perfect time for everyone involved with school, church, etc, to enjoy a departure from structured schedules by engaging in fun summer activities. Growing up my cousins and I spent a lot of time outside playing crochet, badminton, marbles, running under a sprinkler and enjoying backyard cookouts. Rainy days spent inside entertaining ourselves with board games, pick-up-sticks, handwork, etc. Popular activities today include camp, theme parks and ocean trips with a picnic lunch.

Whatever your plans are for the summer, we hope everyone will stay SAFE and Healthy. Maybe you have chosen an Eagle Project as a goal for your summer plans. Fall will be here before we know it!!

Included in this article is a picture of Felicia Garant's cats sitting on a knitted cat pad they were enjoying. The idea for cat pads made with leftover yarn started when Heidi, my daughter, came up with a way to use her leftover yarn and she made one for her cat!! It helps keep cat hairs confined to one place.

Enjoy Summer!! ~Judy Nilsen



## *Called to Care*

In June, Called to Care set up this special table to enjoy treats and to celebrate the graduating seniors and to welcome new members to our congregation.



## *Pastor's Discretionary Fund*

If you or someone you know has a financial need at this difficult time, please contact the Church office. There is limited funding in this account for just such a purpose.



## *Church Bus Schedule*

Weekly pickup is as follows:

9:15 AM: Ashton Gardens

9:30 AM: Oceanview

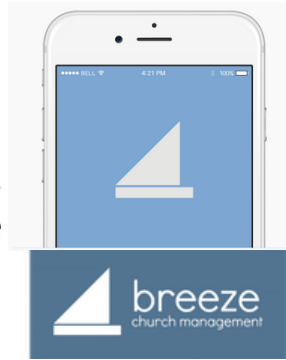
If you are not in these locations, please call Jane Stegemann at 252-8272 to be picked up.



## *Women's Spiritual Book Group*

Our monthly schedule will resume on September 8 at Noon when we will discuss book recommendations for the year ahead. If you have a book you would like to read with the group, plan to bring it with you for all to consider.

~Cathy B. Bowden



## *New Church Directory*

Our latest office update is a new church directory application called Breeze. This summer you may receive an email inviting you to update your profile. In the fall we will work towards a complete directory with member photos which will be accessible to members and friends online at any time with real time updates!

## *Summer 2021 Musical Opportunities*

The Chancel Choir takes the beautiful Maine summers off to recharge after working very hard all year to help us praise the Lord in song. Doris normally leads us on the organ while they're gone. In the summers, she also recruits from among those musically inclined in the congregation for Preludes, and/or Special Music during the offertory.

So much has changed because of the pandemic. We are now carefully easing our way back into full congregational singing, and our target date for us all to be singing hymns is early August. So, in addition to anyone willing to perform a Prelude or Special Music, we are also looking for people willing to sing hymns for any of the services from July 4 - July 25, inclusive. You could sing one hymn, both, or all eight if you were just on fire about this opportunity. Doris would be glad to accompany you on organ or piano, or Virginia on guitar, or you might have access to yet other musicians to help you out. Maybe even you could accompany yourself, depending on what you play.

Your performances - hymns and/or Preludes/Special Music - could be live or pre-recorded. For those who want to sing live or

use a wind or brass instrument, we are asking that it be one or two persons performing, fully vaccinated, and standing at the back of the chancel (like last Sunday). Stringed instruments on their own do not have those restrictions. For those of you who would rather record, the easiest way is to touch base with Virginia for a quick refresher.

Please consider this. One of our great treasures is that FCC is us - not some faceless, anonymous, unapproachable committee, but people you know well and love. This is a fantastic opportunity to share that love with any musical offering you are willing to share. Our worship is time that brothers and sisters in Christ come together and pitch in whatever treasure, time or talent we have, to the Glory of our Lord and Savior. Just like not everyone needs to give 6 figure donations, not everyone needs to be a Grammy nominee. We are just hoping you might contribute what you can even once or twice over these next few weeks.

If you are interested, please see Doris before or after church, or Virginia (if she's not off in tech-land). Or, you can email Doris directly at [dnkrueger@gmail.com](mailto:dnkrueger@gmail.com).



# MINISTRY OF

## *Worship & Covenant*

The Ministry of Worship and Covenant continues to work diligently on helping reshape our worship services as pandemic restrictions evolve (and are eased). This includes recruiting ushers, lectionary readers, singers and musicians, and we wish to extend heartfelt thanks to each of you who help us worship and praise our God by this volunteer work.



You can use your landline or cell phone to call in and listen to worship by dialing (925)-205-6099 at 10 AM on Sunday and listen to the entirety of worship.

This is similar to making a call to New York.

Speaking of music, we are careful and precisely rolling out a gradual return to full choir and congregational singing. We don't have a specific target date yet, but we have good reason to hope that by September we will be back in our pre-pandemic mode (Lord willing). **Please see summer musical opportunities on adjacent page.**

The Music Committee is also in the process of devising a survey to stay abreast of the musical interests and needs of the congregation - more to come on this. And, having welcomed ~ 20 new members in the past 2 years, we are in the planning stages of a "meet and greet" where new members can learn about the different ministries of FCC and find places where their talents and interest fit, from swinging hammers to knitting, cooking, music making, gardening, working with kids.

There are many, many opportunities for us to fellowship, learn from each other, serve our community, and most of all, do the Lord's work. We will keep you updated on the specifics - we are looking at mid- to late-September but more to follow....



The church office will be closed while Kat is on vacation from Monday, July 5th and will reopen on Monday, July 12th.



# PARKING LOT COFFEE HOUSE

Emily Butson  
Friday, July 9th  
6:30 PM

Craig Page & Friends  
Friday, August 13th  
6:30 PM

## MINISTRY OF

### *Christian education*

On Sunday June 13th the children wrapped up the Kid's Church season with a lively outdoor multi-generational service. The children helped Pastor Amelia with church prayers, the sermon, and they even sang a group song, and did a baton send off at the end of the service. The kids received gifts for participating throughout the year, and the service ended with a lovely outdoor reception.

All year long the kids have been following the liturgical calendar, learning the colors of each season and the meaning of the colors. We will be breaking for the summer and will start back up again in September.

This fall we will start fresh with a tactile and exciting unit surrounding the geography of the areas that our bible stories take place. We will be creating dioramas and maps of the areas, as well as going on fun imaginative journeys, transforming our church into an ancient biblical scene. We will be focusing on this until we transition into the Christmas story.

**Church School resumes Sunday, September 19th.**

Have a great summer everyone!

~ Kristen Coleman





## July Birthdays

- 1 - Joe Blinick
- 4 -Doris Krueger
- 5 - Lynne Haddock
- 7 -Lorraine Bergen
- 8 -Faith Varney
- 8 -Peter Stegemann
- 11 - Lisa Ertman
- 12 - Alex Han
- 12 - Ray Jett
- 14 - Marilee Beinema
- 15 - Rodney Coleman
- 18 - Priscilla DePetris
- 23 - Betty Graves
- 24 - Marion Olen
- 25 - Ashley Collins

## August Birthdays

- 1 - Cindy Han
- 1 - Kaleb Barrett
- 2 - Megan Sauberlich
- 6 - Don Olen Sr.
- 7 - Peter Christopher
- 13 - Bill Geary
- 13 - Dana Collins
- 14 - Tim Ziobro
- 14 - Jo Blinick
- 15 - Phoebe Horne
- 17 - Anne Coleman
- 18 - Matthew Wulbrecht
- 19 - Tom VerLee
- 27 - Iain Kurry
- 28 - Mark Horton



### *In Loving Memory...*

We hold the family of Pam Carroll in our thoughts at prayers at this time, as she passed into her eternal rest June 16, 2021.



William Kent was baptized on Sunday, June 20th. He is the son of Julie and Anthony Kent.



Congratulations to Jeff and Dawn Howland on the birth of their grandson, Emmett Francis Carroll.

### *Liturgists*

- July 4: Laurie Davis
- July 11: Virginia Eddy
- July 18: Nancy Lightbody
- July 25: Marilee Beinema

- August 1: Lydia Hill
- August 8: Ann Sanborn
- August 15: Cathy Bowden
- August 22: Marilee Beinema
- August 29: Virginia Eddy

## CHURCH

### *family news*

### *We Lift in Prayer...*

- Dolores Vail
- Doris Krueger
- Gladys Rothwell
- Peggy Halleck
- Joyce Harmon
- John Graustein
- Bee & Norm O'Brien
- Ginny Hamilton
- Sally Emery

### **Do you need help around the house or yard?**

Now that Marcello and Elvine have their work permits, they are available to help you! If you have any yard work, painting, or odd jobs, Marcello is a good worker and is available to help for a reasonable hourly fee. Elvine is a good seamstress and can take in mending or other projects; she has a sewing machine in her home. The family has a whatsapp number: +12078007842, but you may also contact Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670, who will help put you in touch with them.

### *Ushers*

- July 4: Jim Parr & Carol Kauffman
- July 11: Bill Nugent & Beth Stouder
- July 18: Mark & Peggy Horton
- July 25: Larry & Sue Perry

# July 2021 Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4 10 AM Worship with Communion Happy 4th of July!	5 Church Office Closed	6 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	7	8	9 6:30 PM Coffee House	10 1:00 PM Memorial Service
11 10 AM Worship	12	13 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	14	15	16	17 10:00 AM Lattes & Littles
18 10 AM Worship 3:00 PM Wedding	19	20 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	21	22	23	24
25 10 AM Worship	26	27 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	28	29	30	31

# August 2021 Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 10 AM Worship with Communion	2	3 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	4	5	6	7
8 10 AM Worship	9	10 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	11	12	13 6:30 PM Coffee House	14 10:00 AM Memorial Service for Rev. Ronald Beinema
15 10 AM Worship	16 Congregator Deadline	17 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	18	19	20	21 10:00 AM Lattes & Littles
22 10 AM Worship	23 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Annual Calendar Planning Potluck	24 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	25	26	27	28 Wedding
29 10 AM Worship with guest Rev. Kelli Whitman	30 7:00 PM Ministry of Worship & Covenant	31 11:00 AM Staff Mtg				



# Falmouth Congregational Optional Summer Reading List

## **Board Books:**

- *God Gave Us You, Lisa Tawn Bergren*
- *Love is Patient, Love is Kind, Naomi Stoop*
- *All Things Bright and Beautiful, Naomi Stoop*

## **Picture Books:**

- *On the Night You Were Born, Nancy Tillman*
- *When God was a Little Girl, David Weiss*
- *When I Pray for You, Matthew Paul Turner*
- *When God made Light, Matthew Paul Turner*
- *Today is a Baptism Day, Anna V Ostenso Moore*
- *What Is God Like? Rachel Held Evans*

## **Chapter Books (teens):**

- *The Chronicles of Narnia\**
- *Read Harry Potter and talk about it!*

## **Chapter Books (and mature teens? Parents decide!):**

- *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People, Nadia Boltz Webber*
- *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again, Rachel Held Evans*
- *Mere Christianity, C. S. Lewis\**
- *Finding God in the Waves, Mike McHargue*
- *What We Talk About When We Talk About God, Rob Bell*
- *The Story of Christianity, David Bentley Hart*

\*Published in the 1950's the work of C. S. Lewis contains parts that have aged poorly, especially around issues of gender and sexuality, but he remains a classic and remarkably comprehensive Christian voice.

Falmouth Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
267 Falmouth Road  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Phone: 207-781-3413  
Email: [officemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](mailto:officemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org)  
Website: [www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org)

## Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

### Ministries

Kim Hendry  
Chair, Council of Ministries

Kristen Coleman  
Chair, Ministry of Christian Education

Rae Pierce & Jane Stegemann  
Ministry of Community Life

Matthew Strobel  
Chair, Ministry of Facilities

Steve Hendry  
Chair, Ministry of Missions

Carol Kauffman & Jim Parr  
Ministry of Worship & Covenant

### Church Staff

Rev. Amelia Edson, Settled Pastor  
Katharina Roderick, Office Manager, Newsletter Editor  
Laura Rosenberg, Office Assistant  
Matthew Strobel, Sexton and Property Manager  
Doris Krueger, Minister of Music  
Jane Stegemann, Minister of Visitation  
Kristen Coleman, Christian Education

### Officers

Kim Hendry, Moderator  
Anne Coleman, Vice Moderator  
Laurie Davis, Clerk  
Paul Davis, Treasurer  
Gini Medford, Financial Secretary  
Carol Kauffman MSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse