



## From Reverend Amelia Edson

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I recently got into making “Nice Cream,” which consists of blended frozen bananas and spices that food bloggers insist tastes exactly like ice cream. For a few weeks this was going well — I made my Nice Cream, felt great about all the potassium I was eating (and all the sugar I wasn’t) and claimed it tasted the same.

Then Jake brought home Ben & Jerry’s. As I watched him smugly enjoying it, I knew I had to have a bite. When presented with the real thing... my Nice Cream just couldn’t compare.

In the Epiphany Season we are invited to re-live the start of Christ’s ministry. We hear him teach the beatitudes, the Lord’s prayer, and explain the ten commandments. Walking through these stories, we encounter God’s love anew. God’s love is the real thing: it is the source from which all other love springs. Faced with this ultimate Good, our own goodness pales in comparison. We realize that, as kind as we can be, our efforts are really just Nice Cream, an imitation of the original.

Encountering the real thing, all we can do is repent and turn back to the source from which all goodness flows, receiving ashes (on February 26th at 12:00 and 6:00 PM) and entering the Lenten Season.

I look forward to walking with you in the light of Epiphany, and journeying together through the fruitful wilderness of Lent.

Until then, I’ll be eating real ice cream.

~ Reverend Amelia

Email: [Pastorameliafcc@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorameliafcc@gmail.com)





## COUNCIL CORNER FOR FEBRUARY

(This month's Council Corner was written before the Annual Meeting and will be published after, so readers will know more than the writer does now about what happened at the Annual Meeting).

December and January are usually busy months for the Church Council of Ministries, as the annual stewardship campaign wraps up; the budget for the upcoming year is finalized and planning for the Annual Meeting and Annual Report is completed. This year was even more active, because the Council meetings in December and January focused on a long-discussed proposal to install a rooftop solar array that would meet all of the Church's need for electricity and make us better stewards of God's green earth. The January meeting also focused on a concept plan for renovating the Church kitchen.

The Council decided to present both the solar proposal and the kitchen renovation concept to the Congregation at Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26. Regarding the solar project, the Council voted to ask the Congregation to authorize the Church enter into a contract with Goggin Energy, a local provider of solar and other alternative energy installations. Thanks to the efforts and generosity of dedicated Church members, we have already raised enough in pledges to cover most of the cost of the solar installation. The kitchen renovation is still in the brainstorming/concept stage, but the Annual Meeting will include a presentation on the ideas generated to date.

On the stewardship front, we are closing in on our goal, thanks to the commitment of so many members and friends of the Church.

Our Church is on the move--new members are joining, the Church school is growing, so many good things are happening in our midst. Praise God and rejoice!

Mark Horton - Moderator [horton04105@yahoo.com](mailto:horton04105@yahoo.com)  
Kim Hendry - Vice Moderator [Shendry001@maine.rr.com](mailto:Shendry001@maine.rr.com)



## Ministry of Finance



### Stewardship Campaign 2020

As of January the church has received 68 pledges, including 15 new pledges for a total of \$181,584. The church has achieved 90% of our goal of \$200,000 to support the various church ministries. There is still time to submit your pledge to the church office, attn Gini Medford. If you would like a pledge card, email or call the office and we will mail you a card. Thank you to everyone that is making this campaign one of the most successful in the last few years.

### Church Office News:

Dear Church Family,

It is with both a heavy heart and a grateful heart that I write this letter of farewell.

I have come to know and become fond of so many wonderful people here at Falmouth Congregational Church UCC. I have loved my job and I am grateful for the time and opportunity to be your Office Manager these past two years. I have felt blessed to be part of such a warm church family.

On January 27, 2020, I will begin my new position with the Schochet Companies as their Assistant Property Manager at the Danforth Heights in Portland. I very am excited and looking forward to this next chapter of Gods' plan for my life.

It has been my pleasure to be your Office Manager and I will miss you all very much.

Fondly,  
Jess Dickson



Our new office manager will be Katharina Roderick, who is our current Office Assistant! Kat is excited to take on the role of office manager and encourages everyone to stop by and introduce themselves, if you haven't already. We are actively seeking a competent assistant to help Kat.



## Ministry of Christian Education



The Christian Education Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make chili on Saturday the 1st and to anyone who purchased chili. This is our biggest fundraiser for CE Ministry, and it allows us to enrich our kid's programs and update our technologies, toys, activities, and allows us to take our ministry outside the church and go on field trips.



On February 2nd the kid's church participated in an intergenerational service. The kids got to say prayers and blessings, read scripture, and sing a song for the congregation. It is always great to involve all ages in our church service and we have plans to do this again soon.

The children are continuing to learn about the tools Jesus used to teach us about God. We continue to fill up our church toolboxes and learn about Jesus's many wonders. The children worked very hard in January to make an under the sea mural downstairs. God's love is deep just like our ocean, and the fish is such an important symbol in Christian culture. We urge anyone who is interested to come downstairs and take a look at the children's work.

Thank You,

Kristen Coleman  
Christian Education Administrator  
[kristen.coleman@maine.edu](mailto:kristen.coleman@maine.edu)



The Children's ministry and Elena Parr are still in need of volunteers to become "on-call" nursery helpers. Please sign up on the volunteer sheet on the CE bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Any questions, please contact, Kristen Coleman,  
Christian Education Coordinator at: [davinci.experience@gmail.com](mailto:davinci.experience@gmail.com)

## *Ministry of Missions*

### **CHURCH WORLD SERVICE SCHOOL KITS:**

Once again, the Falmouth Congregational Church will be assembling school kits that will be shipped to Church World Service (CWS). CWS coordinates kits that are sent around the world to children in impoverished schools or refugee camps. We are very appreciative of all donations so far. We are within reach of being able to assemble 50 kits!

There is a need, however, for people to sew more of the bags into which the school supplies go. Each bag requires ½ yard of fabric, and the pattern can be downloaded at <http://cwskits.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/school-bag-pattern.pdf>. Pattern copies are also on the Mission's bulletin board. Please contact Kathie Sinnett at [kathie.sinnett@gmail.com](mailto:kathie.sinnett@gmail.com) if you would like fabric or have any questions. Thank you for your generosity and ongoing support of this important mission project.



### **FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM**

Thank you to our volunteers who helped during our host week in January!

The next time that our church will be a host congregation is from

**Sunday evening, May 3- Sunday morning, May 10, 2020.**

Please consider one of these volunteer opportunities:

- Dinner volunteer (5:00 PM – 6:30 PM)
- Evening volunteer (6:30 PM – 8:30 PM)
- Overnight and breakfast volunteer (8:00 PM - 7:30 AM)
- Meal preparation
- Help with laundry
- Donation of non-perishable food items

If you can help, please contact Steve at [stevrunn@gmail.com](mailto:stevrunn@gmail.com). Thank you!

### **MANY THANKS FOR ALL THE COTTON SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS!**



Thank you very much for continuing to fill the box in Fellowship Hall with cotton socks! Recently three FULL garbage bags of socks were taken into the Preble Street Resource Center! One of our church's continuing local missions is collecting these cotton socks, which will be given to people who benefit from the Resource Center and who would like to have dry feet and prevent infections. Socks in women's sizes are also helpful. Thank you!

### **STATE STREET CLOTHES CLOSET**

Donations of clothes, shoes, and linens, as well as pans and dishes, are taken to the State Street Clothes Closet. This is an ongoing mission. Please leave your donations in sturdy bags in the hallway opposite the choir room. Many thanks to Ted Vail for faithfully delivering the items to State Street.

## *Ministry of Missions Continued...*

**EYEGASSES & EYEGASS CASES:** Please leave donations in the designated container in Fellowship Hall. They are taken to Falmouth Vision Center, where they are collected by the Lions Club and sent out of state to be refurbished.

**HEARING AIDS & BATTERIES:** Please place donations in the same collection box as the eye-glasses. An audiologist (Roger Fagan) and a speech language pathologist (Liz Fagan) have re-furbished and repaired hundreds of hearing aids for people in the Dominican Republic.

**CELL PHONES:** Please drop off old cell phones in the designated box in Fellowship Hall. The phones will be given to the Falmouth Lions Club.



### **Upcoming at the Coffee House!**

The FCC Coffee House hosts local musicians and admission is by donation. Please contact Paul Davis at: [nevis56@gmail.com](mailto:nevis56@gmail.com) if you or your group would like to perform at the Coffee House.

Don't miss the amazing upcoming musicians at the next Coffee House:

|             |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|
| February 14 | Richard Corson, Ken Myers & Steve Burnett |   |
| March 13    | Darlin' Corey                             | <a href="https://www.facebook.com/DarlinCorey/">https://www.facebook.com/DarlinCorey/</a>           |
| April 3     | Sibylline                                 | <a href="https://www.facebook.com/sibyllinetheband/">https://www.facebook.com/sibyllinetheband/</a> |

Relax, enjoy a hot beverage, support the arts and your church!  
 The doors open at 6:30 PM and ends around 9 PM.  
 Bring a friend and join us! All are WELCOME!

### **FALMOUTH FOOD PANTRY**

For February 2020, the Falmouth Food Pantry is open on:

- Monday, February 3, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
- Thursday, February 6, 4:30 PM- 6:30 PM
- Tuesday, February 11, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM
- Thursday, February 13, 4:30 PM- 6:30 PM
- Monday, February 17, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM
- Tuesday, February 18, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM
- Thursday, February 20, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
- Tuesday, February 25, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM

The Falmouth Food Pantry currently needs the following items:

- Cans of soup
- Tea bags
- Oatmeal and cold cereal

Thank you very much!



## Ministry of Community Life

The Ministry of Community Life will meet on Wednesday, February 5 at 1:30 p.m in the Grant Room. The goals of this meeting are:

- To welcome new members and to thank former members for their service.
- To elect officers for MCL for 2020.
- To discuss our responsibilities for 2020 and schedule accordingly.
- To review and discuss our existing policies related to hospitality, fellowship and CTC.



We welcome guests; light refreshments will be served.

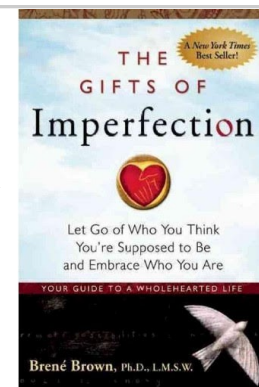
From Jane Stegemann and Carol Kauffman, co-chairs of CTC: We thank all who helped us at the Christmas Card writing workshop and for their assistance with visitations and poinsettia distribution in mid-December.

From Carol Kauffman, Faith Community Nurse: Here is an ALERT to get your flu shot if you have not been vaccinated for protection from the side effects and complications of the flu for October 2019 through May 2020. October to May is the period of greatest incidence of the flu per the CDC.

Carol Kauffman  
Reporter for MCL

## Women's Spiritual Book Club:

The women's book club will meet February 5th @ 12:00. We are reading The Gifts of Imperfection by Brené Brown. This was on the New York Times bestseller list and Forbes named it one of the five books that will change your outlook on life.



Four people were able to attend our January meeting. We opened with a meditation titled, "God is Enough." Afterwards everyone shared their latest projects. While they were knitting, I read a story from my "New Prayer Shawl Companion Book," about a lady who visited an ancestral home in the village of Mira de Aire. It inspired her to design and submit a pattern for the book.

Then I read a couple more fun stories while we sorted some yarn that we had accumulated from various donations. Our meeting closed by blessing two new shawls.

Looking forward to having you join us at our next meeting (weather permitting) on February, 13th from 1:30 - 3:00 in the Grant Room.

Happy Valentine's Day!! - Judy Nilsen



## Ministry of Worship and Covenant



### Welcome new members!

Allen Doughty, Nora Quinn, Jim Smith, Lynne Downing, Kaye Smith and James Smith joined our church community Sunday, January 26th.



## Falmouth Congregational Church UCC Annual Meeting and Lunch

Thanks to all for a successful Annual Meeting!

Special Thanks to the ministries who sent in their annual reports so we could have a succinct report, and to Jeff and Dawn Howland, for providing lunch.

### CHANCEL FLOWERS



Would you like to provide the chancel flowers for a Sunday? Please sign up on the poster in Fellowship Hall. Fill out the information on a Chancel Flower form and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. The office will order the flowers from Skillins unless otherwise specified. You may also supply your own.

**Cost of chancel flowers from Skillins is \$45.00.**

### ENVIRONMENTAL AND FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY



The Ministry of Facilities raises funds in many ways. We invite you to pick up a green plastic **Clynk bag** with the FCC logo and fill it with your returnable bottles and cans and then return it to Hannaford. Every dime counts! The bags are located on the table in Fellowship Hall or in the Church Office.

### MISSION STATEMENT



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ is a Christian community of faith which:

- Serves God with love and worship.
- Serves our church family with loving mutual support and provides opportunities for spiritual growth.
- Serves all of God's creation with compassion, generosity, justice and stewardship.



## February Worship Attendants

### Liturgists

- 2- Nancy Lightbody
- 9 - Sarah Davis
- 16 - Laurie Davis
- 23 - Mark Horton



**If you would like to be a Liturgist during Sunday Worship Service:**

Please contact Jim Parr at [jparr2@maine.rr.com](mailto:jparr2@maine.rr.com) or Larry Perry at [LPerry@baystatefinancial.com](mailto:LPerry@baystatefinancial.com) or 797-2928 if you would like to serve the church by participating in the morning worship service. Thank you.

### Ushers

- 2 - Larry & Sue Perry, Phil & Rae Pierce
- 9 - Nancy Lightbody, Pam Carroll, Judy Nilsen, Lorraine Bergen
- 16 - Jack Davis, Jim Parr, Ted & Dolores Vail
- 23 - Rodney & Anne Coleman, John Boothby & Tyler Henderson



There are several openings for ushers on the schedule.

Please contact Mark Horton, if you would like to be added to the rotation.

### Greeters

- 2 - Lorraine Bergen
- 9 - Joe & Jo Blinick
- 16 - Carol Dow
- 23 - Nancy Lightbody

**PLEASE FIND A SUBSTITUTE IF YOU ARE NOT AVAILABLE ON YOUR SCHEDULED SUNDAY**

**Contact the church office by Wednesday morning with the name of your replacement.  
Thanks!!**

### Communion Preparers Sunday, February 2

Nancy Lightbody  
Kim Mason



### Chancel Flowers

- 2 -
- 9 -
- 16 - Jeaneen Coleman
- 23 - Kim Hendry



*The beautiful Chancel flowers from Skillins start at \$45 ~ delivery fee included*

### BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment.  
Care for the poor.  
**Forgive often.**  
**Reject racism.**  
**Fight for the powerless.**  
Share earthly and spiritual resources.  
Embrace diversity.  
**Love God.**  
**Enjoy this life.***

God is still speaking.  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRISTY

## Church Family News ...

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers and cards and offers to help while I am recovering from a wrist injury. Thank you, also, to the choir for the beautiful floral gift and card. Kudos to those who are helping provide service music! I miss you and hope to be back soon.

-Doris



Dear Falmouth Congregational Church,

On behalf of the State Street Church UCC and the Clothes Closet, I would like to thank you for all the clothing donations over the past months and thank Ted Vail for delivering them to our Clothes Closet.

So many people in the greater Portland area are in need of clothing and it is generous donations such as yours that allow us to help fulfill those needs. Your continued generosity is truly a blessing and greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Sincerely, Anne Hendrix, Office Administrator

### PLEASE REMEMBER ...

To be a good steward - We ask that the last person to leave a room/the building after a meeting, function, etc. to do **these** four things:

1. Sack any trash tightly and leave in the kitchen.
2. Turn down the heat to 62 degrees
3. Turn off the lights.
4. Lock the door(s).

Thank you!



*In Our  
Thoughts  
and Prayers*



*Condolences and  
prayers to:*

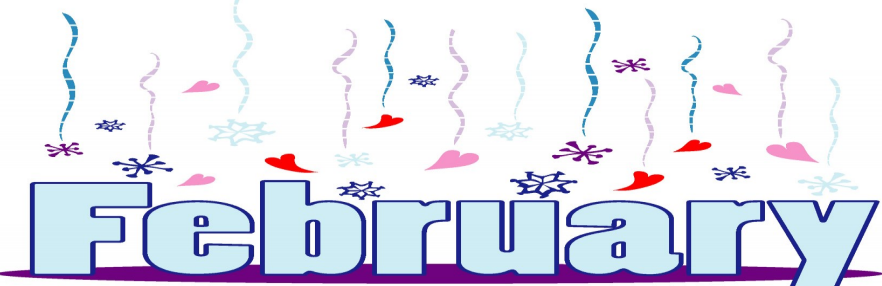

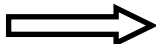
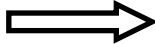
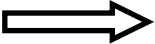
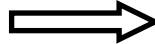
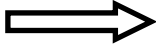
*The Family of Myron Hager, our  
"Golden Cane" winner, who  
passed into eternal rest on January  
17th. A Celebration of Life is  
planned for February 22 at 1 PM*

### February Birthdays

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Brittany Winslow | 17 Norm O'Brien   |
| 2 Joan Ashley      | 19 Kirsten Mazur  |
| 2 Ken Fasulo       | 19 Lance Wieland  |
| 8 Carl Thompson    | 21 Kathy Whitmore |
| 12 Josh Allen      | 23 Chris Allen    |
| 13 Aidan Hendry    | 24 Kiernan Riley  |
| 14 Jen Morganstern | 28 Mary Hart      |

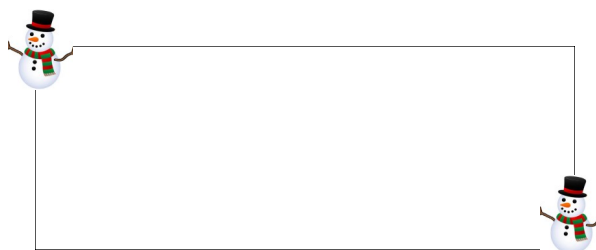


# Falmouth Congregational Church Calendar

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|
|    |  |  |   |   |  | <b>1</b><br>Church School & Friends Chili Making<br> |
| <b>2 Communion</b><br>10 AM Worship<br>11:15 AM Coffee Hour<br>11:30 AM Church School Chili Sale!  | <b>3 Pastor Amelia</b><br>9 AM Food Pantry Open<br>7 PM Ministry of Worship & Covenant             | <b>4 Vacation</b><br>9 AM Aerobics<br>9:30 AM Food Pantry Open<br>10 AM Bible Study at Oceanview<br>10:45 AM T'ai Chi<br>11:30 AM Staff Mtg.   | <br>9 AM Aerobics<br>12 PM Women's Spiritual Book Group<br>1:30 PM Ministry of Community Life<br>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal | <br>8:30 AM Ecumenical Clergy Meeting<br>6 PM Ministry of Missions<br>7 PM Boy Scouts | <br>9 AM Aerobics           |    |
| <br>9 AM Choir Practice<br>10 AM Worship with Stephen Savage<br>11:15 AM Coffee Hour<br>11:30 AM Council of Ministries Mtg.<br>7 PM Scout Committee Meeting<br><br><b>March Congregator Deadline</b> | <b>10 Pastor Amelia Returns</b><br>9 AM Food Pantry Open<br>6 PM Fiddle-icious                     | 9 AM Aerobics<br>9:30 AM Food Pantry Open<br>10 AM Bible Study at Oceanview<br>10:45 AM T'ai Chi<br>11:30 AM Staff Mtg.<br>12:30 PM Coffee with Rev. Amelia<br><br>6:30 PM Cub Scouts Pack Meeting | 9 AM Aerobics<br><br><br>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  | 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open<br>6 PM Finance Committee Meeting<br>7 PM Boy Scouts   | 9 AM Aerobics<br><br><br><b>6:30 PM Coffee House</b><br>Music by:<br>Richard Corson, Ken Myers & Steve Burnett | <b>15</b>   |
| <b>16</b><br>9 AM Choir Practice<br>10 AM Worship<br>11:15 Coffee Hour   | <b>17 President's Day—Office Closed</b><br>9 AM Food Pantry Open<br>7:00 PM Fiddle-icious Scotland | <b>18</b><br>9 AM Aerobics<br>9:30 AM Food Pantry Open<br>10 AM Bible Study at Oceanview<br>10:45 AM T'ai Chi<br>11:30 AM Staff Mtg.   | <b>19</b><br>9 AM Aerobics<br><br><br>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal   | <b>20</b><br><br><br>4:30 PM Food Pantry Open<br>7 PM Boy Scouts  | <b>21</b><br>9 AM Aerobics   | <b>22</b><br>1 PM Myron Hager Celebration of Life   |
| <b>23</b><br>9 AM Choir Practice<br>10 AM Worship<br>11:15 AM Coffee Hour<br>11:30 AM Ministry of Education  | <b>24</b><br>7 PM Fiddle-icious  | <b>25</b><br>9 AM Aerobics<br>9:30 AM Food Pantry Open<br>10 AM Bible Study at Oceanview<br>10:45 AM T'ai Chi<br>11:30 AM Staff Mtg.<br>12:30 PM Coffee with Rev. Amelia                           | <b>26</b><br>9 AM Aerobics<br><br><br>7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal   | <b>27</b><br>4:30 PM Food Pantry Open<br>7 PM Boy Scouts  | <b>28</b><br>9 AM Aerobics   | <b>29</b>   |

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’ **God is Still Speaking!**

## Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

### MINISTRIES

Mark Horton  
*Chair, Council of Ministries*

Kristen Coleman  
*Chair, Ministry of Christian Education*

Rae Pierce and Ann Sanborn  
*Co-Chairs, Ministry of Community Life*

Eunice Wilcox  
*Ministry of Facility Stewardship*

Steve Hendry  
*Chair, Ministry of Missions*

Larry Perry & Jim Parr  
*Co-Chairs, Ministry of Worship & Covenant*

### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Amelia Edson  
*Pastor and Teacher*

Doris Krueger  
*Minister of Music*

Kristen Coleman  
*Christian Education Administrator*

Matthew Strobel  
*Sexton*

Kat Roderick  
*Office Manager, Newsletter Editor*

### OFFICERS

Kim Hendry, *Moderator*

Anne Coleman, *Vice Moderator*

Carol Kauffman, *Clerk Pro-tem*

Pam Carroll, *Treasurer*

Gini Medford, *Financial Secretary*

Carol Kauffman MSN, RN, *Faith Community Nurse*