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From Reverend Amelia Edson:

Sunday, June 21st marked my last Sunday with you until September. . While I will miss being with you this summer I know that with the Foreside Worship Team, the Church Council, and our Minister of Visitation Jane Stegemann, the church is in capable hands.

In church family news Jake and I welcomed our little girl Julian Constance Edson into the world early Tuesday morning, June 16th. We are all happy and healthy, and we are so excited to introduce you to baby Julian in September.

Until then may the peace of God be with you this day, and always. Please know you are in my heart, in my prayers, and I am grateful for the work of all of you in this world. Keep it up, and keep the faith!

Yours in Christ,
~ Pastor Amelia





COUNCIL CORNER FOR JULY/AUGUST

Happy Summer! I hope this finds everyone doing well and staying healthy.

Congratulations and blessings to Pastor Amelia and Jake on the birth of their daughter, Julian. Given this exciting news, Pastor Amelia is now officially on her parental leave and will be through August 30th. During this time, the Foreside Community Church will provide worship coverage for our church via livestreamed virtual services. Jane Stegemann, Minister of Visitation, will provide pastoral care during this time. If you have any questions on coverage during Pastor's leave, please let me know.

During our June Council meeting, we heard from our On-Going Church Life "OCL" committee. The members of this sub-committee are Cathy Bowden, Laurie Davis, and Tom Stegemann. They are doing great work planning for re-opening our church carefully and safely for our staff, renters, and congregants. There will be a lot more information forthcoming from this group as we plan for in-person services again in September. It will certainly look and feel different and of course, we will continue to offer a virtual option as well.

There is also a very good chance that the Holly Days Fair will look different too. We still hope to offer some sort of modified fair but we are not exactly sure what it will be yet. We will be able to share more information on the fair by September.

I also wanted to share that the Council voted in favor of hiring an outside accountant to manage our financial statements. We believe this is the prudent thing to do for the financial security of our church. The accountant's name is Doug Coyle and his company's name is Winward Payroll & Bookkeeping.

We are still working on various options with Goggin for the solar project in light of the news I shared last month about the church roof. Stay tuned for more information.

Stay safe and healthy!

~ Kim Hendry, Moderator

shendry001@maine.rr.com

Ongoing Church Life Committee

The Falmouth Congregational Church is a strong and faithful community all of whom have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Ongoing Church Life (OCL) committee has been preparing a path forward to protect the safety of all members of our church community while following guidance from CDC, State of Maine, and UCC leaders. We have met often to address both immediate needs and longer-term plans to eventually reopen the sanctuary for worship.

For example, the OCL committee has developed and the Council approved a set of Guiding Principles for Decision-Making for Returning to Church Life at FCC. These principles reflect our commitment to implementing changes to keep people safe while recognizing the diversity of risks and needs within our faith community. The committee has also applied CDC guidance in defining a checklist of safety requirements for renters of our church spaces. Based on its research and planning, the OCL committee presented to the Council of Ministries eight recommendations for addressing the church's needs during this pandemic; they received unanimous approval. As a result, an *ad hoc* music committee - Marilee Beinema, Virginia Eddy, and Doris Krueger - has already begun working on plans for technology, licensing, and other items to expand how the church provides music in this new environment. In addition, the OCL committee is working diligently monitoring other churches' approaches to find new ways our church members can worship and feel connected with each other. In the meantime, we will continue to be blessed with our virtual worship on Facebook live each Sunday morning with Foreside Community Church.

Another response to COVID-19 is closing the church buildings to most people. Signs have been posted on all entrances indicating who can use them: staff only, renters only, and others.

Sign at main entrance near Fellowship Hall:

When you call the church office, you will hear whom to contact for your purpose: pastoral care – Jane Stegemann; financial matters – Gini Medford or Pam Carroll; deliveries and building access – Matthew Strobel; church office – Kat Roderick.

Our traditions and routines have been disrupted and it easy to become discouraged, yet during this time we can rely on our faith to know that God is comforting us as we strive to remain joyful and hopeful as a community.

We want to hear from you. Please contact us with your ideas, questions, and concerns.

Cathy Bowden cathybbowden@gmail.com – Laurie Davis davislaurie84@gmail.com

– Tom Stegemann tstegemann09@gmail.com

Please Do Not Enter




for the Safety of Our Staff & Visitors
(This includes *everyone* and for *any* reason.)

Until you call the Church Office: 781-3413

All entering the building, please:

1. Put on a face covering before entering the building
Wear it while you are here
2. Sign in
3. Clean your hands with sanitizer on entering & leaving
4. Practice physical distancing by staying 6' from others

Thank you for helping to keep our building safe! 

Ministry of Missions

FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM UPDATE

Even though Family Promise is taking a pause on adding new families over the summer, the good news is that the two families now being housed are soon going to have their own apartments! Some of Family Promise's current energy and efforts will center on helping the families who have come through the program succeed for the long term. We will keep you posted as our church continues to look for ways to support Family Promise.

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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



FALMOUTH FOOD PANTRY

It is heartwarming to see how our community has come together to help each other during this terribly sad pandemic. During the current coronavirus crisis, we are not working out of our physical space at the Food Pantry, but we are continuing to serve families with home deliveries and a central distribution location in front of the Town Hall. Not surprisingly, there has been an increase in the number of families who are being served; in fact, 40% more families have continued to benefit from the Food Pantry than were using it a year ago. If you have questions or know someone with an urgent need, please call Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670. Thank you for your help.



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!



Kids' Church

After a great school year, Kids' Church is off for the summer.

We had a great year and will be coming back together in September with all new, exciting activities. We will continue our Kids' Church program, and our youth group.

~ Kristen Coleman, Christian Education

Ministry of Community Life

Updated Directories available! Contact Kat for an electronic or paper version at: FCCoffc@gmail.com



The September Congregator deadline is Sunday, August 16, 2020

Please submit your articles, announcements, news items, pictures, etc. to: fccoffc@gmail.com
Thank you!



Coffee House:

We have had two successful virtual coffee houses which are available to view on our Facebook page. Stay tuned for a potential outdoor event in August! Questions or Suggestions for future performers can be sent to Paul Davis.



Women's Spiritual Book Group

FCC's Women's Spiritual Book Group meets July 1st at noon on Zoom (Contact us for the link) to discuss "Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine" by Gail Honeyman. The novel focuses on 29-year-old Eleanor Oliphant, a social misfit with a traumatic past who becomes enamored of a singer, whom she believes she is destined to be with. Contact Cathy Bowden for information on August's Book.

Church Family News



We lift in prayer ...

Kathleen Henderson is recovering from her first knee replacement surgery and the second surgery is on July 17th. Kathleen appreciates good thoughts for recovery and the upcoming surgery.

Kathleen also asks for prayers for her dear mother, Joyce, who was diagnosed last week with leukemia.

Dolores and Ted Vail are requesting prayers as they transition from their home on Field Road to Park Danforth. The exact move date is unknown and they are grateful for your prayers.

John Tarbell, Dolores Veil's brother, has been diagnosed with cancer

Norm O'Brien, is in rehab at Seaside

Susan, Nancy Wulbrecht's Sister

Barbara & John Graustein, for John's continued recovery

James Klenk, for ongoing health concerns

Maureen Grubb

Ginny Hamilton

Myron Krueger

Bill Graves

Maytha Southard

Lorrie Gage, prayers for all students whose families decided not to participate in on-line education

Prayers of Joy:

Mark and Peggy Horton in celebration of the birth of their grandson, Ryder, on June 10th!

Barbara Graustein is traveling to see family leaving June 27 and returning July 6th

If you have Joys or Concerns you would like to share with the congregation email Jane

Stegemann: jhsteg@gmail.com



Hi there,

I am writing to thank all of the wonderful people who have sent me cards and prayers for my recovery from my hip replacement. It has been such a joy to receive so many heart-warming messages from so many church friends. I do appreciate the kindness sent my way.

I am moving ahead but it will be a while before I will be free of pain so I am most grateful for all of those lovely cards. Thank you one and all, Mollie Mason

Worship Attendants

**July / August Lectionary Readers:
Please video yourself saying your reading and email it
to Kat in the office at FCCoffc@gmail.com.
Thank you for your contribution to worship!**

05-Jul	Virginia Eddy No Communion	Psalm 145:8-14 Restoration of the Nations
19-Jul	Kim Hendry	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 Fear, Trembling, and Weeding
02-Aug	Randy Boardway	Genesis 32:22-31 Hoping and Hopping
16-Aug	Anne Sanborn	Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28
30-Aug	Judy Crosby	Exodus 3:1-15



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9 God is Still Speaking!

MINISTRIES

Kim Hendry
Chair, Council of Ministries

Kristen Coleman
Chair, Ministry of Christian Education

Rae Pierce & Ann Sanborn
Ministry of Community Life

Eunice Wilcox
Ministry of Facilities

Steve Hendry
Chair, Ministry of Missions

Larry Perry & Jim Parr
Ministry of Worship & Covenant



CHURCH STAFF

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Settled Pastor

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Doris Krueger
Minister of Music

Kristen Coleman
Christian Education

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