



THE CONGREGATOR

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The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners.

– Gospel of Matthew 11:19, King James Translation

My first Sunday back from Parental Leave there was a fabulous all-church picnic. We sat in the backyard with watermelon juice on our chins and ice cream on our shirts and shared stories and jokes, and learned one another's names and which children belong (officially) to which grownups. Folks circulated between the tables and the games. I could see introductions and new connections forming all around me.

Wherever Jesus went there was food and drink. His ministry began with the miracle of wine for the wedding at Cana and culminated with bread and wine served around a table at the Last Supper. As soon as he rose from the cross he was back at it, frying fish on the beach to comfort his exhausted and bewildered friends.

There is a reason the communion table, aside from the cross, is the definitive symbol of Christian faith. Sharing food brings an inexplicable alchemy: it binds us together, puts us at ease, and is a great equalizer. It makes the practices of being Christian— listening, including, hosting, caring—easier.

Continued on next page

Breaking bread together reminds us that Christianity isn't meant to be a set of tenets to believe; it's meant to be shared, experienced and enacted in the presence of other people. It reminds us that Christianity is a group project that is at least as concerned with the specifics of our lives and bodies as it is with esoteric promises of the world to come.

This summer and fall I hope to practice the Christian virtue of gluttony. I hope to meet you over coffee, tea, dinner, breakfast, snacks, etc. It has been a long, strange, isolated time. One of the best practices of our faith for times such as this is to gather at the table.

In this season let's do as Christ would do:
eat, drink, and be gluttonous, for God and community.

See below for opportunities to gather in small or larger groups and meet one another around the table.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Amelia



The MWC met with Pastor Amelia and talked about a way for all of us to “come home” to the church this fall. This has been a period of isolation for so many, and gathering in small groups around a meal could be a great way to reconnect with each other, and make church our “home” again. So, Let's Gather! Sign up in Fellowship Hall or at the link below.

Small Group Coffee/Breakfast:
Thursday, July 21st between 9- 11
Thursday, July 28th between 9-11
Monday, August 15th between 9-11

Large Group Dinner:
Thursday, September 8 ~6 PM
Thursday, September 15, ~6 PM
Thursday, September 22, ~5:30 PM
(This dinner geared to families with young children)
Thursday, October 13th, ~6 PM

<https://forms.gle/rPKoLANisoX7g3CR6>

Dear Friends at Falmouth Congregational Church,
I am humbled, over-joyed, excited, challenged . . .
mostly grateful to God for placing me at FCC.

In one month, people have welcomed me, embraced me
with open arms and made me feel at home. If I haven't met
you yet, please introduce yourself to me.

Your place in music and worship may be to listen and to
sing with all your heart from the pews. But if you have a
desire to try participating from the platform (it's not that
scary), the two main opportunities at the moment are Choir
and Bell Choir. There are no auditions. Sight-reading music
is optional for Choir; you can listen to sound tracks and learn
as you go. For Bell Choir, a background of musical counting
is helpful; we can teach you the bell-ringing technique. If you are unsure, come to
one rehearsal and try US out!

Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 7:

6:30 PM Bell Choir – regular attendance appreciated

7:30 PM Choir – one-time, short term or regular attendance all appreciated

If you play a musical instrument or have a child who might be “solo material”,
I would love to know. We will explore opportunities for children as we go along.

One opportunity is our Pop-up Choir for all ages!

Google “Bound for Greater Things” by Ken Medema and decide if you would like to
join us in singing the Anthem on July 31.

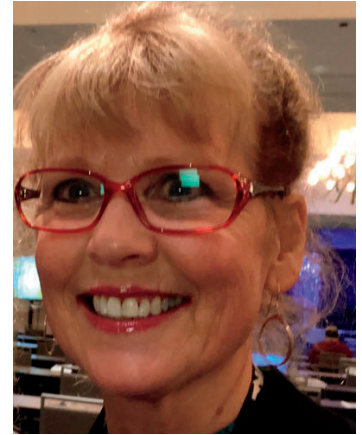
Rehearsals: Wednesday, July 27, 6:30–7:30 PM and Sunday, July 31, 9:00 AM

I have an office space in the robing/music library room and will be at the church
often; stop by and see me!

Blessings, Jan Stover, Minister of Music 603-978-3910 janiceleastover@gmail.com

MINISTRY OF

Music



Tech Update

Our website is getting a facelift over the summer! Our tech team, led by Tom Stegemann,
is partnering with Sally Anne from Verve Marketing to update our site to be more user
friendly for both congregants and visitors.

There is an app for Breeze, our church directory!

It can be found in the App Store for iOS and the Google Play store for Android. Breeze is
always available online, just go to www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.breezechms.com

If you haven't signed up email the office for access.

Church Picnic ~ June 12th



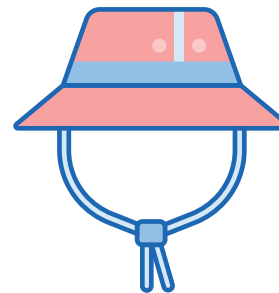
COUNCIL *Corner*



Hi everyone – I hope you are all looking forward to a wonderful summer. I know I am! I would like to remind members that if you haven't already done so (and thanks to those who already have), please send in your membership dues. You should have received a letter from me asking each member to send in \$20 to cover UCC association dues. And please also remember to continue to make your pledges over the summer. I know many people take a break over the summer to enjoy this very special place we call home but please remember that our financial commitments to our staff and our community don't stop over the summer. Thank you all for all that you do for our Church. We are blessed in so many ways! ~ Kim Hendry, Moderator

MINISTRY OF
Missions

Maine Needs



New or Gently Used Summer Items Needed:

Please wash items before donating, as the people who receive these frequently do not have easy access to do laundry.

Items may be left in the Mission Bins inside or outside the church. Thank you!

- #1 Box fans, Swimsuits, Beach towels, Sunglasses, Water Bottles, Sippy Cups.
- #2 Shorts, T-Shirts, Tank tops, Sundresses, Skirts, Sneakers, Kids Sandals & Water Shoes, Kids Sun Hats, Adult Sneakers.
- #3 Sunblock, Aloe, Tick spray, Deodorant, Kids Lunch Boxes, Adult Backpacks.
- #4 Frisbees, Bubbles, Jump ropes, Sidewalk Chalk, Soccer Balls, Baseballs, Basketballs, Baseball gloves, Pail & Shovel.

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 776-0081. Thank you!



Donations To This Year's "Strengthen the Church" Mission

Thanks to your support and the energies of Alyce Graves and the bread bakers, \$235 has been raised so far in 2022 for the Strengthen the Church mission!! One of the "5 for 5" mission offerings of the United Church of Christ, Strengthen the Church revitalizes congregations, supports programs for youth and young adults, and encourages efforts to grow as affirming congregations. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this mission!

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.

MINISTRY OF
missions



Many many thanks to all who have been donating to the Falmouth Food Pantry. We don't know who you are and we are sorry we aren't able to thank you personally, but many families have already appreciated your help!

Who does a fish call when his piano breaks

A PIANO TUNA

What is the difference between a guitar and a fish?

YOU CAN TUNA GUITAR BUT YOU CANNOT TUNA FISH.

Why is it so easy to weigh tuna?

BECAUSE THEY HAVE THEIR OWN SCALES.

What a wonderful opporTUNAty for all of us! Our church will be collecting cans of tuna fish during the months of May, June, and July. If you would like, please put cans of TUNA FISH into the collection bin outside Fellowship Hall, and they will be given to very grateful Food Pantry families. We are forTUNAtate that so many of you want to help others, and we know that you have the TUNAcity to do so. Let's try this!

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 at 776-0081. Thank you for your continuing support.



School Kits: Summer Sales

Do you remember "The Elf and the Shoemaker" story? Well, we have our own School Kit Elf! She (a.k.a. Eunice) has already dropped off all these bags for next year's kits! We aim to complete MANY more School Kits!

Church World Service will ship these kits to impoverished schools and refugee camps around the world.



SUMMER SCHOOL SUPPLY SALES

During July and August there are HUGE school supply sales, and it is the best time to purchase! We will need the following items, which can be left in the inside or outside Mission Bins. Thank you!

Blunt Scissors

70 count bound notebooks

30 centimeter/12" rulers

Hand-held pencil sharpener

Large eraser

Unsharpened pencils with erasers

Box of 24 crayons (only 24!)

Finished cotton bags (see sewing directions below)

https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/pda/pdfs/goh-schoolkitbagpattern.pdf



Open Position: Minister of Children and Families

We are actively seeking a Minister of Children & Families who will be responsible for the overall direction and coordination of our Faith Formation program for children and families in consultation with the Christian Education Committee. The position is full-time and will take over from Kristen Tripp who has been with the program for many years. [Click here for full job description.](#)

If you know of someone who may be interested please have them send a resume, cover letter, and two references to officemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org.

Note: The Candidate must pass a background check.



*Kids' Church
Takeover
June 12th*



MINISTRY OF *community life*

Women's Spiritual Book Group



The Women's Spiritual Book Group will reconvene on September 7th. Please bring your book suggestions for October 2022 through May or June 2023.

We are a lively, engaging and welcoming group that enjoys new faces. Please feel free to join us or contact Cathy Bowden at cathybbowden@gmail.com or 776-5543 with questions.

CHURCH

family news

We Lift in Prayer...



- Please pray joyfully with Noah and Morgan (Allen) Barney as they welcome their baby Audrey May Barney born June 25th! Cards of joy: 50 Somerset Freeport ME 04032
- Please pray for Karen Giansiracusa's brother, John, hospitalized from advanced Parkinson's disease. Cards may be sent to Karen: 84 Good Wind Lane Camden, Maine 04843
- Please pray joyfully: our own Carol Kauffman has been presented with the Town of Falmouth Legacy Award!
- Please pray joyfully for Aren David Strobel (Matthew, our Sexton and Property Manager's son) who graduated from Yarmouth High School! Celebratory cards to: 276 Portland Street, Yarmouth, Maine 04096
- Please pray as John Graustein recuperates at home. Please pray also for his wife, Barbara.
- Please pray for Kathy Whitmore's partner, John. Cards of encouragement may be sent to: 102 Wythburn Road South Portland, ME 04106-5321
- Please pray gratefully that Carol Kauffman and Ann Sanborn have returned safely from their trip to Germany, but are now both recuperating from COVID.
- Please pray for Bethany (David & Nancy Althaus' daughter) who is due to have a baby this coming week.
- Please pray for Norm O'Brien, recently placed in hospice care. Cards of comfort: 130 Winn Road Falmouth, ME 04105.

- Bee, Norm's wife of 67 + years, continues to live at Falmouth-By-the-Sea: Room 103A 191 Foreside Road Falmouth, ME 04105
- Please lift up prayers of welcome and great joy for the birth of Charlotte M. Mathieu on June 8th, to parents Allyssa, Cameron, and big brother Lucas and the granddaughter of Diane and Alan Mathieu.



- Please pray joyfully that James Smith is physically healthier than he's been for a while. Send cards of encouragement, but no phone calls please: 127 Winn Road Falmouth, Maine 04105.
- Please pray for Ginny Hamilton who continues to enjoy hearing from you where she lives at her nursing home: 300 Spring Street Room King 4A Springbrook Center, Westbrook, Maine 04092
- Please keep praying for Sally Emery who is cared for in her home. Send cards to: P.O. Box 102 Gray, ME 04039.

Ushers

July

- 3 - Jim Parr & Randy Boardway
- 10- Bill Nugent
- 17-Lauren Jordy
- 24-Steve & Kim Hendry
- 31- Nancy Wulbrecht

Liturgists

July

- 3 - Eunice Wilcox
 - 10- Jim Scherer
 - 17- Lydia Hill
 - 24- Jane Stegemann
 - 31- Laurie Davis
- August
- 7 - Jim Scherer
 - 14- Lydia Hill
 - 21- Virginia Eddy
 - 28- Jim Parr

July 2022 Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3 10 AM Worship	4 Office Closed 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Worship & Covenant	5 Office Closed 6 PM The Family Restored	6 Office Closed 6:45 PM Private Group	7 Office Closed	8	9
10 10 AM Worship	11 12 PM Bible Study	12 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored	13 6:45 PM Private Group	14	15	16
17 10 AM Worship	18 12 PM Bible Study 6 PM Steering Com. Fiddle-icious	19 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored	20 6:45 Private Group	21 9 AM - 11 AM Let's Gather!	22	23
24 10 AM Worship	25 12 PM Bible Study	26 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored	27 6:45 PM Private Group	28 9 AM - 11 AM Let's Gather!	29	30
31 10 AM Worship						

August 2022 Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 12 PM Bible Study	2 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored Celebration of Life	3 6:45 PM Private Group	4	5	6
7 10 AM Worship	8 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Fiddle-icious	9 11 AM Staff Meeting 6 PM The Family Restored	10 6:45 PM Private Group	11	12	13
14 10 AM Worship	15 9 AM - 11 AM Let's Gather! 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Fiddle-icious	16 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored	17 6:45 PM Private Group	18 Congregator Deadline	19 Avid4Adventure Done	20
21 10 AM Worship	22 Calendar Planning Meeting 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Fiddle-icious	23 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored	24 6:45 PM Private Group	25	26	27
28 10 AM Worship	29 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM Fiddle-icious	30 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored	31 6:45 PM Private Group	<p>Our Annual Calendar Planning Meeting will be held on Monday, August 22nd</p>		

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Email: officemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org
Website: www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Ministries

Kim Hendry
Chair, Council of Ministries

Kristen Tripp
Chair, Ministry of Christian
Education

Jane Stegemann
Ministry of Community Life

Matthew Strobel
Chair, Ministry of Facilities

Steve Hendry
Chair, Ministry of Missions

Virginia Eddy & Larry Perry
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
Jane Stegemann, Minister of Visitation
Kristen Tripp, Christian Education
Anna Dube, Nursery Caregiver
Jack Gervais, Tech Assistant

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