

THE CONGREGATOR

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A Letter From The Pastor

Dear Falmouth Congregational Church,

This past weekend our Boy Scout Troop, troop 93, awarded 9 young men the highest Boy Scout honor: the rank of Eagle Scout. Troop 93, which was founded here at the church and which we sponsor, is known throughout the region as a strong troop where a high percentage of the troop become Eagle Scouts. To become an Eagle Scout young people must earn merit badges, be in good standing with their troop and community, and complete an Eagle Scout project. This is a project that benefits the community around them. Our scouts have collected items for the homeless, spruced up community spaces, one young person is even now in the process of refurbishing the church playground. These projects leave the community a little bit better than they were before.

Here at the church we are entering into Ordinary Time, the time after Pentecost where we are invited to focus on the day-to-day business of being Christian.

There are no major liturgical events (Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost are all behind us). In this quiet season we are given space to give faithful attention to our formation, devotion, ministry and mission.

As we enter into these summer months, I invite you to ponder what your Eagle Project might be. Is there something you can do this summer to make the world a bit better than it was before? Whether it is committing to mowing an elderly neighbor's yard, crafting a surprise for a family member, or trying to give out affirmations and compliments, we all have some area that could use a project of kindness. Good luck with the ongoing project of following Christ- it can sure be difficult at times but earning the Christian merit badge is the highest honor of all!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Amelia



COUNCIL Corner



A Message from our Moderator

Hi – I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying spring (although these temperatures make me think it is already summer)!

With so many people getting vaccinated and restrictions being lifted, it is a time to celebrate and give thanks. It has been a long 14 months for all of us, so it is nice to see a light at the end of the tunnel. We also have several other reasons to celebrate. We welcomed nine new members to the church in May and had a lovely outdoor reception where we could share fellowship and some treats. And we will celebrate our graduates on May 30th which will be another opportunity to hold a reception and share fellowship. I hope many of you will be able to join us.

Our finances remain steady. We reported \$102k in total income and net income of \$4k for the four months ended in April. We did have some expenses for building maintenance and organ repair in April that impacted net income. As I mentioned last month, we are seeing higher plate offerings now that we are back in-person for Sunday worship and some of our renters have returned which has also improved our financial situation.

Work has already started on our kitchen renovation and the work will continue over the next several months. Not only will this renovation make better use of the space but it will also bring all of the electrical up to code. I am also pleased to share that we have been successful in raising the necessary money to complete the project (thank you Jeaneen Coleman for spearheading the fundraising!). Thank you to all who have so willingly donated. I think this is going to be a real win for our church and I can't wait to share the finished product later in the summer.

Many blessings,

~ Kim Hendry, Moderator
khendry1972@gmail.com
[207-756-9343](tel:207-756-9343)



Effective at the May 30th 2021 service, congregants who are fully vaccinated may worship without wearing a mask. If you are not fully vaccinated you will be required to wear a mask. We will not be asking for evidence of vaccination; it will be on the honor system.



Ask Me Anything

Why be a Christian? What do we know about Christ's early life? 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? Why do you believe about miracles? What is the significance of the crucifixion?

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

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 have donated tuna fish during the months of April and May: This has been a wonderful opportunity for so many of our families! Our church has been collecting cans of tuna fish during the months of April and May and will continue to do so in June. 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 for**TUN**ate that so many of you want to help others, and we know that you have the **TUN**acity to do so. Thank you.



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:

- Adult backpacks
- Mens plain T-shirts
- Mens casual shorts
- Joggers/ thin casual pants(all sizes)
- New Underwear (all sizes)
- New Socks (all sizes)
- Kids swimsuits

Notes of Gratitude

On behalf of the Missions committee, we are overwhelmed and blessed with the response to the recent special offering. Thanks to the generosity of our church, the Kaluba family has a lawyer, and we will be able to help other families find housing and stabilization, working with Family Promise. I am immensely gratified with the strength of our Congregation and the willingness to help when the need is there.

To contribute, please make out a check to "Falmouth Congregational Church" (267 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, ME 04105) with "Missions" in the memo line.

Steve Hendry, Chair, Ministry of Missions

*thank
you* ♥

Due to your generosity, we have shipped a total of **30** school and hygiene kits! Through the Church World Service, these will be sent around the world to those in need. You have provided needed supplies as well as happiness to many!



Do you need help around the house or yard?

Marcello and Elvine Kaluba have their work permits and they are available to help with yard work, painting, mending or odd jobs. Whatsapp number: +12078007842 or contact Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670.

Special Mission Offering: "STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH"

This "5 for 5" mission offering helps develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults, establish new churches, and awaken new ideas in existing churches. Strengthen the Church funds will also be used to award grants to help congregations communicate the "God is still speaking" message.

Please consider making a contribution to this far-reaching ministry by sending a check to "Falmouth Congregational Church" (267 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, ME 04105) with "Strengthen the Church" mentioned in the memo line.

MINISTRY OF *community life*

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Wow!! It's already June. Half the year has elapsed!! We've just celebrated Memorial Day and gardeners are hoping the threat of a frost is over and planting season has begun in Maine. While we are planting seeds in the ground are we also planting seeds of hope in our spiritual lives?

The miracle of vaccinations is helping us return to new normals and is helping us realize the strides we're making to calm the pandemic. After reading Rev. Amelia's letter in our May Congregator, I became aware of the fact that the church realizes some of us are proceeding more cautiously as we accept new realities.

On a lighter note when I sat down to write this letter, the first thought that came to mind was the song "June Is Bustin' Out All Over" from the Broadway musical "Oklahoma." Music always calms the waters for me as I experience challenging issues. Hearing the wonderful music during our church services is such a healing and calming experience also.

I'm always delighted to get a call from knitters saying they have shawls or baby blankets we need to bless and tag for a special recipient. Another way for some of us to help us relax and provide caring and hope for the ones who receive these gifts. Our ministry has been busy during this pandemic thanks to all our faithful participants.

I'll close for now reminding everyone to enjoy the special celebrations in June of Flag Day, Fathers Day, first day of summer, along with graduations and weddings.

STAY SAFE & HEALTHY!!

Happy knitting, Judy Nilsen



Parking Lot Coffee House

June 11th ~ 6:30 PM

Join us for an outdoor concert in the parking lot featuring Monique Barrett.

This is a family-friendly, weather permitting event. Coffee by Design lattes and other specialty drinks will be available.



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

The Church Bus is back in service! Please call the driver to schedule a pickup for the following dates:

June 6:

Alyce Graves-781-4964

June 13:

Paul Davis- 332-7268

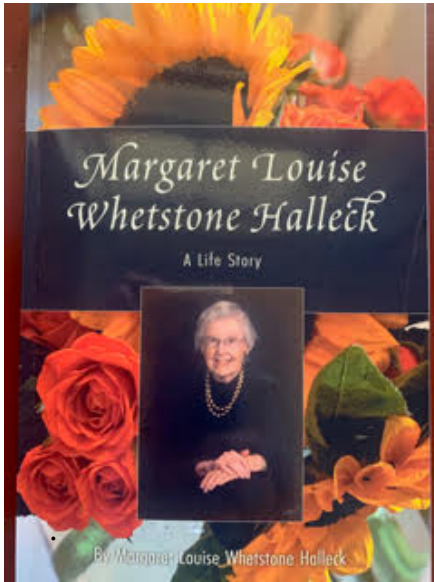
June 20:

Ann Sanborn-781-2833

June 27:

Mark Horton- 838-1544

Women's Spiritual Book Group *Wednesday, June 2nd at Noon*



The Women's Spiritual Book Group gathers June 2nd at Noon to meet with Peggy Halleck and discuss her memoir filled with wonderful life stories and wisdom gained.

For those who are able, the group will gather in an outdoor space at the church. In the event of inclement weather, we will meet in the parlor and request attendees wear masks. For those unable to be with us in person, the Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81986335218> and the call-in number is: 929 205 6099. For technical difficulties, contact Cathy Bowden at 776-5543.

This will be the last meeting before taking a summer break. 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

Please Welcome our New Members!

- **Alyce Graves** joined her mother, Betty Graves, in Falmouth 3 years ago. Prior to coming home to Maine she lived in many places: coastal Georgia, Ohio, Massachusetts and was a nomad on a boat. Professionally she's been a butcher and baker but not a candlestick maker. She is an avid reader, lifelong learner, gardener, trivia queen and proud Mama to her poodle, Vivian.
- **Allyssa and Cameron Mathieu** grew up in the Falmouth/Portland area. They got married in September 2019 and welcomed their first baby, Lucas, in August 2020. They enjoy playing golf and spending time with friends and family.
- **Joanna and Joel Pond** moved to Falmouth in the fall of 2010 (from elsewhere in Maine). They have three children Caroline (10), Emily (9) and Josh (5 and 3/4) and a dog Summer (woof). All the children really enjoy Kid's Church, and they are all happy to have found a church home.
- **Julia and Jim Poppell** moved to OceanView from Richmond VA to be close to their son and his family. It was a good decision because not only are they close to family but have been warmly welcomed by many, especially the church.
- **Chelsea and John Reid** live and work in Falmouth, and appreciate the warm welcome to the Falmouth Congregational Church community. Their children, in preschool and second grade, are very enthusiastic about all the fun they're having learning about faith in Kids' Church!



Congratulations to the Graduates of the class of 2021



Adeline Ziobro is a Senior this year. She will be attending St. Lawrence University in the fall, studying computer science and swimming on the women's swim team.

Ruth Smith is a graduate student at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina. She is finishing up her MBA in Marketing next month and has accepted a position in downtown Charleston. She will be working on

events on the coast of South Carolina and looks forward to worshipping in-person with her church family soon.



Peter Stegemann has graduated magna cum laude from University of Southern Maine with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing with a minor in Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship. Peter created an internship at Octane Marketing and hopes to continue in full-time employment there. Peter will be moving to Brunswick where he will live with friends and continue virtual work.

Aiden Hendry will graduate from Falmouth High School on June 6th. Aiden will be attending Merrimack College in North Andover, MA in the fall. Aiden plans to major in Business Administration with a minor in Sports Management.



From the Desk of the Parish Nurse:



As a nurse it is my professional responsibility to urge my fellow parishioners to get vaccinated against the ravages of COVID-19. On May 16th the CDC updated its guidelines.

When you are fully vaccinated a new door opens up.

- You can resume activities that you did prior to the pandemic.
- You can resume activities without wearing a mask or staying 6 feet apart, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.
- If you travel in the United States, you do not need to get tested before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.

In general, people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

If you don't meet these requirements, keep taking all precautions until you are fully vaccinated.

~Carol I. Kauffman, MSN RN

1. Reference: When You've Been Fully Vaccinated | CDC
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>
 updated May 16, 2021



You can use your landline or cell phone to call in and listen to worship

For people who do not have smart phones or can't connect to the internet, you can dial (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.



MINISTRY OF *Worship & Covenant*

The Ministry of Worship and Covenant continues to help FCC celebrate God's love as the community slowly emerges from the pandemic. This includes keeping a close eye on the church and liturgical calendar, recruiting ushers and lectionary readers, and helping keep our music programs running. (If anybody is willing to usher, please let us know!)

We are also coordinating with the Ministry of Community Life to help welcome new members, celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates, and help make our worship as welcoming as Jesus exhorted us to be with each other.

MINISTRY OF *Christian education*

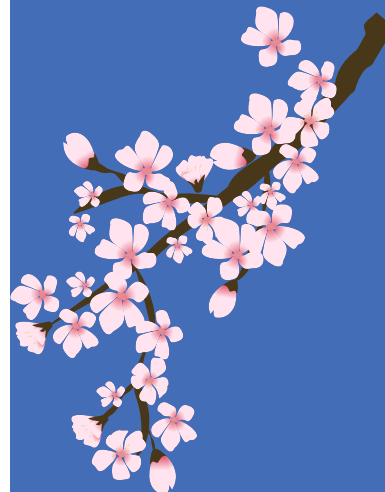
This Spring, Christian education has made great strides in growing the program. We have retained all our Kid's Church participants (either in person or online) through COVID, and we have also had new families join in on the fun!

Our Kid's church program is now 10:00-12:00 with the option to leave after the church service ends. This has given us a great opportunity to dive deeper into our curriculums and extend our fun and festive crafts and games. With our new time frame, we have implemented a new segment of Kid's Church called Cards for Concerns. This time is when kids make crafts and or cards for members of the church who could use a pick me up. It is a great way for the kids to connect with their church family.

For Mothers Day the children spread love and joy to the congregation by performing a streamer dance live in church. The kids have missed performing in front of the church and had a great time.

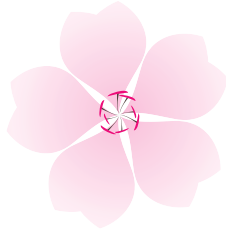
As our Kid's Church season is rapidly coming to a close, the kids are very eager to help Pastor Amelia run the service on June 13th before breaking for the summer.

BY KRISTEN COLEMAN



CHURCH

family news



To the Falmouth Congregational Church,

Vicki and I wish to thank you for all your prayer support, the ongoing communication and prayers from Jane Stegemann and the Called to Care Ministry, the beautiful, comforting prayer shawl made by Jo Blinick from the Prayer Shawl Team, as well as for all the wonderful, uplifting cards and messages we received during my illness and recovery from Covid and Covid-pneumonia!

God was with us and prayers were answered! One in particular that I will share with you occurred after I had been in the hospital's CCU (critical care unit) for a month and was scheduled to be transferred to the rehab hospital the following week.

I developed a partially collapsed lung, which could have been a major setback. I had not been allowed to have any visitors because of restrictions but the hospital administrator decided to allow Vicki to come in for a visit. We prayed for healing before she left at 9 PM. They x-rayed my lungs at 4 AM (hospitals often schedule procedures at odd hours), and the hole in my lung was already healed! In two days all the air that had escaped into my chest cavity had absorbed, and I was able to go to the rehab hospital as scheduled!

I had two setbacks after I got home, a gallbladder removal, and an intestinal blockage, both of which resolved well, and I am now on a clear path to recovery.

X-rays show improvement in my lungs every month. I am going without oxygen most of the day, though I still use a low dose when I sleep, and am walking over a mile a day, Praise God!

We would like to send you the Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26.

“ The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine on you
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance
On you and give you peace.”

We look forward to seeing all of you this summer when we make our way back to our beloved state of Maine and our beloved home church, FCC.

In Christ's Love,
Pat and Vicki Miele

In Loving Memory...

- We hold Doris Krueger and her family in our thoughts at prayers at this time, as her husband, Myron Krueger, passed into his eternal rest May 17, 2021.



Dear Church Family,

The last six months has been very difficult for myself and my family. I appreciate all of your prayers, thoughts, virtual hugs, cards, notes and phone calls. Each one of these has helped ease my grief.

Thank you to Called to Care for the lovely lily that Jane brought to our home. Mark appreciated the Prayer Shawl very much. It is on his couch in his office as a reminder of your caring concern for us.

I cannot thank you all enough for enfolding me in Christian love and lifting us in prayer.

Fondly,

Gini Rhoades Medford and Family

Chancel Flowers



The flower calendar for the remainder of 2021 is now posted in fellowship hall. If you would like to sign up for a special date to honor or hold someone in loving memory please sign up.

The office will reach out to see if you would like to order a \$45 bouquet from Skillins or bring your own flowers.

CHURCH *family news*

We Lift in Prayer...

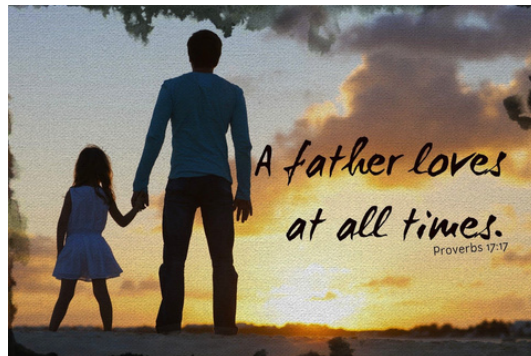
- Maureen Grubb who must participate in 4 sessions of chemotherapy through June where she hopes her symptoms are relieved.
- Please pray for the family of Allen (Ted) Coffey, who went to his eternal rest on Monday, April 26th. The Family thanks everyone from the church who sent cards & attended the service.
- Please pray lovingly for John and Eunice Wilcox whose son, Marshall, is recuperating from a heart attack.
- Please continue praying for Terri Collins who is still struggling with residual COVID 19 symptoms. The family thanks the church for the cards, prayers and food that people have provided and continue to provide.

- Please pray for Nora Quinn's granddaughter (Kelly and her family in Laos) are struggling with the restrictions recently imposed on everyone as Covid sweeps through South East Asia.
- Please pray for Alan Mathieu's brother, Wayne, who is dealing with the end stages of chronic disease.
- Please pray for Richard Corey's daughter-in-law, Kris, who is having cancer treatment.
- Please pray for Sarah Davis' mother, Sydney, and her father, Joe, as he adapts to his role as caregiver.
- Please pray for John Graustein's faithful PT work to strengthen himself.
- Please continue praying for Bee and Norm O'Brien, Ginny Hamilton and Sally Emery.



- 1 Haley Barrett
- 2 Anthony Fasula
- 2 John Reid
- 3 Sarah Simmonds
- 3 Margarete Schnauck
- 4 Melinda Poore
- 7 Nancy Snow
- 7 Charlie Harriman
- 7 Robyn Pfeffer
- 7 Shannon Page
- 13 Julia Poppell
- 14 Nate Geary
- 16 Julian Edson
- 20 Christeen Allen
- 21 Kiersten Marr
- 25 Bee O'Brien
- 28 Amy Jacobson
- 30 Sean Riley

Happy Father's Day



Ushers

June 6: Kim & Steve Hendry
 June 13: Mark & Peggy Horton
 June 20: Bill Nugent & Beth Stouder
 June 27: Seeking more ushers!
 See Larry Perry to find out more

Liturgists

June 6: Ann Sanborn
 June 13: Virginia Eddy
 June 20: Judy Crosby
 June 27: Marilee Beinema



June 2021 Calendar

**Important
Upcoming Dates:**

**July/August
Congregator
Deadline:
June 14th**

**Father's Day:
June 20th**

**Theatre Camp:
June 21- July 2**

**Office Closed:
July 5-11**



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 12-2 PM Staff Appreciation Lunch	2 12 PM Women's Spiritual Book Club 6:30 PM Handbell 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3 8:30 AM Ecu Clergy 6:30 PM Ministry of Missions	4	5
6 10 AM Worship with Communion 10-12 Church School 3:30 PM Boy Scout Invocation	7 12 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Ministry of Worship & Covenant	8 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	9 6:30 PM Handbell 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 7 PM Finance Committee Meeting	11 6:30 PM Coffee House	12 3:30 PM Lattes & Littles
13 10 AM Worship 10-12 Church School 11:30 AM Council of Ministries	14 12 PM Bible Study	15 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	16 6:30 PM Handbell 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	17	18	19
20 Happy Father's Day 10 AM Worship 10-12 Church School	21 12 PM Bible Study	22 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	23 6:30 PM Handbell 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	24	25	26 Memorial Service
27 10 AM Worship 10-12 Church School	28 12 PM Bible Study	29 11:00 AM Staff Mtg	30 6:30 PM Handbell 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal			

Falmouth Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
267 Falmouth Road
Falmouth, ME 04105
Phone: 207-781-3413
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Website: 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 and Pam Carroll, Co-Treasurers
Gini Medford, Financial Secretary
Carol Kauffman MSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse