



From Reverend Amelia Edson

My first job out of college was working as a Head Start teacher. Armed with an Economics and Policy Degree, I signed up with a program that placed recent undergrads in school systems that had trouble recruiting teachers (translation: no one else wanted the job). I found myself in a trailer in Arizona, surrounded by 35 four- and five-year-olds. The learning curve was steep. I immersed myself in learning about learning, and in understanding my young students' brains; what would they need to excel in their academic future?

One of the most important mindsets for academic success, I discovered, was a belief in malleable intelligence; the idea that people are not inherently smart, gifted at birth, but that through working hard we can change our brains and increase our intelligence. My kiddos learned songs about how to "grow their brains" and we chanted "Work Hard! Get Smart!"

I always think of those classroom slogans and songs when Lent rolls around. Lent, as a season, teaches the malleability of our spirits; we may not be inherently kind or generous, patient or self-controlled, but we can take on practices and habits that allow us to cultivate these qualities. While Lent is often portrayed as a season of deprivation, it is actually based on a profound hope for change and growth, and a belief that through refocusing on our spirits, we can become better versions of ourselves.

This season, our Lenten Learning will focus on one of our most valuable resources—the wisdom held in this community. All are invited to attend a Lenten Supper (full schedule below) where we will share a simple soup and bread meal and take turns sharing our stories by answering open ended questions designed to help us share our experiences of faith. We will listen, share, and learn, so that we may "grow our hearts" and "Work hard, Get kind!"

~ Reverend Amelia
 Email: Pastorameliafcc@gmail.com

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LENTEN SUPPER SCHEDULE: 6-8 PM in Fellowship Hall

Thursdays, March 5th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd
Tuesday, March 10th

This year's Lenten Suppers will draw upon the wisdom, authenticity, and varied life experiences of our gathered community. Over a simple meal of bread and soup we will take turns sharing stories of our faith in response to open ended questions. This program is designed to stand on its own, so no need to come to more than one. If you like to make (or buy!) bread or salad/veggies please put a checkmark by your name, otherwise just bring yourself! The sign up poster is in Fellowship Hall.





COUNCIL CORNER FOR MARCH

Happy Winter everyone!

First a special thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Annual Meeting. We easily had a quorum with 54 members attending.

We welcomed several new members to the Council at our most recent meeting on Sunday, February 9th. We welcomed Anne Coleman, David Giansiracusa, Sarah Davis and Laurie Davis.

Anne will serve as Vice-Moderator for the coming year and will chair the Personnel Committee and Laurie will be the Church Clerk. The other members of the Council are Carol Kaufman, Kathy Bowden, Mark Horton, Kim Mason and myself.

We were very pleased that the Solar Project was approved at the Annual Meeting. We are now working with Goggin Energy to finalize the contract and complete the structural engineering review/report. Jeaneen Coleman and Charlie Herriman have successfully raised \$68,500 to date for the project. We need a total of \$72,000. If you are interested in donating, please contact Jeaneen.

We also discussed planning a fun event for the Church in the fall such as a boat cruise in Portland Harbor. Basically it would be some type of event that would require minimal effort on the congregation's part and would give us a chance to just enjoy each other's company and have fun. Stay tuned! Kim Mason has offered to begin planning. He could use one or two other people to assist, so if you are interested please see Kim.

See you all around the church and beyond!

~ Kim Hendry, Moderator

shendry001@maine.rr.com





Upcoming at the Coffee House!

The Coffee House will be hosting local musicians for your listening pleasure. Paul Davis is in charge of scheduling the groups to entertain you, your family, friends and neighbors. A schedule is listed below.

March 13	Darlin' Corey	www.darlincorey.com
April 3	Sibylline	www.Sibyllinetheband.com
May 8	TBD	

Come enjoy a great cup of coffee, a snack and support the arts and your church!
The doors open at 6:30 PM and ends around 9 PM. All Welcome!



**The April Congregator
deadline is
Sunday, March 8, 2020**

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

Social Media Update:

We are expanding our social media presence to share the gospel and reach new people. If you haven't already followed us on Facebook, search for Falmouth Congregational Church and add us as a friend-liking our posts helps more people find us!



Instagram

We have recently setup an Instagram account. For those that do not use this application, it is somewhat like Facebook except the focus is more on photos.

Follow us on Instagram @Falmouth.UCC. If you would like to help in this mission, **we would love any photos you have involving the church (new or old)**, spirituality, or landscapes of the town of Falmouth. Examples could include, events held at FCC, cherished wedding/ baptism/ confirmation photos, or anything you find inspiring. Please send any pictures or videos to fcc.ucc.desk@gmail.com where they will be filtered through and posted accordingly. Thank you!

Ministry of Christian Education



KIDS' CHURCH

The CE Ministry had a fantastic February. It started off with a fun and colorful intergenerational service for communion Sunday. We have been continuing our lessons on the tools that Jesus used to teach people about God's love. We will be finishing up this unit as we get closer to Easter.



CHILI FUNDRAISER

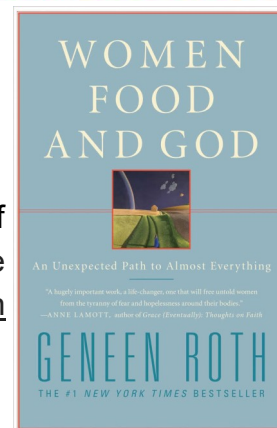
We are so excited about the results of the fundraiser and would like to thank all the volunteers as well as anyone who helped support us by buying our chili! We raised just shy of \$500.00 from our annual super bowl chili fundraiser and made 62 quarts of chili!

~ Kristen



WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL BOOK GROUP

This is a diverse and dynamic group that enjoys rich dialogue, lots of laughs and new faces. Sound intrigued?! For our March Book Group we will meet on March 4th at Noon. We will be reading the book Women Food and God by Geneen Roth, which was a #1 NYT bestseller.



PILGRIM LODGE

Camp registration is now open!

It is preferred that campers register online at: <https://www.pilgrimlodge.org/register-for-camp/> or download a paper copy to fill out and mail in. There is camping fun for all ages and something for all interests. This is a Maine UCC campsite supported by you! If you have questions or need help with forms, you are welcome to come to the office and we will be glad to assist you.

Ministry of Missions

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING ON MARCH 29



This important offering from our church is one of the “5 for 5” missions of the National United Church of Christ. OGHS supports international programs of health, education, agricultural development, relief, and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries. Your donations will be collected during Lent, with

Dedication Day on Sunday, March 29.

WE ARE WORKING ON ASSEMBLING SCHOOL KITS FOR CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Many thanks to everyone for your wonderful support of the school kits that will be shipped to the Church World Service. Due to your generosity, we will make, and perhaps exceed, our goal!

CHRISTMAS FUND OFFERING

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross is a United Church of Christ annual offering that supports retired and active clergy in need. Thanks to your generosity, during this past Advent and Christmas season, our church collected \$327 for this mission.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WALK & FUN RUN ON GOOD FRIDAY (APRIL 10, 2020)

Walk or run for Habitat! Join the Falmouth Congregational Church team and enjoy this 34th annual event with family, friends, and community members in Cumberland, Yarmouth, and North Yarmouth, and help fund raise for Habitat's mission. Walk or run it anytime between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Family- and pet-friendly!

- Location: The Congregational Church in Cumberland/United Church of Christ (282 Main Street, Cumberland)
- Distance: Optional 3-mile, 5-mile, 10-mile, and 20-mile routes

For more information: (207) 772-2151 and/or <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/2020goodfridaywalk>



Ministry of Missions (continued)

FAMILY PROMISE PROGRAM

Thank you for all your help with the Family Promise Program! We continue to make a positive difference in the lives of many families, one family at a time. Working together with the Congregational Church in Cumberland UCC, Foreside Community Church UCC, and the Tuttle Road United Methodist Church has gone well, and it has been wonderful to have the help and creativity of some new volunteers.

The next time that our church serves as a host congregation will be from **Sunday evening May 3, 2020, through Sunday morning May 10, 2020**. Please consider participating in one of these volunteer opportunities:

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



The next volunteer training class will be on **March 1, 2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the Woodfords Club (179 Woodford Street in Portland). If you have any questions, please contact Steve at 333-8780.

Family Promise Update from Executive Director, Sara Ewing- Merrill:

Since launching in July 2017, we have served 40 families made up of 167 individuals. 58% of people we have served are children. 37% of the children served were ages 5 and under! We have found housing for 31 families, and have an overall housing success rate of 84%. Thanks for all your hard work!

THE FALMOUTH FOOD PANTRY

For March the Falmouth Food Pantry is open on:

- Monday, March 2, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 10, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, March 12, 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 16, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, March 17, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, March 19, 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 24, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- Thursday, March 26, 4:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m.

The Falmouth Food Pantry currently needs the following items:

- White rice (small bags of plain, non-instant white rice)
- Jam or jelly (to go with peanut butter)
- Feminine products

Thank you very much!



Easter Flower Order Form

Easter Sunday, April 12

Easter is a special time when we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Spring bulb flowers are a symbol of rebirth. We give these flowers in honor and in memory of loved ones and to the Glory of God. If you would like to order flowers for the Easter Services, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate with your payment.

*** The deadline for flower orders and inclusion in the bulletin listing is Monday, March 23.**

Please call the church office, 781-3413, if you have any questions. Thank you.

Please indicate the type and number of plants on the order form below.

PRICING: Lilies & Tulips are \$12, miniature Daffodils are \$6.

Please make checks payable to: Falmouth Congregational Church and write "Easter Flowers" in the memo section.

I would like to purchase a plant (or plants) for the Easter Service:

Lilies (\$12) _____ Tulips (\$12) _____ Daffodils (\$6) _____ Total due \$ _____

In Loving **Memory** of: _____

In Loving **Memory** of: _____

In Loving **Memory** of: _____

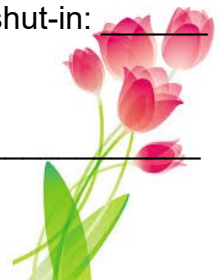
In Loving **Memory** of: _____

In **Honor** of: _____

In **Honor** of: _____

After the service: I will pick up my plant(s): _____ **OR** Please deliver to a shut-in: _____

Given by: _____ **Phone:** _____





Prayer Shawl Ministry

We plan to meet in the Grant room on:
Thursday, March 12th, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
weather permitting

We look forward to seeing you!
 Happy St. Patrick's Day!! *Judy Nilsen*



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.

EASTER PLANTS

PRICING:

Lilies & Tulips are \$12, Miniature Daffodils are \$6.

Please submit the order form on page 7 by: **Monday, March 23.**
 You may also find forms inserted in our March Bulletins.



PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Falmouth Congregational Church and
 write "Easter Flowers" in the check's
 memo section.

Thank you! And
HAPPY EASTER!!



Easter Egg Hunt

EASTER EGG HUNT ~ COORDINATOR HUNT

PLEASE consider helping make this year's Easter Egg Hunt on April 11th happen by serving as a volunteer coordinator.

Sign-up will begin soon, and a key person is needed (or two people could job-share), to coordinate and oversee the event, alongside the Head Easter Bunny, by making sure the volunteers know their assignments, setting up a schedule and other logistics.

This is a time-limited project--it's over by Easter--not an indefinite commitment, and your work will be essential to continuing what has become an annual community event. If you can sign on as a coordinator, please contact the church office, Moderator Kim Hendry, Kristen Coleman or any member of the Council of Ministries. **THANK YOU!**

Church Family News ...



Dear FCC Congregation,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$500, your gift will ensure that SMAA's staff can offer one-on-one assistance that helps older adults and caregivers navigate the journey of aging.

"Sally" recently came to SMAA after being diagnosed with cancer. She couldn't continue working and was overwhelmed and confused by medical bills. She worked with a SMAA Resource Specialist who found that she was eligible for Medicare and helped expedite her retroactive coverage.

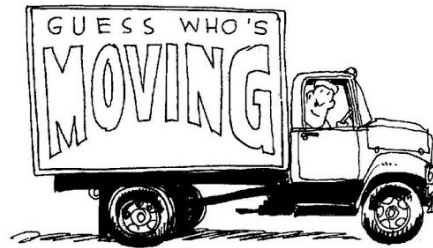
Your generous gift will help extend the same compassionate support and assistance to nearly 20,000 older adults in Maine like "Sally".



Sincerely,
Megan M. Walton
Chief Executive Officer
Southern Maine Agency on Aging

We lift in prayer ~

- Maureen Grubb
- Ginny Hamilton
- James Klenk
- Rev. Beinema
- Zack Couture
- Faith & Erlon Varney
- John Graustein
- Joan Bamel
- Bee O'Brien
- Myron Krueger
- Maytha Southard
- Carol Kauffman



Best wishes to Ruth Smith, who is moving to Charleston, South Carolina for warmer weather and a change of pace. We will miss you!



March Birthdays

- 4 - Jean Jett
- 4 - Trent Macgowan
- 5 - Paul Cousins
- 8 - Kim Hendry
- 11 - Anna Poore
- 11 - Katharine Poore
- 14 - Erlon Varney
- 15 - John Wilcox
- 16 - Helen Tupper-Southard
- 17 - Christine Pfeffer
- 22 - Madeline Bender

- 23 - Karen Jones
- 24 - Maytha Southard
- 24 - Monica Aaskov
- 26 - Richard Wheeler
- 27 - Eric Christopher
- 29 - Mary Lou Endicott
- 30 - Spring Pillsbury
- 30 - Lydia Farmer
- 31 - Louise Caruso
- 31 - Jack "hot sauce" Davis



**BLESSINGS
ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY**

March Worship Attendants

Liturgists

- 1 - Eunice Wilcox
- 8 - Ann Sanborn
- 15 - Marilee Beinema
- 22 - Nancy Lightbody
- 29 - Barbara Fleming



Please contact Larry Perry at 797-2928 if you would like to serve the church by participating in the morning worship service.

Thank you.

Ushers

- 1 - Mark and Peggy Horton; Steve Hendry and Paul Davis
- 8 - Jo and Joe Blinick; Mollie and Kim Mason
- 15 - Larry and Sue Perry; Phil and Rae Pierce
- 22- Nancy Lightbody, Pam Carroll, Judy Nilsen, and Lorraine Bergen
- 29 - Jack Davis, Jim Parr, Virginia Eddy and Jennifer Bissell

Please contact Mark Horton, if you would like to be added to the Usher rotation. Ushering isn't a huge commitment of time and is a very much appreciated service to your church.

Greeters

- 1 - Chan and Kathie Sinnett
- 8 - Lorraine Bergen
- 15 - Jo and Joe Blinick
- 22 - Edie and John Boothby
- 29 - Pam Carroll



If you would like to be added as a Greeter: please contact a member of the Ministry of Community Life: Rae Pierce at 781-3769.

Communion Preparers *Sunday, March 1*

Jane Stegemann, Judy Nilsen, Randy Boardway & Jim Parr



Chancel Flowers

No one has signed up for Chancel Flowers for the month of March! If you would like to provide flowers please contact the office, 781-3413.



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!**

Falmouth Congregational Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
1 Communion 9 AM Choir Practice 10 AM Worship & Kids' Church 11:15 AM Coffee Hour 1 PM Youth Group Planning Mtg. 7 PM Scout Committee Meeting	2 9 AM Food Pantry Open 7 PM Ministry of Worship & Covenant	3 9 AM Aerobics 10 AM Bible Study at Ocean View 10:45AM– T'ai Chi 11:30AM Staff Meeting	4 9AM Aerobics 12:00AM Spiritual Women's Book Club (Parlor) 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 8:30AM Ecumenical Clergy Meeting 6PM Lenten Supper 6:30PM Ministry of Missions 7PM Boy Scouts	6 9 AM Aerobics	7 Don't forget to change your clocks tonight. 
8 9 AM Choir Practice 10 AM Worship & Kids' Church 11:15 AM Coffee Hour 11:30 AM Council of Ministries Congregator Deadline for April Submissions	9 7 PM Fiddle-icious Rehearsal	10 9 AM Aerobics 9:30 AM Food Pantry Open 10 AM Bible Study at OceanView 10:45AM T'ai Chi 11:30AM Staff Mtg. 12:30PM Coffee with the Pastor 6PM Lenten Supper 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	11 9AM Aerobics 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6PM Finance Committee Meeting 7 PM Boy Scouts	13 9 AM Aerobics 6:30 PM Coffee House Music by: Darlin' Corey 	14 10:30AM Pinewood Derby Track Set Up
15 One Great Hour of Sharing Appeal 9 AM Choir Practice 10 AM Worship & Kids' Church 11:15 Coffee Hour 1:30PM Troop 36~ Pinewood Derby	16 9 AM Food Pantry Open 6 PM Fiddle-icious Meeting 7 PM Fiddle-icious Scotland Rehearsal	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY 9 AM Aerobics 9:30 AM Food Pantry Open 10 AM Bible Study at OceanView 10:45AM T'ai Chi 11:30AM Staff Mtg.	18 9AM Aerobics 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6PM Lenten Supper 7 PM Boy Scouts	20 9 AM Aerobics	21
22 9 AM Choir Practice 10 AM Worship & Kids' Church 11:15 AM Coffee Hour 11:30 PM Ministry of Christian Education	23 Easter Flower Orders Due 7 PM Fiddle-icious Rehearsal	24 9 AM Aerobics 9:30 AM Food Pantry Open 10 AM Bible Study at OceanView 11:30AM Staff Mtg. 12:30PM Coffee with the Pastor	25 9AM Aerobics 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	26 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6PM Lenten Supper 7PM Boy Scouts	27 9 AM Aerobics	28
29 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering 9 AM Choir Practice 10 AM Worship & Kids' Church 11:15 AM Coffee Hour	30 1PM Called to Care Meeting	31 9AM Aerobics 10AM Bible Study at Oceanview 11:30AM Staff Mtg.				

Falmouth Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
267 Falmouth Road
Falmouth, ME 04105

Office phone: 207-781-3413
Office e-mail: FCCOFFFC@gmail.com
Web site: www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org



’ God is Still Speaking!



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

MINISTRIES

Kim Hendry
Chair, Council of Ministries

Kristen Coleman
Chair, Ministry of Christian Education

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

Eunice Wilcox
Ministry of Facilities

Steve Hendry
Chair, Ministry of Missions

Larry Perry
Chair, Ministry of Worship & Covenant



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Amelia Edson
Settled Pastor

Doris Krueger
Minister of Music

Kristen Coleman
Christian Education Administrator

Katharina Roderick
Office Manager, Newsletter Editor

Ruth Smith
Interim, Office Assistant

Matthew Strobel
Sexton

OFFICERS

Kim Hendry, *Moderator*

Anne Coleman, *Vice Moderator*

Laurie Davis, *Clerk*

Pam Carroll, *Treasurer*

Gini Medford, *Financial Secretary*

Carol Kauffman MSN, RN, *Faith Community Nurse*