

THE CONGREGATOR

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A Letter From The Pastor

Dear Falmouth Congregational Church,

The book of Ecclesiastes reminds us that “there is a time for everything under the sun, a time to mourn and a time to rejoice.” In November we will be doing both of these things. On November 7th we will be celebrating God’s love at the Communion table while mourning our loved ones for Remembrance Sunday. On November 14th we will be celebrating our Minister of Music, Doris Kruger, for her 25 years of tremendous leadership in our music program while saying our goodbyes as she begins her retirement. November 20th is the Holly Days Fair, a time to revel in our community, neighbors, and the joys of sweet treats. Sunday, November 21st we will give thanks together on Thanksgiving Sunday and hear a special musical performance from our Church School Children.

Pastor Amelia will be out of the office for professional development from Nov. 8-12

Then, on November 28th we enter into the season of Advent. This is a season in which we celebrate God’s promises of peace, hope, joy and love while we also wait in the darkness for Christ to break into the world once again. It is a season where we dwell in the beauty and majesty of God while fully acknowledging all the places where the earth is not yet “as it is in heaven.”

This season we will be worshipping and waiting alongside the devotional *Mary, Revolution of Love*, which will invite us to play and pray with color with take home art opportunities for adults and children alike.

There is much happening in the life of this community! It is a blessing to be doing all of these “activities under the sun” accompanied by you and, at every moment, our good and ever-present God.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Amelia



UPCOMING events



*Remembrance Sunday
November 7th, 2021*

— HAPPY — Retirement

*Farewell Reception for Doris
Krueger ~ 11 am November 14th*

Doris Krueger has served as our Minister of Music since September 1995. Now, after her many years of service, Doris is retiring. Her last Sunday will be November 14th with a celebration and reception after service.

COUNCIL

Corner

A Message from our Moderator

Hi everyone,

It is hard to believe that we are preparing for the final few months of the year here at FCC but we are doing just that. And that means that we are also planning for 2022 including the stewardship campaign and budget. I appreciate everyone turning in their pledge cards as soon as possible. I cannot emphasize just how important the pledges are, regardless of the size, for our budget planning process. Every dollar pledged is another dollar we can count on for the budget. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or Paul Davis or Pastor Amelia.

If you have driven by the parsonage, you probably noticed that the property is officially for sale. It was listed on the MLS this past Thursday, October 21st. The listing agent is Chris Davis of Vitalius Real Estate Group. We have had good activity in the first few days so let's hope that transpires to a sale soon.

As I mentioned I am already thinking about 2022 and as such there will be two vacancies on the Council. Mark Horton's and Carol Kaufman's terms are up at the end of 2021. They were actually done at the end of 2020 but they both agreed to stay on for one more year due to the pandemic. If you are interested in joining the Council, please give me a call and I'd be happy to talk more about it with you. We love to have new voices helping us to guide the church forward.

We are also looking forward to the Holly Days Fair which will happen on Saturday Nov. 20th. The Holly Days Fair Team has a lot of fun planned which should put us all in the holiday spirit. Hope to see you there!

Many blessings,

Kim Hendry, Moderator

khendry1972@gmail.com

[207-756-9343](tel:207-756-9343)



Holly Days Fair

November 20th, 2021 10am - 1pm



This will be a “pedestrian” fair and booths will be setup inside Beinema Hall and outside in pop-up tents. Runners will be available for curbside pick-up for those who wish not to go inside church buildings. Credit cards can be used for the first time this year, although no online pre-orders will be taken. You’ll be able to come and buy all of your favorite things, i.e. Pies, cookies, lobster stew, handcrafts, boutique items, gift bags and can’t forget, wreaths and maybe a few surprises. This fair will be open to the public, so bring your friends!

Wreath Decorating Workshop

Please join us for fun and fellowship on Sunday November 14th to decorate wreaths for the Holly Days Fair. We’ll meet in Beinema Hall and you can drop in anytime between 2-5. No experience necessary, if you have wire cutters please bring them. This is a great activity to get in the holiday spirit!!!!



Silent Auction

We are looking for items for the Silent Auction. Things like gift certificates to specific items such as large handcrafted items, baskets filled with a theme or services to provide, tickets to a game or a show, etc. all make great ideas. Please contact Kathy Whitmore (kathylizwhitmore@gmail.com) for additional information.

Who to Contact to Contribute:

- Lobster Stew – Paul Davis (nevis56@gmail.com)
- Breads/Pies – Maureen Grubb (mgrubb04@aol.com)/
Jeaneen Coleman (rcoleman001@maine.rr.com)
- Hand crafts – Judy Crosby (Judyjcrosby@gmail.com)
- Candy – Kathleen Henderson
(wkhend10@maine.rr.com)
- Filled Gift Bags – Kathy Whitmore
(kathylizwhitmore@gmail.com)
- Steve Hendry, the Holly Days Fair Chair
Stevrunn@gmail.com Phone: 207-333-8780.

Boutique

The boutique has become a lot of fun in recent years. We are looking for clothes and accessories in good condition— anything from dresses and shirts to scarves, purses, shoes and hats. Please contact Beth Stouder (egs8657@gmail.com) or Mollie Mason (mollieomason@gmail.com) for additional information.

Cookie Walk

We are looking for cookie bakers to help our Cookie walk table. Sugar, ginger snaps, chocolate chip, oatmeal scotch cookies...whatever you like to make. Please contact Sue Perry (lperry1@maine.rr.com) for more information.

MINISTRY OF

Finance

Please contact Gini Medford (ginifcc@maine.rr.com) if you would like Offertory Envelopes

Kitchen Remodel Update

After many months of hard work from many people in the church, the new kitchen is finally open for business. We had some delays with back ordered items that held up the completion until now. Starting next week, when Matthew returns from vacation, we will be restocking the pots and pans and other cooking items now in storage.



The renovation idea was proposed almost two years ago at the 2020 annual meeting. Jeaneen Coleman did an awesome job raising the money to help make this wish a reality. Last fall we hired an architect firm, Harriman Associates, to work with a small committee of the church to design the new kitchen. The goal was a kitchen that was safe, easy to clean, and most important, workable for any event the church or community would require.

The largest investment was all new updated wiring and plumbing in the kitchen and a new electrical panel downstairs. No more fuses! We also installed a hand sink (required), vegetable sink, and a 3 bay sink. The old gas stove was rusted, so it was replaced with a new gas stove with 8 burners and two ovens. A new commercial dishwasher has replaced the old one, which we sold to a restaurant in Brewer.

New floor, new washable walls, new ceiling with LED lights, and stainless-steel tables, completes the kitchen remodel. The two retractable openings into Beinema Hall remain for serving. The entrance door was moved into the hallway from Fellowship Hall. Will have a finalized budget in the next couple of weeks, but right now it looks like we came in on budget!

~Paul Davis, Ken Bowden, Matthew Strobel

*They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season.*



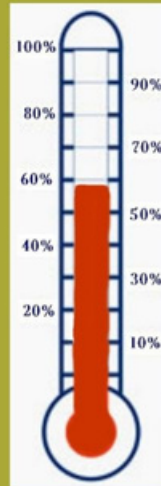
Psalm 1: 3a

Stewardship 2022

Week 2

Pledges: 32, totaling \$117,828

Which means we are
at 59% of our goal of
\$200,000!



Falmouth Congregational Church

missions **Special Offering: The Christmas Fund**

The Ministry of Missions has set a goal of being a "5 for 5 Church." This means that our congregation stands with many other Maine churches as a true advocate of selected national and worldwide United Church of Christ missions. Because our church contributes to all four special mission offerings in the UCC (One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and The Christmas Fund) and also gives to Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support, we are a 5 for 5 church.



The Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross is a United Church of Christ annual offering that supports ministries to lower-income retired clergy and lay employees as well as to active clergy facing unforeseen financial crises. Retired pastors, church office assistants, or ministers of music continue to touch the lives of all of us. Thank you for your generosity in honoring their ministries in a way that will help them.

Please consider making a contribution to this far-reaching ministry of the UCC by sending a check to "Falmouth Congregational Church" with "Christmas Fund" mentioned in the memo line. This appeal runs during Advent, beginning on Sunday, November 28, through Sunday, December 19, 2021.

**Angel Tree Gifts:
Due Dec. 5th!**

Once again during this ongoing virus, generous church members have said they still wanted to bring smiles to many young faces on Christmas Day. This year our Angel Tree gifts will meet the needs of 20 children identified by the Falmouth Food Pantry.



After November 14, please choose your gift on a website that will be listed in the weekly All-Church E-mail Messages on Wednesdays.

We encourage all gifts to be returned to the large labeled bin outside Fellowship Hall no later than Sunday, December 5. Please wrap and label each gift.

The recipients are deeply grateful, and each year the families are very appreciative of our congregation for our thoughtful and generous response to the children's needs and wishes at the holiday season. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670. Thank you!



**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.

MINISTRY OF

missions

No one expected our church to win the cereal-collecting competition, but it's obvious you've all got some **TRIX** up your sleeves! Many thanks to those who have donated cold cereal for the Falmouth Food Pantry. We wish we could thank you personally, but we don't know who you are. Just know that you **CHEERED** up many families! Our church is continuing to collect **COLD CEREAL** for the Falmouth Food Pantry during November, and December. If you would like, please put boxes of **COLD CEREAL** into the collection bin outside Fellowship Hall, and they will be given to grateful Food Pantry families. Thank you very much, and **CHEERIO!**

The Falmouth Food Pantry would not be able to do what it currently does without the support of so many members of our community. During the pandemic, the Food Pantry has been extremely grateful for donations of Falmouth-grown fresh produce and eggs, volunteers who pack boxes of food, volunteers who deliver the boxes to families who are not able to get out of their homes, and monetary gifts that help purchase supplies. In addition, the Food Pantry is able to get food free or at drastically reduced prices from Good Shepherd Food Bank, Wayside Food Rescue, and Cultivating Community on the Gray Road in West Falmouth.

If you have questions or know someone with an urgent need, please call Nancy Lightbody at 781-4670. And thank you for your continuing support!

**UNDERWEAR NEEDED FOR PREBLE STREET RESOURCE CENTER**

Many thanks to those of you have already donated! Because the Preble Street Day Center, which serves the homeless population, is closed during the pandemic, people do not have access to its laundry facilities.

Most needed at this time:

For men: Boxers are preferred - mainly in small and medium sizes

For women: Various styles - anything from small sizes up to size 11 or 12

Outside Fellowship Hall next to the box for the Food Pantry there is a tub where you may drop off any donations. Thank you in advance for helping to meet this need in the community. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Perry at lperry1@maine.rr.com or call 207-797-2928.

What celebrity is always ready for cereal?

REESE, WITH HER SPOON

What is an English teacher's favorite cereal?

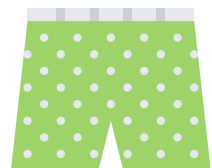
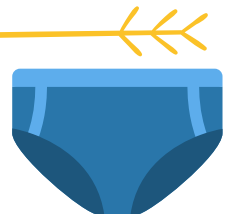
SYNONYM TOAST CRUNCH

What do you call someone who eats a lot of cereal?

A **CEREAL** killer.

How does cereal pay its bills?

With **CHEX**.



MINISTRY OF
community life
**Transfer of Leadership of
Prayer Shawl Ministry**



We, at the Ministry of Community Life, want to share with you our honoring of Judy Nilsen, who has joyfully and faithfully served for 16 years as the chairperson of our Prayer Shawl Ministry! We are extremely grateful for her work that started in 2005 when she took over for Diane Eakins who moved to PA. Judy has led, supported, and encouraged all of the knitters and since its inception 644 prayer shawls have been knit by 20 women. At this time, there are ten (10) knitters from our church who create beautiful shawls/blankets that provide warmth and comfort. Joanne Varga helped Judy for several years as the group grew and many shawls have been given in celebration and in sorrow for those in our church and beyond. Judy has provided many inspiring monthly letters to her prayer shawl group and has recently shared these messages with the congregation as well. Each shawl has been blessed in the church and an accompanying card is always attached to each shawl/blanket which reads as follows:

“We pray this blessing for you:

Be well.

Be warm.

Be comforted.

Be loved.

We hope that this shawl will bring you warmth and peace. If you or your family find that you no longer need this shawl please, 'pass it on' to someone who may find it comforting. On this date, and around our gathered circle, this shawl has passed through our praying hands and has been blessed by our loving hearts.”

Many people are thankful for the prayer shawl ministry and the thank you card included herein is just one example of many we have received in appreciation:

“Dear Heidi,

I have received a beautiful 'mixed berries' prayer shawl from Joan Ashley. I am so grateful to be presented with such a work of art. More so, as this has been a difficult time for me personally. Indeed now...I am getting well, I am warmed, I am comforted, and I see I am loved. Thank God and all of you in the Prayer Shawl Ministry for your prayers and generosity. 'There is no such thing as coincidence rather God wishing to remain anonymous'.

In faith and gratitude, Hope”

Please write notes of thanks to Judy Nilsen: 23 Merrill Road Falmouth, Maine 04105

While no one can replace Judy Nilsen, we are very grateful that Eunice Wilcox and Julia Poppell will co-lead the Prayer Shawl Ministry, a most important and faithful contribution to the ministries at Falmouth Congregational Church!

Thankfully Submitted by, Jane Stegemann

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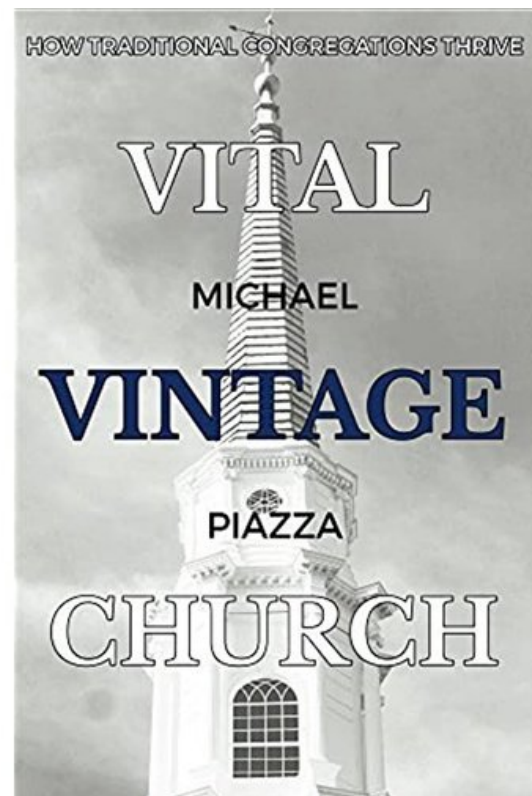
community life

Women's Spiritual Book Group

On November 3rd at noon we will meet in the parlor or on Zoom to discuss Vital Vintage Church by Rev. Michael Piazza who has seen enough signs of hope to convince him that, if we can change the narrative of doom and gloom, many of our vintage churches are poised to experience a time of great renewal. It won't happen if we continue to do business as usual, but it also won't require us to abandon the church we love.



To those who may be joining us for the first time, please email Cathy Bowden at cathybbowden@gmail.com or call 776-5543. We'd love to have you join us! Get a head start on December: we will be reading Love Warrior: A Memoir by Glennon Doyle



Falmouth Congregational Church

Bicycle Club



Eight of us - all affiliated with Falmouth Church, met Friday, October 15th at 11 a.m. at Southern Maine Medical Center in Biddeford and made our way toward Kennebunk on the Eastern Trail, and back - 12.2 miles roundtrip.

Riders included Eunice Wilcox, Jane Stegemann, Laurie Davis, Lauren Jordy, John Wilcox, Jack Davis, Jim Scherer, and Jim Parr. After reaching the halfway point we took a break on school grounds in Kennebunk. Some of us just relaxed; others did the same while enjoying a snack. That is, until a police woman politely asked us to leave school property... We did, cheerfully and without incident.

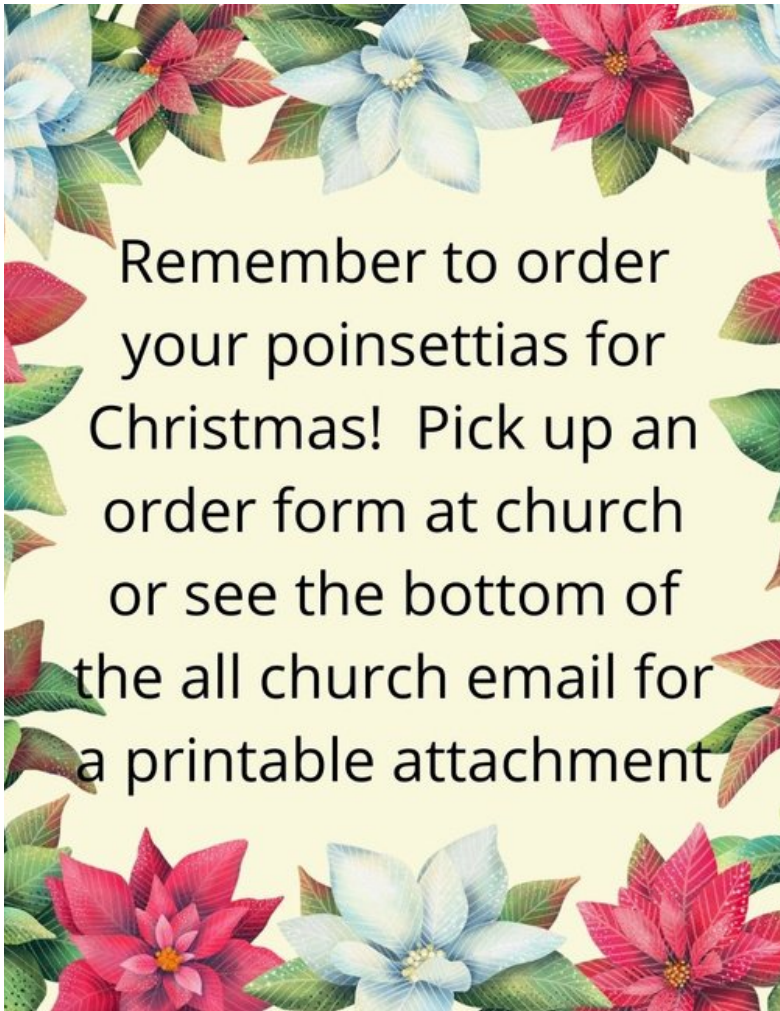
As a group we decided to have a scheduled lunch break during our subsequent hikes. That way we'll have more social time together.

If interested in joining the group, please call Jim Parr or any of the folks listed above.

~Jim Parr, 415-8444

MINISTRY OF
community life

*Next Month: Christmas Card
Writing: Wednesday, December
8, 10:00am*



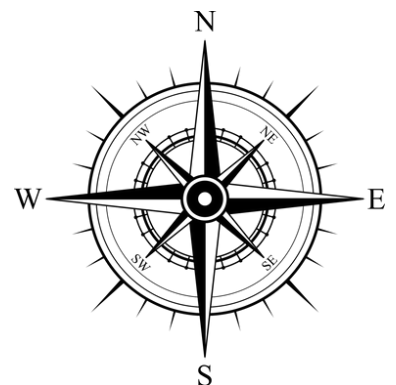
Volunteers Needed:

Our Church School is growing! Ms. Kristen is looking for volunteers to come spend an hour (10am - 11am) with our youngest Christians to assist with a pre-planned lesson. Can you help?

This fall, the children are going on a spiritual journey. The Kid's Church is diving deep into the geography of biblical times. We have been learning about maps, compasses, travel, and important landmarks in biblical times. As we learn about the journey that ancient biblical characters are taking through the holy lands, we are learning about our own spiritual journeys. How do we find our way in our life? Just like we use a map to navigate our physical journeys, we must use our heart maps to find our path in life. The children are taking a spiritual journey to identify and create their heart maps. We will be taking spiritual nature walks, creating our own compasses, creating 3-D maps of biblical geography, going on scavenger hunts, and much more!

~ Ms. Kristen Tripp, Christian Education Minister

MINISTRY OF
Christian education



November Birthdays

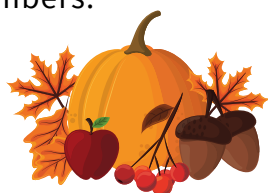
- 1 - Nick Fasulo
- 2 - Ethan Hendry
- 3 - Graham Whiting
- 4 - Jessica Collins
- 7 - Parker Olen
- 8 - Kailyn Walker
- 11 - Ken Bowden
- 27 - Rebecca Coffey



Liturgists

- 7 - Marilee Beinema
- 14 - Ann Sanborn
- 21 - Lydia Hill
- 28 - Virginia Eddy

- Please keep the officers and staff of the Falmouth Police Department in your prayers.
- We praise God for the COVID 19 vaccine!
- Thank you to employees and volunteers who serve our church and members.



We Lift in Prayer...



- Please pray for Lauren Jordy's daughter, Jillian, who is suffering from mononucleosis, Lauren is bringing Jillian home from college to receive rest and care.
- Please pray lovingly for Val Gray's parents who are transitioning into a new home.
- We pray with Jennifer Bissell who injured her leg while keeping one of her special education students safe. Cards of support and encouragement can be sent to: 122 Middle Road Cumberland 04021.
- Prayers for strength and perseverance for Terri Collins as she continues to struggle with long haul COVID.
- Please pray for Judy Crosby's and her family as they continue to care for her father.
- We raise up prayers of joy with Maureen Grubb -- her levels are down and her cancer continues to be in remission- Praise God!
- Please continue to keep the Smith family in your prayers; Kaye and Jim as they care for James and James as he continues to suffer from undiagnosed pain. Pray also that his medical team may find a solution. James loves cards: 127 Winn Road Falmouth ME 04105.

CHURCH family news

- Please pray for Sally Emery who is working hard to gain mobility and adjust to life after two strokes. Sally loves getting cards and displays them in her room. You can send a card to: PO Box 102 Gray, ME 04039.
- Please pray for Joyce Harmon who is in the care of hospice. Please write messages of encouragement to jshquilter1935@gmail.com.
- Please pray for Richard Corey's daughter-in-law, Kris, who is having cancer treatment.
- Bee O'Brien is working hard at Falmouth by the Sea to get stronger and she wants to return home. Please keep her and Norm in your prayers.
- Ginny Hamilton is in hospice care. She loves receiving cards: 300 Spring Street Room 4A Springbrook Center, Westbrook, Maine 04092
- We rejoice that Alan Mathieu's brother, Wayne, has seen improvements. His energy and mobility has increased and he is needing less oxygen. The family asks for your continued prayers.
- Please pray for Judy Nilsen who has retired from leading the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Notes of thanks can be sent to 23 Merrill Road, Falmouth, ME 04105.

November 2021 Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 Sexton vacation 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM All Fiddle-icious 7 PM Worship & Covenant	2 Sexton returns 11 AM Staff Meeting	3 12 PM Women's Spiritual Book Club 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Choir	4 8:30 AM Ecumenical Clergy Mtg 6:30 PM Ministry of Missions 7 PM Troop 93	5	6
7 10 AM Worship with Communion: Remembrance Sunday 7 PM Troop 93	8 Pastor Amelia at NGLI Fellowship 12 PM Bible Study	9 11:00 AM Staff Mtg 6:30 PM Cub Scout Meeting	10 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Choir	11 7 PM Finance Committee Mtg 7:00 PM Troop 93	12	13 Pastor Amelia returns Fall Cleanup
14 10 AM Worship 11 AM Farewell Party for Doris Krueger 11:30 Council Mtg 2 PM Wreath Making	15 Congregator Deadline 12 PM Bible Study 7 PM All Fiddle-icious	16 11:00 AM Staff Meeting 1 PM - 4 PM UCC Orientation	17 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Choir	18 7:00 PM Troop 93	19	20 Holly Days Fair 10 AM - 1 PM 
21 10 AM Worship 11:30 Lattes & Littles 	22 12 PM Bible Study	23 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	24 1 PM Office Closing Early 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 7:30 PM Choir	25 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed 	26	27 Private Party 12 PM - 3 PM
28 10 AM Worship - First Sunday in Advent.	29 12 PM Bible Study	30 11:00 AM Staff Meeting				

Falmouth Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
267 Falmouth Road
Falmouth, ME 04105
Phone: 207-781-3413
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

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 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