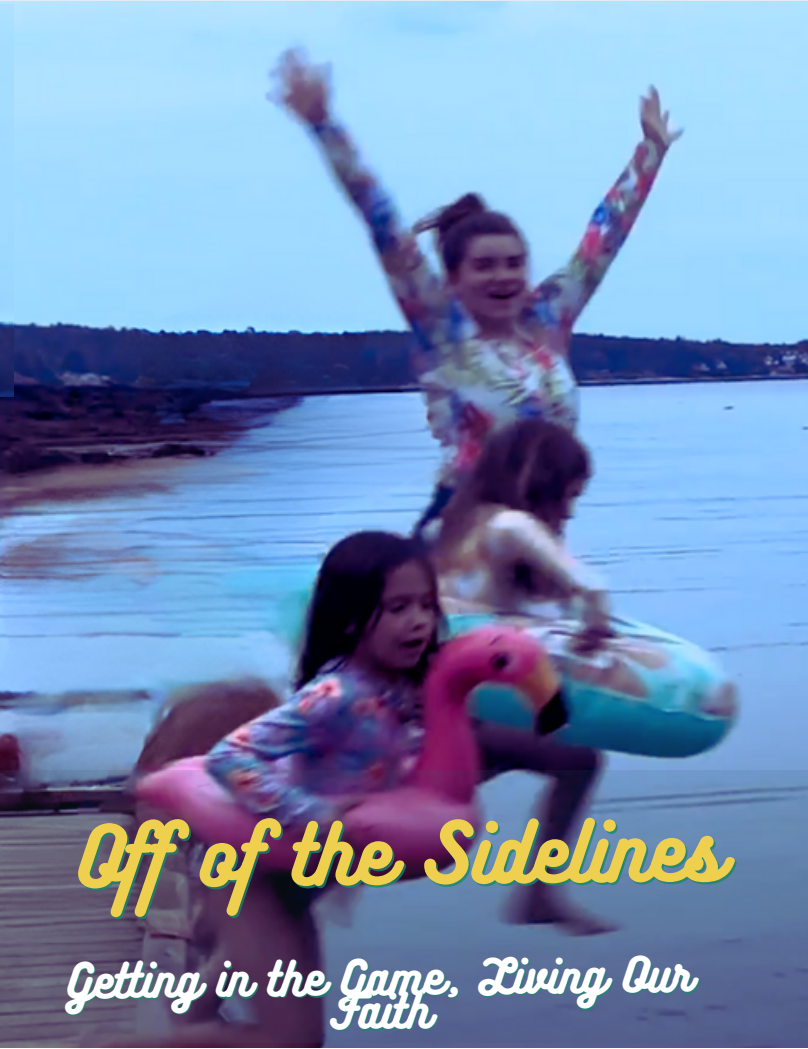
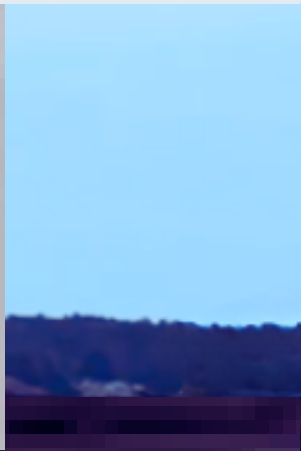




THE CONGREGATOR

- 1 - Pastor's Message
- 2 - Liturgical Wheel
- 3 - Council Corner
- 4 - Ministry of Music
- 5 - Missions
- 7 - Christian Education
- 8 - Youth Ministry / Worship & Cov
- 9 - Community Supper
- 10 - Prayer List
- 11 - Calendar



Off of the Sidelines

Getting in the Game, Living Our Faith

Dear Falmouth UCC,

September! Back to school, back to church, choir re-gathering, Kids' Church kick off. We are so excited to come together and worship God!

We are kicking off with the sermon series **Off of the Sidelines - Getting in the Game, Living our Faith**. It can be easy to have a faith from the sidelines - to let our faith become something we watch, instead of something we do. But, just like everything else in our lives, the real growth and blessing comes when we are actively engaged and actively participating in our own faith journey. No one else can run our race for us, but we can help and strengthen each other.

As the program year kicks off there are so many ways to live our faith and get in the game -- **Kids' Church kicks off on September 10** and **Choir starts up September 17**. We are hosting the **Falmouth Community Supper on October 26** to bring our neighbors together and support the Falmouth Food Pantry.

We will have an **Usher training session on September 17** where we will learn to be welcoming and watchful hosts. **Weekly Bible study** resumes and the **Holly Days Fair Committee** starts to strategize.

But you do not need to join an activity to get in the game- a walk, a prayer, a time of contemplation or scripture reading-- these all work, too. Join in this fall as we get off of the sidelines and live out our faith, together.

Pastor Amelia

The Church thinks of time like a circle, a repeating story where there is room for joy (Christmas), sadness and lost-ness (Lent) and even miracles (Easter!). To each of these seasons the tradition assigns a color and a time, prioritizing and honoring the diverse range of human emotion and experience.

This liturgical wheel is an invitation to see our lives as a small but significant part of this ongoing story of God and the people of God. Here's what our liturgical wheel looks like for the year ahead. We look forward to journeying together. *Pastor Amelia*



DECEMBER 3, 10, 17
ADVENT- YEAR B BEGINS

Make Room, featuring focal art by Judy Crosby
Longest Night Service

DECEMBER 24 (SUNDAY)

Christmas Eve
Christmas Pageant Service
Candlelit late service
December 31

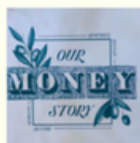
EPIPHANY

Guiding Star Words Project
January 7- February 11



NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19, 26

Our Money Story: This stewardship season, we will remember, release, reimagine, and restore our money stories so that we can write the one God is beckoning us to live into.



* Pastor Amelia out for NGU Nov 10- Nov 16

OCTOBER 29

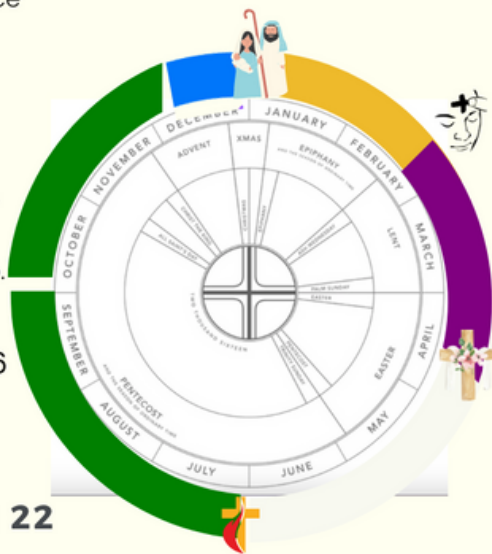
Remembrance Sunday

SEPTEMBER 10- OCTOBER 22

Off of the sidelines - Getting in the game, living our faith

- September 10- Kids' Church Kick Off
- September 17 Choir Kick off
- October 1- Ecumenical Worship Service at Holy Martyrs (No Sunday Service in FCC UCC building)
- October 15- Welcome New Members (info meeting Oct. 8)

SEPTEMBER 3 Ask Me Anything Speed Round!



LENT

February 14 - Ash Wednesday
February 18- March 18
⇒ Church visioning focus

HOLY WEEK
EASTER

Sunday, March 29

EASTERTIDE

PENTECOST

Sunday, May 19

**SEASON AFTER PENTECOST/
ORDINARY TIME**

Ask Me Anything series in May
Pastor Amelia probable sabbatical

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and is looking forward to fall and hopefully a little better weather over the next few months. Although our lawn has stayed very green all summer and we've saved a bit on irrigation costs, I am ready for more sunny days!

A couple of updates from the Council:

- We have been off over the summer but will resume our regular meetings in September. We typically meet the second Sunday of each month after the service at 11:30AM. Council meetings are open to all so if you are interested in attending one to see what it is all about, please ask either Tom Stegemann or myself for meeting details.
- We had our Planning Meeting in August at Tom and Jane Stegemann's beautiful home. We had a great turnout with representation from most of our ministries. There are many cherished activities returning to the line-up this year such as the Holly Days Fair and the Easter Egg Hunt. We are bringing back the Community Supper in October. And there are some new activities planned as well so stay tuned for updates.
- You will notice some building maintenance work is underway. New fascia/trim board for Beinema Hall as well as fresh coats of paint in several of the children's rooms and nursery. The exterior of Beinema Hall will be painted too. We are trying to catch up on some deferred maintenance. We fell a bit behind during the pandemic given budget concerns, so we are working hard to make the necessary improvements. We are also looking at options to repair the front steps. Part of the roof will need to be re-shingled in the next year or two as well.
- We meet with a potential builder on the first-floor renovation project on September 7. Please keep that meeting in your prayers as we pray for a successful outcome.
- Also, if you haven't sent in your UCC Maine Conference membership dues please do so as soon as possible.

I think that is all for now. Enjoy the last days of summer!

Many blessings,
Kim Hendry
Moderator



MINISTRY OF *Music*

The Chancel Choir will do a Pop-Up appearance on Sunday, September 17: one rehearsal at 9:00 AM that day. We will be singing the beautiful “Total Praise,” and anyone is welcome to join us. Please sign-up in Fellowship Hall.

Fall rehearsals will “officially” begin with an ALL MUSIC TEAM POTLUCK SUPPER (for Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, sound team, anyone interested in supporting the music ministry) on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 PM. Please sign-up in Fellowship Hall.

Chancel Choir will rehearse after the supper from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. No auditions required; come and try US out!

Bell Choir will resume on Wednesday, September 27 at 6:30 PM. We can always use more ringers, (and there is a weekly class for beginners on Wednesdays, at 9:00 AM at the Foreside Church).

Long term commitments are not required to share in music-making with our choirs. Be looking for announcements of Pop-Up Choir one-time opportunities or seasonal opportunities. Just let Jan Stover know if you are interested in participating in any way. Come one, come all!

“. . . be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Ephesians 5:18b-20

Blessed to serve,
Jan Stover
Minister of Music



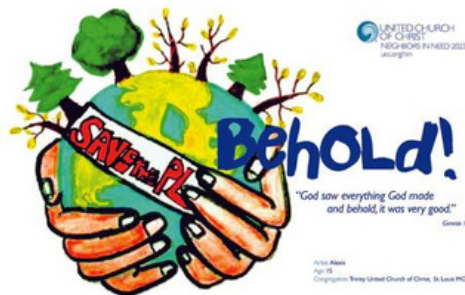
MINISTRY OF

Missions

Special Offering

From the United Church of Christ (UCC.org):

“Join us by promoting this year’s Neighbors in Need campaign at your church. As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.”



This year October 1, 2023, has been chosen as our Neighbors-in-Need Sunday. Please consider contributing to this far-reaching ministry of the UCC.



Pastor's Discretionary Fund

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

Plant for the Pantry

Also, if you happen to have any “extra” vegetables from your garden (yes, even zucchini!), please contact Nancy, who will arrange to pick them up and deliver them to Food Pantry families. Thank you!

Loaves of Love

Over the past year Loaves of Love has generated over \$2,000 to support the five special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ: Incredible! The bakings will continue for Communion Sundays and for all who wish to take a loaf home. The next Saturday we will be baking is Saturday, September 30, 2023.

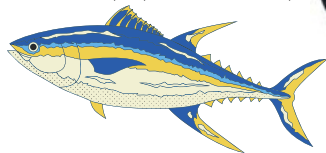


Loaves of Love is a community effort. Even if you have no baking experience, please consider donating four hours of your time on a Saturday for this mission. Volunteers from nine to ninety have dug into the dough. The aromas are wonderful, and the fruits of our labor speak for themselves.

Please contact Alyce Graves if you would like to join in the fun!

MINISTRY OF

missions



Who does a fish call when his piano breaks?

THE PIANO TUNA

What is the difference between a guitar and a fish?

YOU CAN TUNE A 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 continue collecting cans of tuna fish during the months of September and October. 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 forTUNate 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. Volunteers still deliver boxes of non-perishable food, fresh vegetables, eggs, and meat to families who need food assistance. If you have questions or know someone with an urgent need, please contact Nancy Lightbody. Thank you very much for your continuing support.

MINISTRY OF

Community Life



Making Connections

"Making Connections" discussion on Thursday, September 14 from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at FCC. This includes Rev. Amelia and Rev. Dr. Leslie Foley (from Westbrook-Warren UCC) and congregants from four other churches.

All are welcome who want to learn about visitation. Please feel free to contact Jane Stegemann with questions.

Women's Spiritual Book Group

FCC Women's Spiritual Book Group resumes its monthly meetings for the upcoming year on Wednesday, September 7, at noon. This is a lively group who enjoys informal, bag lunch gatherings to discuss titles and authors recommended by its members. September's meeting will be spent reconnecting after a summer hiatus and selecting a reading list for the year ahead. Given that some of our members join in from a distance, we have both in-person and virtual attendees. This is a fun and welcoming group that always enjoys new faces. Contact Cathy Bowden for more information and the Zoom link or come join us on September 7 in the Parlor at noon. Hope to see you there.

MINISTRY OF
*Christian
Education*



Dear Falmouth Congregational Church UCC,

It is so exciting to begin this Kids' Church year with you all!

My name is Lydia Hoffman, and I can hardly wait to meet each and every one of you. I hope to spend this year together exploring our questions about faith, learning about the life of the church, exploring our talents, making new friends, and just having FUN! I have recently graduated from Yale Divinity School with a Master of Divinity, and I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies. I am thrilled to form an intentional community together that is open to all and celebratory of all identities, beliefs, understandings, and abilities. All are welcome and especially invited into this space. Bring your questions, bring your talents, bring your whole self!

I would love to meet you! If you would like to schedule a time to chat and get to know one another, please reach out to me at lydia@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

We will begin our Kids' Church year together with our Annual Kick-Off Sunday on September 10 with an intergenerational worship service and a celebration after church!

Regular programming will begin the following Sunday, running from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM with an optional early pick up at 11:00 AM. Children will begin the morning in worship, and then move into our classrooms following the Children's Moment, where we will explore the stories of the Bible and God's teachings through art, music, movement, games, and more!



See you soon!

Lydia Hoffman

Minister of Children and Families

lydia@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

**KIDS CHURCH
REGISTRATION**



**CLASSROOM VOLUNTEER
SIGN-UP**



Youth Ministry

We are so excited to tell you about all of the events we have planned for the remainder of this year for our youth! We are partnering with The Foreside Community Church for our Youth Ministry programming this year! Beginning on September 24, we will kick-off our monthly programming with a trip to Pilgrim Lodge, our Maine UCC Summer Camp in West Gardiner! These events are open to any middle-school or high-school aged youth.

Interested in attending? Please reach out to lydia@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

Sign up for Youth Group by scanning here!



Falmouth Congregational Church & Foreside Community Church



Youth Ministries Activities Calendar

Fall - Winter 2023

September 24th

Afternoon at Pilgrim Lodge, our Maine UCC Summer Camp
Campfires, Canoes, and Community!

Depart for PL at 12:30pm from Falmouth Cong. Return home 6pm.

October 29th

Movie Night - Disney's CoCo @ the Foreside Church Cemetery
A focus on Día de Muertos and All Saints Day

4-6pm @ Foreside Church

November 26th

Conversation and Connection with our Indigenous siblings
4-6pm @ Falmouth Cong.

December 17th

Holiday Caroling @ Oceanview retirement community
4-6pm Meet @ Falmouth Cong.

MINISTRY OF

Usher Training

Worship & Covenant

Membership

Falmouth UCC ushers are the face of the church for new comers and old timers alike. Ushers' duties are to pass out bulletins, greet people, give directions, and pass the plates. More importantly, they are welcoming, worshipful, and watchful. Come learn about ushering September 17 after church.

Are you curious about what membership at Falmouth UCC means? Come to a informal gathering to learn more on October 8 after worship, For those interested in joining the church we will welcome new members on October 15 during worship.



Community Supper

The church is once again hosting a fall harvest Community Supper this October 26! Can you help? Can you come?

For the 14 years before the pandemic, our church hosted an annual fall harvest Community Supper at Beinema Hall, with other co-host Falmouth faith communities. The supper was a full roast turkey dinner with all the fixings--potatoes, squash, peas, rolls, cranberry sauce, gravy, apple crisp and ice cream. Our supper invitation extended to everyone in the Falmouth community--from business owners to Food Pantry clients, to families and singles, to the young and old -- and all would all sit together, breaking bread in community. Our volunteers included not only members of our and other churches but such folks as our legislators, Town councilors and officials, Gorham Bank volunteers, the Scouts, and high school community service students. The supper was free, with opportunities for free will-giving to the Falmouth Food Pantry.

All of this is what the church would like to host again. We are shooting for Thursday , October 26. We need your help, though. Can you volunteer to buy, or bake, or set-up, or clean? If so, please [click here to sign up](#) or e-mail Kat at the church office at officemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org? Both volunteers and guests have a great time.

Thank you and we are looking forward to bringing back this heart-warming faith community tradition!

Sincerely,
 FCC Community Supper Planning Committee
 Paul Davis, Nancy Lightbody, Alyce Graves,
 Kim Hendry, Steve Hendry, Peggy McGehee Horton



**VOLUNTEER
SIGN UP**



We Lift up Prayers for...



- Forrest Reid Stephens was born Sunday, August 27 to proud parents Jennie and James Stephens and big brother, William! Cards: [24 Wildwood Drive Brunswick, ME 04011](#)



- Jessica Collins who passed her OT boards!
- For the friends and family of Richard Anderson who died and went into God's eternal rest. Prayers especially for his wife, Bonnie.
- Bee O'Brien as she adjusts to life at Hawthorne House, and her children as they discern what is the best path forward. Cards: [6 Old County Rd, #13A Freeport, ME 04032](#)
- Ken and Cathy Bowden, who are supporting and caring for three family members recently taken ill: her father with congestive heart failure, her mother with metastatic bone cancer, and her aunt with pancreatic cancer. They are grateful for your prayers of comfort and strength and ask for understanding with unanswered phone calls.

- Mollie Mason who is having pain in her legs. Molly and Kim recently moved to Stroudwater Lodge. Cards of welcome to: 116 Landing Road #313, Westbrook, ME 04092.
- Jim Scherer and his sister as their father goes into hospice.
- Janice Siegle's son, Michael Simari. He is a 38 year old father of 1 and 3 year old sons. Michael has been diagnosed with an extremely rare cancer. Cards: Dr. And Mrs. John Siegle, 30 Pride Farm Rd., Falmouth, ME 04105.
- Ted and Dolores Vail who have moved into their new assisted living apartment at Park Danforth, 777 Stevens Avenue Apt. #241 Portland, ME 04103.
- Janie Anderson, who is receiving so much love and care from her husband, Larry, as she lives within hospice care. Cards: 44714 Audubon Square Apt. 105 Ashburn, VA 20147.
- Jane and Tom Stegemann who are soon-to-be grandparents!
- Joan Kaijala's dad, Wesley.
- Katie Howison's mom, Kathlene Morton, as she fights cancer. Cards: 1824 Mountainside Drive, North Augusta, SC 29841
- Randy Boardway's father, Paul
- Sally Emery who is cared for in her home and whose long term care giver is leaving.

Liturgists

- 3 - Alyce Graves
- 10 - Eunice Wilcox
- 17 - Nancy Lightbody
- 24 - Marilee Beinema

Ushers

- 3 - Jim Parr
Julia Poppell
- 10 - Joe & Jo Blinick
- 17 - Mark & Peggy Horton
- 24 - Laurie Davis
Karin Kurry

September Birthdays*

- Steve Carter
- Jeaneen Coleman
- Rita Farry
- Karen Giansiracusa
- Barbara Graustein
- Katie Han
- Bill Henderson
- Steve Hendry
- Peggy Horton
- Dash Howison
- Ollie McNeill
- Larry Perry
- Martha Scheuchzer
- Jan Stover

*We want you to be able to wish happy birthday to your friends and keep everyone safe from online scammers-listing only names & months does both!

September 2023 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 9 AM FCC Hiking Club	2
3 10 AM In-person or Online 7 pm Troop 93	OFFICE CLOSED 4	5 11 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM The Family Restored 7 PM Fiddle-icious	6 12 PM Women's Spiritual Book Club 2:30pm - 5:30pm Forever Growing Club 6:45 PM Private Group	7 8:30 Ecumenical Clergy Meeting 2 PM Building Mtg. 6 PM Troop 93 6:30 PM Ministry of Missions	8 9 AM FCC Hiking Club	9
Kids' Church Kickoff 10 10 AM Worship In-person or Online 11 AM Men's Group 11:30 Council of Ministries	11 12 PM Bible Study 5 PM Worship & Covenant 6:30 PM Fiddle-icious	12 10 AM Bible Study @ Oceanview 11 AM Staff Mtg. 6 PM Family Restored	13 2:30pm - 5:30pm Forever Growing Club 6:45 PM Private Group	14 10 AM Making Connections 6 PM Troop 93 7 PM Finance Committee	15	16
Pop-Up Choir 17 9 AM Choir rehearsal 10 AM Worship In-person or Online 11 AM Usher Training	Congregator Deadline 18 12 PM Bible Study (zoom) 7 PM Fiddle-icious	19 11 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM Family Restored 6 PM Fiddle-icious	20 11:30am - 5:30pm Forever Growing Club 6:30 PM Music Team Potluck 6:45 PM Private Group 7:30 Chancel Choir	21 6 PM Troop 93 6:30 PM Writer's Group	22	23
24 9 AM Choir Warmup 10 AM Worship In-person or Online 12:30 PM Youth Group	25 12 PM Bible Study (zoom) 7 PM Fiddle-icious	26 11 AM Staff Mtg 6 PM Family Restored 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	27 2:30pm - 5:30pm Forever Growing Club 6:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Private Group 7:30 Chancel Choir	28 6 PM Troop 93	29	30 10 AM Loaves of Love



October 1
Ecumenical
Service at Holy
Martyrs at 2:00

No Regular
Sunday
Worship

October 8
New Members
Info Session

October 15
New Members
Join

October 26
Community
Supper
Volunteers
Needed

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

Jane Stegemann &
Kathleen Henderson
Ministry of Community Life

Steve Hendry
Chair, Ministry of Missions

Virginia Eddy & Laurie Davis
Ministry of Worship & Covenant

Church Staff

Rev. Amelia Edson, Settled Pastor
Katharina Roderick, Office Manager, Newsletter Editor
Laurie Logan, Office Assistant
Matthew Strobel, Sexton and Property Manager
Lydia Hoffman, Minister of Children and Families
Jane Stegemann, Minister of Visitation
Jan Stover, Minister of Music
Gabby Colby-George, Nursery Caregiver
Jack Gervais, Tech Assistant

Officers

Kim Hendry, Moderator
Tom Stegemann, Vice Moderator
TBD, Clerk
Paul Davis, Treasurer
Gini Medford, Financial Secretary
Carol Kauffman MSN, RN, Faith Community Nurse