

# STEEPLE VIEWS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION*



REVEREND DR. ALBERTA WALLACE, INTERIM PASTOR  
REVEREND GEORGE HARVEY, PASTOR EMERITUS  
MAY 2020

PHONE: 603-522-3189  
WEBSITE: FCCWAKEFIELDNH.ORG  
EMAIL: FCCWAKEFIELDNH@GMAIL.COM  
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/  
FIRSTCONGREGATIONALCHURCHOFWAKEFIELDUCC

## ***THE PASTOR'S PAGE***

Hello FCCW,

We have come through April! All Holy Week services and Easter were online. We even observed the Lord's Supper! WE DID IT!!! God provided us what we needed to worship in a brand-new way. We used the knowledge, skills, gifts, and talents present in the Body of Christ and we were true to our purpose. The Church is for Worship; Fellowship; Discipleship; Mission; and Ministry.

*But, we did not "gather" as the Body of Christ?*

Each week, each of us "gathered" in our homes around a monitor type screen—the TV or our phone. We heard songs of praise, worship, lament, and hope. We heard prayers of confession, assurance, intercession, and hope. We heard scriptures and reflections on the scriptures to lift us up and keep us looking for the face of Jesus, the love of God and expecting the power of the Holy Spirit to inhabit us again and give us hope. We **worshipped** every week.

Every week you received phone calls from others checking on you. Sometimes you received a drive-by visit and something was left at your door to let you know you are thought of, cared for, and belong to this Body of Christ called First Congregational Church Wakefield. The Conversation Group met by Zoom and phone. Our **fellowship** with one another continued and some say, it increased!

Faith formation groups were offered on Tuesday's at 12 noon and 5:30 pm. People gathered via Zoom for study and reflection to increase their spiritual health and grow in being a follower, a disciple of Christ. **Discipleship** opportunities were available weekly.

We never neglected showing the love of God to one another and people we did not know. We dropped off food to the Food Pantry. We picked up senior citizens trash and took it to the transfer center; we did grocery shopping for people who could not get out. We prayed for one another, especially those grieving loss of social contact due to COVID-19; and those physically affected by COVID-19; and those requesting prayer to cover them during illness, surgery and as they grieved the death of loved ones.

We prayed for our missionary to Zimbabwe and her safe travels returning to the US. Some of you made cloth facial coverings. Every day, in some way, you connected people to LOVE—we remained **mission** focused.

We had our membership meeting to handle the business of the church via Zoom. You gave the go-ahead to send the church's profile to the Conference for review and placement on the Ministry Opportunities Listing. At the writing of this letter, the New Hampshire Conference has approved the church's profile without any further annotations! The Search and Call Committee are on their way to begin conversational interviews for your next settled pastor!! **PRAISE to our AWESOME PROFILE COMMITTEE! Well done! They served FCCW well!**

FCCW's Finance Ministry, Diaconate Ministry, Profile Committee and Search and Call continued carrying out their commitment to the church. People showed up to prepare the grounds for Spring. Building and Grounds made sure the building was being heated as it should, and that gloves and hand sanitizers were available upon entry for anyone who had to enter the building.

## Pastor's Page Continued:

The church office functioned remotely getting all notices out and answering all calls. The administrative functions of the church did not skip a beat. We continued the **ministry** of running the church.

No, we did not gather, yet we were the church and continue to **be** the church. Now we must look towards the future and ask what will our "better" than normal look like.

We are living the "normal" of the pandemic that has the building closed but did not stop us from being church. This "pandemic" normal has shown fruits. Every week at least 400 people are following our FB page or worship service. We only have a membership of 115! Our donations remain on target and we have new people who have never been to the church giving online or by mail. We have new people connecting to our faith formation studies who found us online.

Our "better" normal will have all the things we have been doing and a commitment to improve our on-line presence. Yes, this is something that has probably been talked about in the past. Now, we have been shown it needs to be a priority in our budget.

There are so many questions about when will we be able to return to in-person gatherings and what will it look like and how do we continue to "disciple" those who are following us on-line?

Testing for all for COVID-19 is not yet available to all people. The only proven method to be safe is continued physical distancing, use of cloth facial coverings and washing our hands. We will continue to do just that. When we are able to return to in-person gatherings it may be wise to limit the number of people who can gather. This may look like two worship services.

I continue to stay abreast of the local and national news and participate in webinars and Zoom meetings from the Conference and the National UCC office for guidance. God is providing us what we need for this season. We will continue to **BE** the church we have been called to be. Proverbs 3:5-6 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV adapted)

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.

<sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge God,  
and your paths will be made straight.

*Pastor Alberta*

## Our Shepherd Program takes on Grocery Delivery

We remain committed to being one of the Shepherds in our community. **Covid 19 may physically distance us, but not socially!**

? Are you unable to drive to the store to buy groceries ?  
? Are your neighbors and family unable to assist ?

If so, our Shepherd Program would like to help.  
Call us at 603-522-3189

We will take your grocery order over the phone.  
We will place it with Lovell Lake Food Center.  
We will pick up your order and deliver it to your door.

You will then mail us a check for the cost of your groceries.

(Sales slip and directions for payment will be with your groceries.)

<sup>35</sup> *When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me.*

*Matthew 25:35 (CEV)*

## Conversation Group

A few intrepid members of the Conversation Group braved our first Zoom conversation in April. While this is a learning process for all of us, it was funny to spend half of our time connecting, but still wonderful to get together. Our next gathering will be on **Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1 PM**. If you wish to join us as a first-time participant, please let me know. All of us will receive an e-mail invitation just prior to May 11<sup>th</sup> which will include a sign in link to participate. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Margie Galabrun, [balchlaker@gmail.com](mailto:balchlaker@gmail.com), 522-6647

## Faith Formation Study

Our Tuesday noon study is continuing with the book "We Make the Road by Walking" (by Brian McLaren). This book contains 52 (plus a few) weekly readings that offer a simple curriculum of insightful reflection and transformative practices. The readings are short and the ensuing questions will serve to generate some good discussion! Note that the sessions don't build on each other - you can jump into this study at any time. Please consider joining us on Zoom! Contact Julie Kessler if you want to be added to the Zoom distribution list. ([julielouisekessler@gmail.com](mailto:julielouisekessler@gmail.com))

(Ed. Note: The following article was inadvertently left out of last month's issue.

My apologies to Donna!)

## Outreach in Action

According to Merriam-Webster, Outreach is defined as; “the [extending of services or assistance beyond current or usual limits](#)”. Wow! Beyond usual limits, that is exactly what this church is doing. We have folks checking up on members and nonmembers to see how they are coping. “Do you have any concerns or celebrations?” “Do you have any immediate needs like picking up groceries or prescriptions?” “How are you feeling; scared, anxious, blessed?” It can be so easy to lock ourselves up and wait out the storm. As New Englanders, we know how to deal with a Nor-Easter. We gather flashlights, batteries, water, gas for the generator, etc. But this storm is different.

Having just returned from Florida, George and I are presently self-quarantined in our house for at least fourteen days (liberation date April 6<sup>th</sup>). The world outside my window appears to be normal. Snow has fallen, the sun is shining, mail is being delivered. George is tapping maple trees. But we cannot interact with others, not directly anyways. It is sad that a situation like the one we are going through creates an awakening to what some people in our community deal with on a regular basis. We have ‘shut-ins’, folks that for different reasons cannot get out and connect with others.

Thankfully for those who are a little tech-savvy (I'm on a learning curve) we can reach out to people through various social media and other digital methods. There are links like; house party, zoom, and teleconference. Many people are putting full musical concerts, poetry readings, and children book readings on YouTube and Facebook. To assist parents who have found themselves in the role of teacher, there are lessons online, virtual art galleries, and other tools to help kids meet their curriculum demands. Our church is posting Sunday services online at [www.fccwakefieldnh.org](http://www.fccwakefieldnh.org). You can view or listen to prayers, songs, children moments and other components of what we are all missing while keeping our social distance.

I keep hearing the phrase; “we are all in this together” and as a church community this is so true. If you feel down, fearful or lonely please know that in times like these besides God, we have each other. While composing this letter, Ginny Schweitzer came to our driveway and honked. I stepped out on the porch and I got to see her beautiful face and hear her lovely voice as we gave each other an ‘air-hug’. In addition, Jo Szirbik is buying some items for me, so this afternoon I will get to share the experience of face-to-face interaction with her as well. If you have not had a deacon or other church member call you, please contact the church office at 603-522-3189 or email [fccwakefieldnh@gmail.com](mailto:fccwakefieldnh@gmail.com). Julie Margolis, the Congregational Life Administrator, will pass on your request to the coordinators of this new outreach activity and you will be hearing from someone soon.

Outreach; extending of services or assistance beyond current or usual limits. That's us alright, the First Congregational Church of Wakefield United Church of Christ.

## From the Treasurer

First of all, thank you to all of you for sending in your pledges and donations during this time of social distancing. I want to explain our various methods of support for the church:

Drop your envelope in the black box attached to the wall beside the door on the side entrance to the church.

Mail your donation to 2718 Wakefield Road, Sanbornville, NH 03872.

Facebook—on our page, click the blue DONATE button. It is important to note that while there is no fee involved, we do not receive the money into our account for 4 weeks or so.

Website—[www.fccwakefieldnh.org](http://www.fccwakefieldnh.org)—Under “Support Our church” click the DONATE button. This payment goes through Paypal, which charges a percentage fee, i.e. \$100 has a \$2.50 fee, and we control when we transfer the money to our account.

From a bookkeeping point of view, your physical check is much easier to deal with, however, please feel free to use whichever method you prefer.

Thanks again, and we are looking forward to future in-person gathering,

*Nancy Dee, Co-Treasurer*

## Grief Support Group

I hope you are all doing well in light of these unprecedented times. As I watch events unfold and speak with people all over the world, I've been able to see a direct correlation between current circumstances and the grieving process.

Grief comes in many flavors, and can be experienced at times when we lose something that's important to us. It's both universal and personal; we all experience grief, each in our own way.

It's been my experience that feelings of grief can be made lighter when we connect with others who can help us lighten our burden.

If you would like to connect with me to talk about any feelings you may be having or if you would like some tips about moving forward from grief, you can access my website at [www.fromgrievingtoliving.com](http://www.fromgrievingtoliving.com).

I can also be found on Facebook at [www.fromgrievingtoliving.com/facebook](http://www.fromgrievingtoliving.com/facebook) I can also be reached at 603-491-0474, please text first if possible

## 7 Things Churches are Learning During the Pandemic

Barry Howard  
CHC Coach

Church looks and feels very different right now.

For the past six to seven weeks, as a proactive expression of love for our people and our communities, most of our churches have been gathering online for worship, Bible study, and committee meetings rather than assembling in person.

Pastors are learning to preach to cameras. Staff members and volunteers are learning new technology skills. Churches have been quickly setting up or upgrading their online giving platforms. Small groups and individuals have been responding to ministry needs with creative ministry actions. Certainly, churches were not the only ones affected by the “shelter in place” orders. Restaurants scrambled to revise their delivery system to take out or curb side only. Banks limited access to their lobbies to “appointments only,” channeling most transactions to the drive thru window.

However, churches stereotypically are perceived as the most resistant to change.

As I have collaborated with other pastors and church leaders in recent weeks, it seems we are all learning a few things about ourselves that may be helpful in shaping the next chapter of ministry:

- **Online is the next best thing to being there.** While online services are not likely to replace in-person gatherings, we are realizing that livestream worship is a good option for those who, for one reason or the other, cannot attend services on campus. We are also discovering that for some of our members, the increase in online options is a blessing. After the current health guidelines are lifted, online options should be perceived, not as a replacement, but as an enhancement to a church’s ministries.

- **Each of us has a priestly responsibility.** The priesthood of the believer is multifaceted. Our priestly privilege includes having direct access to God, being accountable to God, and having an assignment from God. We have the privilege of “priesting” one another as we encourage each other, care for neighbors, build up the body of Christ, and share the teachings of Jesus through our words and our actions.

- **Every home is a satellite campus of the local church.** Although we have known this for ages, we have become more adept at organizing our life at home as an outpost of faith formation, a house of worship, a chapel for prayer, and a launch point for ministry action.

- **A campus is a valuable resource of the church, but it’s not a church.** A brick and mortar campus can be an important tool for a congregation, but it is just one of many tools in a congregation’s toolbox. A campus should always be perceived as a resource for the nurturing of our faith, not a source of our faith.

**We need the human touch and social engagement of spiritual community.** During these days of social and physical distancing, we have experienced withdrawal pangs from

- missing the handshake at the door, the passing of the peace, the hug from our favorite elder saint, and blending our voices in song while in the same room with others from our family of faith. While we are grateful for online connections, we will emerge from this crisis with a greater appreciation for the privilege of in-person meetings.

- **Our members are more resourceful and creative than we realized.** Many members have jumped into action to sew masks for healthcare workers and first responders. Others have been proxy shoppers, delivering groceries and pharmaceuticals to those most at risk. A few members have written songs or poems to encourage or entertain others, and then posted, published, or performed their artistry on social media platforms. In the future, we can enlist their skills to advance the ministry and the liturgy of the church.

- **We can function in a healthy way with fewer meetings.** Some committees are continuing to meet by video or conference call. Some are sharing monthly or quarterly reports via email. And others have postponed monthly meetings until after the “shelter in place” guidelines are lifted. All in all, committees are meeting as necessary, but less frequently than before the crisis. I expect that some monthly committee meetings may easily transition to quarterly meetings as we emerge from this pandemic.

Every major world event, including war, terrorist attack, health pandemic or ground-breaking discovery, has altered or revised the normative patterns and protocols of life on this planet. It is yet to be seen what the new norms will look like  
COVID-19.

For many reasons, both spiritual and economic, it is doubtful that churches will have the option of returning to a pre-virus status quo. However, churches that build on the lessons learned during the pandemic, may have the best opportunity to thrive and not just survive.

### A Poem for These Days

Grandma once gave me a tip:

During difficult times, you move forward in small steps.  
Do what you have to do, but little by bit.  
Don't think about the future, not even what might happen tomorrow. Wash the dishes.  
Take off the dust.  
Write a letter.  
Make some soup.  
Do you see?  
You are moving forward step by step.  
Take a step and stop.  
Get some rest.  
Compliment yourself.  
Take another step.  
Then another one.  
You won't notice, but your steps will grow bigger and bigger.  
And time will come when you can think about the future without crying. Good morning

(Elena Mikhalkova, "The Room of Ancient Keys")

# MAY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> Fourth Sunday Of Easter  Worship Online Via YouTube video on our Website 10 a.m.	<b>4</b> Caregivers' Support Group 9:30 - 10:30 am  Facebook Live With Pastor Alberta 7 p.m.	<b>5</b> Faith Formation Study via Zoom 12 Noon  Evening Faith Formation via Zoom - 5:30 p.m.	<b>6</b> Finance Ministry Meet Via Zoom  2 p.m.	<b>7</b> Racial Justice Discussion Group Via Zoom 4:30  Community String Band Via Zoom—6:30 pm  Facebook Live -7 p.m.	8	9
<b>10</b> Fifth Sunday Of Easter  <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>  Worship Online Via YouTube video on our Website 10 a.m.	<b>11</b> Conversation Group Via Zoom 1 p.m.  Facebook Live With Pastor Alberta 7 p.m.	<b>12</b> Faith Formation Study via Zoom 12 Noon  Evening Faith Formation via Zoom 5:30 p.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Racial Justice Book Discussion Group Via Zoom 4:30  Community String Band Via Zoom-6:30 pm  Facebook Live -7 p.m.	15	16
<b>17</b> Sixth Sunday Of Easter  Worship Online Via YouTube video on our Website 10 a.m.  LC Meeting via Zoom—11:30	<b>18</b> Caregivers' Support Group 9:30 - 10:30 am  Facebook Live With Pastor Alberta 7 p.m	<b>19</b> Faith Formation Study via Zoom 12 Noon  Evening Faith Formation via Zoom 5:30 p.m.	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Racial Justice Book Discussion Group Via Zoom—4:30  Community String Band Via Zoom—6:30 pm  Facebook Live -7 p.m.	22	23
<b>24</b> Seventh Sunday Of Easter  Worship Online Via YouTube video on our Website 10 a.m.	<b>25</b> Facebook Live With Pastor Alberta 7 p.m	<b>26</b> Faith Formation Study via Zoom 12 Noon  Evening Faith Formation via Zoom 5:30 p.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Racial Justice Book Discussion Group Via Zoom —4:30  Community String Band Via Zoom—6:30 pm  Facebook Live -7 p.m.	29	30
<b>31</b> <b>PENTECOST            SUNDAY</b>  Worship Online Via YouTube video on our Website 10 a.m.						

## News from Zimbabwe



Joyce Nancy

Zimbabwe is also on lock down with stay at home orders presently from March 23rd through May 4. Although there is very limited testing, there are 31 confirmed cases of COVID 19 and four confirmed deaths as of this writing. In spite of government warnings and police harassment, people form massive queues when they hear mealie meal, the staple food, is available at one of the stores still open. Most people have no money to buy food. The vast majority of people live day to day and they simply cannot stay home because they need to find a way to earn some money to feed their families.

And that's how I met Nancy and Joyce. PKZ has planted a few hectares of corn and beans as a way to provide food security to the disadvantaged. Harvesting will not take place for a couple of months but the fields need to be weeded and fertilized at regular intervals. Nancy and Joyce are very dedicated, hard workers. Before the lock down they helped plant the fields. They search all over for "piece jobs." Both continue to need the small amount of money they are paid in order to feed their children. Both women are widows. Nancy has four children and Joyce has three. When I said, "What about the coronavirus?" They responded, "If we don't go out to find work, our children will die of hunger." They think nothing of walking the 10K to the fields and back.

Nancy and Joyce are members of the UCCZ and they join a small group and start every morning at 6 AM with Bible Study. "We ask God to protect us and to help us provide for our families. Connie, we have to have faith."

Zimbabwe was food insecure before the lock down with 60% of the 14 million people unable to obtain enough food to meet basic needs. Thankfully, US AID and other non governmental organizations (NGOs) are assisting because food which comes through the government is given primarily to those who align with the ruling party, ZANU PF.

Nancy and Joyce appreciate working with PKZ because they are paid in US currency and because Vranter, our PKZ director, will give them a live chicken and a bag of macadamia nuts or pecans from trees on the property to help feed their families.

I am very grateful to be home and I appreciate all the love and prayers sent my way. In spite of the many challenges before us, we are very, very fortunate to live in America.

*God bless,  
Connie Littlefield*

## On-Line Sales Help Needed

We would like to put together a team to help with online sales. The Endowment Committee is asking that we rejuvenate this effort in order to help sell furniture that is being donated to the Endowment Committee as people are clearing or emptying their homes.

But this may be very important for our FUNdraising efforts to help meet our annual operating budget as well. Because of Covid 19, we will probably not be holding our annual yard sale, and perhaps not our fairs. The Men's Fellowship is taking the lead in moving and storing the items. Now we need someone to snap some pictures of the items, someone to value them, someone to write a description of them, and someone to post and track the items, and someone to help with the money reporting as they sell.

Up until now this has fallen to one person and she/I have not done as well as if she/I had a team. We really hope you find this of interest because many are needed to both maintain and build our church into the future.

Margie Galabrun, [balchlaker@gmail.com](mailto:balchlaker@gmail.com), 522-6647

## Wakefield Food Pantry

Our Wakefield Food Pantry needs us! The Food Pantry is experiencing food shortages, during this difficult time. The following items would be greatly appreciated:

Toilet paper  
Cereal  
Shelf stable milk (such as Parmalat)  
Prepared canned food such as ravioli, beef stew and hearty soups

You can drop off your donations any day, by putting them in the outside drop box at the rear of the Food Pantry. You can also drop your donations off when the Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays, 10-1 and 5-7.

Let us show others that we truly care for them.

*God bless you and keep you.  
Jo Szirbik and the Diaconate*

## COVID-19 Update

With all the talk of "re-opening" in the public square right now, we in the Conference Office are receiving inquiries about resuming in-person worship from some churches. I urge our churches to be patient and continue the ministries that you have been doing so faithfully over the past month or so. Based on all the information we are receiving from both national and state health authorities, we are clear that it is not yet safe for our churches to resume in-person worship and that we do not yet know when it will be safe. We are anticipating some new advisory information from health officials before the end of April and are planning to update our recommendation to churches in next week's Weekly News.

It is clear, however, that resuming in-person worship and other church activities will be far more complicated than simply re-opening the doors. A great many things will need to be considered and modified in order to keep one another safe. At the request of some of our pastors and church leaders, we have developed this "[Things To Be Considered in Discerning When and How to Resume In-Person Worship](#)" document to aide congregations with such conversations. It is not yet time to resume in-person worship, but it is not too early to start discerning how we will keep one another safe once we do.

*Rev. Gordon Rankin, Conference Minister*



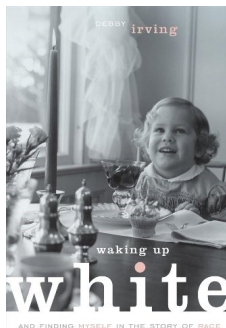
While you are at home tackling your "Honey Do List" and cleaning out your closets & linens, remember to hold aside the items for our SAVERS FUNDrive! Every donation of gently used clothing you make helps raise funds for our church. Soft acceptable items include clothing, bedding, shoes, accessories. No large items, please. Pack 'em up for our Fall drop-off date!

## The United Church of Christ's Canadian Connection

On October 17, 2015, representatives of the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada in Niagara Falls, Ontario to sign an historic full communion agreement. This agreement signifies the mutual desire of both denominations to work in cooperation and openness in the areas of worship, mission, witness, ministry and the proclamation of a common faith. This agreement will allow the two denominations to recognize the validity of each other's sacraments and ordination of ministers and opens-up the possibility of ministers being called to serve in congregations of either denomination.

Source: Wikipedia

## Racial Justice Book Discussion



You are welcome to join us for a book discussion on "Waking Up White" by Debbie Irving. The group is meeting via Zoom Invite on Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. You can easily join in on the discussion by contacting Donna Ackerman at 603-651-6349 or emailing her at [dvackerman@gmail.com](mailto:dvackerman@gmail.com). All are welcome, and bring a friend!

## JOURNEY THROUGH THE PSALMS FCCW-Evening Faith Formation

"Take an in-depth look at the book of Psalms - the prayer-book of the synagogue and the church.

Through study of the word and insights gained through the arts, we are invited to approach God with the honesty and intensity as the ancient Psalmists."

Join us on Tuesday Evenings via Zoom beginning April 21<sup>st</sup> – June 9th Contact the church office for more information.

## Stewardship News Flash! Pledge letter is on its way!

As we move closer to the end of the church's fiscal year (June 30), the Stewardship Ministry is sending you a letter inviting consideration for your pledge. In this unique time we are all experiencing, you are asked to make space to pray and consider what is best for you to pledge. God will hear you. You will know, without a doubt, what to give. Peace be and humble thanks.

## Thank You Profile Committee!

FCCW is now on the Ministry Opportunities Listings.

Go to [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) and choose "local church resources" and then "Ministry Opportunities." Search for "Pastor" and choose NH under location.

FCCW still moving forward trusting God! Thank you to the Profile Committee, Carol Lundgren, Judy Trepal, and Harriet Wilson for an outstanding job preparing our profile.

# Celebrations!

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 3 Sarah Connell      | 14 Scott Frothingham    |
| 5 Emma Dolbear       | 17 George Ackerman Jr.  |
| 7 Dalton Ostrye      | 17 Bridgette Gehring    |
| 8 Scott Mercer       | 18 Lance MacLean        |
| 9 Maurice Hatch      | 19 Cindy Eggleston      |
| 10 Sophia Moran      | 22 Peg Bridges          |
| 11 Sharon Baldwin    | 23 Marc Galabrun        |
| 11 Patricia Martin   | 23 Lynn Shaffer         |
| 11 Wayne Robinson    | 28 Luke Evenson         |
| 13 Nicholas Gatchell | 29 Scott Twombly        |
| 14 Elizabeth Fogg    | 31 Brittany Frothingham |

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Barry & Evelyn Truhn
- 13 Charlie & Ann Bilodeau
- 18 David & Gisela Haag
- 24 Chip & Karen Hagy
- 29 Rob & Kelly Druge
- 30 Richard & Linda Messer
- 31 Dick & Harriet Wilson

## FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN



We are a community that believes that prayer is powerful! Please keep in your prayers all those who suffer in any way in mind, body and spirit, as well as those who by virtue of their service are far from home or in harm's way. We ask also your prayers for peace in our world, for the health and integrity of our democracy, and for the flourishing of the work of our community of faith.

**Prayer Chain:** Through phone calls, emails and text messages, we are able to increase our prayer power for "immediate intercessory prayer" for the concerns of our congregation and friends. If you would like to be a member of the prayer chain, or have a prayer request, please get in touch with Harriet Wilson ([dhwilson39@gmail.com](mailto:dhwilson39@gmail.com))



The Peace of Heaven has come to Fred Raban. He left his earthly life on evening of April 20th at Mountain View. Susan and her family are strong and comforted by knowing that Fred no longer struggles. Please pray for Susan and her daughters Meredith and Kristen and their whole family.

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you all for the hugs, prayers and support of Fred and me throughout his illness. I am truly blessed in your friendship.



Fondly, Susan Raban

## Many Thanks

Our thanks to Pastor Alberta, Wendy DeCroteau, Max Gehring, Nate Fogg, Julie Margolis, and Carol Jeffery for collaborating to prerecord and post our Sunday Services on YouTube. You can access the videos through our website homepage <https://www.fcwakefieldnh.org/> or our YouTube page on the website. Also, be sure to check out Pastor Alberta's Facebook Live on Mondays and Thursdays at 7 p.m.

## Hello Dear Parish Helpers,

"Eventually all things fall into place. Until then, laugh at the confusion, live for the moments., and know that everything happens for a reason." Albert Schweitzer

This, too, shall pass and until then, we will surround each other with virtual hugs, love, and prayers. Missing you all so very much. God Bless You,

Ginny Schweitzer

For more information on articles you read in the Steeple Views, contact the editor at [steepleviews@gmail.com](mailto:steepleviews@gmail.com) or call the church office at 603-522-3189.



[www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchofWakefieldUCC](http://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalChurchofWakefieldUCC)



**HELP US CONTINUE  
ENRICHING OUR  
COMMUNITY**

Why Give    Community    History

[www.fccwakefieldnh.org/endowment/](http://www.fccwakefieldnh.org/endowment/)

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of Wakefield, NH UCC



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