

STEEPLE VIEWS



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

REVEREND DR. TERE KRUEGER, PASTOR
REVEREND GEORGE HARVEY, PASTOR EMERITUS
NOVEMBER 2021

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THE PASTOR'S PAGE

A Conversation Starter about LTCR

When I was preaching the other week on marriage, I enjoyed having 3 of you spontaneously share about your relationship. There seems to be some energy here regarding Long-Term Committed Relationships (LTCR). Many at FCCW were or have been together 30, 50, 60+ years!

I asked Titia, a happy survivor of a 61 year LTCR with Gijs, "What are components of a long-term relationship?" she said, "Well, start by looking at the tree." Cool. What about a tree could analogize to a LTCR?" Interesting metaphor! She also said it's important that a couple look at their future together and carve it out for both--not just one; incorporate fulfilling things into both people's lives. Another person said that the foundation must be mutual respect, for another person trust and understanding. What have you found for you?

I heard a story today about a couple who were trying to get pregnant--unsuccessfully. The husband treated his wife ok, but was sometimes sarcastic and argumentative. It was suggested he begin to treat his wife like a queen--according to what she found loving. E.g. 5 love languages are: touch, words of appreciation, time together, gifts, acts of service (e.g. doing X on the "honey-do" list*). Within a month, sure enough, she was pregnant!

One of my professors who specialized in "happy marriages" found that couples who had more positive communications were together longer and were happier than those who were predominantly negative. He taught communication and said it was that simple. The writer of the book of James would agree. He said it's all about the tongue!

Here are some questions that you may enjoy regarding relationships you may be starting, have had or are in currently. Maybe you can have fun with them.

What attracted you in the first place? (It is said that a person's differences, while initially attracting, often end up being what you most bemoan about him or her! True?)

What do you most admire and respect about each other? What has your partner made possible for you? What makes you laugh--together? What's the funniest thing about you and him/her?

Do you ever laugh at what you were like in the beginning of your relationship?

In what ways are you different--even opposites? What has been the effect of these differences? What do you really enjoy doing together?

What are your favorite "love languages" and are they the same for both of you? Did it take a long time to discover what means "love" to him/her?

(Continued on Page 2)

Prayer: Relational God. Even you are a "we". Help us to love more nearly, dearly and clearly--and love everybody--even those closest to us. Amen. Truly.

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another." Ephesians 4:32

"If you can control your tongue, you can control your whole personality." James 3

Joyfully,
Rev Tere

*The 5 Love Languages: The Secret to Love that Lasts
by Gary Chapman

Turning Down the Heat

Now that the heat is back on at church, we need to turn the thermostats back down to 55 degrees after our gatherings. When this was announced recently, the simple question of the location of the thermostats came back as a response. Well, here is the answer.

Thermostats on the lower level: Entrance to Fellowship Hall, Fellowship Hall, Library area, both bathrooms, Classroom Hallway, Large Classroom, Smallest Classroom, Back hallway/stairs leading to parking lot

Thermostats on main floor: Sanctuary, Narthex, Bathroom, Parish Helpers Room, Entrance from parking lot, Stairway hall leading up from entrance

Thermostats on second floor: Pastor's office, CLA's office

So that is a total of 17 thermostats. No need to check them all every time you leave, but when you leave an area, just make sure the ones in that area are turned back down.

Hazel MacBrien Nursery School

First we want to congratulate FCCW on your 235th birthday and say a big Thank You for the delicious cupcakes you delivered for us to enjoy. October was a very busy month for us. Our 3-year olds had the fire department come visit us at school and our 4-year olds made a trip to the station. We talked about when you would call 911, hot and cold, and practiced Stop Drop and Roll. We had lots of Halloween fun playing math games with candy corn, pumpkin number sequencing and lots of art. We learned letters Cc and Pp and wrote number 9 for 911. We went trick-or-treating in town on the 28th and had a fun Halloween party after where we had some yummy treats and played some games.

It's hard to believe November is right around the corner with shorter days and colder nights. We will be doing lots of turkey activities and talking about things we are THANKFUL for!

2

Memorabilia from Celebration 235!



We still have plenty of Christmas ornaments and mugs with the church likeness on them. They are in the Café cabinet, along with an envelope for your check/cash. Ornaments are \$5 and Mugs are \$10. All proceeds go to offset the anniversary expenses, and any profits will go to the Endowment fund. If you would like some of these and cannot get to the church, let us know and I'm sure we can figure it out. You may call Andrea at church at 522-3189 or email me at Nancy.dee2018@gmail.com to make arrangements.

Nancy Dee

Saving Money and Energy - Right at Home!

Check out this website: <https://nhsaves.com/> As we approach winter, questions arise about what we, as individuals and families can do to keep ourselves warm, safe and consume less energy doing so. The website is a perfect way to explore options available to you. As faith-filled people, we are stewards of the earth -- no matter where we are: at home, at church, in the car, etc.

NHSaves offers rebates, for example, on qualifying new energy efficient purchases of items like clothes dryers, washing machines, dehumidifiers, new heating and cooling equipment. When shopping, look for the Energy STAR reference.

NHSaves can also conduct energy audits to determine where leaks may be happening in your home. There are tips on this website where you can learn everyday simple measures that will benefit not only your electric and gas bill, but help, even in a small way, to mitigate climate change. With good decisions now, we help not only ourselves, but the generation to come -- paying it forward!

Carol Lundgren, Stewardship Ministry

Library Highlight

One Thousand Gifts (J-G) by Ann Voskamp

In this book, the author invites you to discover a way of seeing that opens your eyes to ordinary amazing grace, a way of living that is fully alive, and a way of becoming present to God that brings deep and lasting joy. It's only in the expression of gratitude for the life we already have, we discover the life we've always wanted . . . a life we can take, give thanks for, and break for others. Come to feel and know the impossible right down in your bones: you are wildly loved by God. This book is currently located on the mobile shelving cart in Fellowship Hall. Source: Amazon

Linda Petkunas, Librarian

Seasons



The early morning trek into the woods finds me marveling at the combination of October chill and the slight increase of body temperature derived from the exertion of walking. The transition from summer to fall has always been one of my favorites. My love of colors is so strong that I named my daughter Azure, which is

French for “blue”. The trees along this walk do not disappoint me. The russets, golds, burnt oranges and flaming reds take my breath away. The leaves carpet the ground creating a runway effect. As I stroll under this polychromatic setting, I hear rustling among the fallen leaves. For a split second my imagination awakens images of our New Hampshire black bear. My “fight or flight” instinct results in another rise in body temperature. Silly me, its just a grey squirrel.

This year’s autumn is slightly off in its temperatures. We have not even experienced a frost yet. Is this Nature’s way of saying, “Pay Attention”? Has this occurred in past seasonal transitions, or is this something we will forever experience in the future? Has our calendar shifted slightly clockwise? In my mind, winter is supposed to be the months of December, January, and February, with spring in March, April, May; summer in June, July, August; and fall in September, October, November. As Ecclesiastes declares in Chapter 3 verses 1 - 8, there is a season for everything. These scriptures are so popular that even the rock group The Byrds composed a song dedicated to them. As we negotiate through the social, political, and environmental anxieties of the day, let us find comfort in Ecclesiastes Chapter 1 where the author says, “a generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.” We too will come full circle until the time our soul rest with God

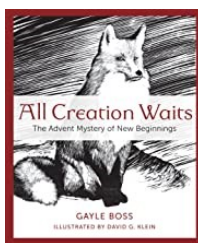
This pandemic has altered our world just like the subtle changes of the seasons. Things will be different. We will not return to what some call “normal”. For what was normal was not necessarily good for all. We may struggle as we adjust to how “Church” is now and how it will become, but do not despair for Spirit will meet all our needs. Look to the comforter and rest assured that the rustling of the leaves is just a squirrel.

*Donna Ackerman,
Diaconate*

From the Assistant Treasurer

For anyone who has pledged a monetary amount to the church, you should be receiving an Interim Report sometime between the middle to late November. This report will reflect your giving for the first three months of our fiscal year (July 1 2021 - October 31 2021). If I have your email address, the report will be emailed (unless you indicate to me that you'd prefer it to be sent through the US Postal Service). Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns with your report when you receive it or, if by the end of the month, you haven't received it. You can reach me, Julie Kessler, at 603-871-8066 or julielouisekessler@gmail.com.

Advent! Faith Formation Tuesday Class



Believe it or not, it's not too early to be thinking about Advent! This year, the first Sunday of Advent is November 28th - right after Thanksgiving; which means our first Advent class will be the following Tuesday, November 30th at 12:00.

For this Advent, we're going to be using a rather unique approach to this season of waiting. The class will use the book "All Creation Waits; The Advent Mystery of New Beginnings" by Gayle Boss.

Open a window each day of Advent onto the natural world. Here are twenty-five fresh images of the foundational truth that lies beneath and within the Christ story. In twenty-five portraits depicting how wild animals of the northern hemisphere ingeniously adapt when darkness and cold descend, we see and hear as if for the first time the ancient wisdom of Advent: The dark is not an end but the way a new beginning comes.

First class will start on Tuesday, November 30th at 12:00 and will be conducted via Zoom. If interested in joining us, please contact Julie Kessler to be sure you're added to the Zoom distribution list. (603-871-8066 or email julielouisekessler@gmail.com)

Julie Kessler

Spirit Discovery Group

Have you wanted to go deeper in your spiritual life—find some additional spiritual tools? Do you want to learn some ways which can help us to clear space inside for discernment and listen to the Holy Spirit. This is what we are doing in the Spirit Discovery Group. Please feel free to join this group with Reverend Tere on Tuesdays at 4:30 in the Parish Helpers Room.

Notes from Zimbabwe

Greetings to my church family and friends! The past few weeks have flown by and we are in the midst of prepping for the arrival of the shipping container next week!

Two very, very ill men came to my house in Chipinge almost four weeks ago to have access to medical treatment including necessary x-rays and lab work at Chipinge Hospital. A few things struck me. Both men were emaciated yet still had to walk upwards of 10 miles simply to access a ride to get to the nearest town where they could be picked up. When people are ill in Zimbabwe they go to a relative's home for care, in this case Vranthe, our PKZ Director. The relative is expected to provide necessary care and pay for all medical expenses. Can you imagine what happens when the relative doesn't have the resources to provide additional food, or medication or doctor's and lab fees? What really struck me was when one of the relatives thanked me for the "powerful medication" I provided that seemed to make all the difference. The powerful medication was ibuprofen and a no name brand cough syrup comparable to Dayquil. Just imagine.

I have met two women who impress me deeply. Beauty Makuyana is probably in her mid-late 30s. She is one of the more than 60 students who show up Monday - Friday from noon to 5:00 p.m. on my veranda to take "extra lessons" from Chipinge High teachers to prepare for her O Level exams. As a teenager she had to drop out of high school when her father died as her family could not afford to send her or her 4 siblings to school. She married, had three children, but always wanted to finish high school. (In Zimbabwe, that is passing a minimum of 5 national exams, called O Level subjects.) She has taken her O levels two other times but did not succeed. Deeply faithful, Beauty is determined that the exams this December will be different. She wants to show her children that you never give up in the desire to achieve your dreams of a better life.

The other woman is Chipo M. Chipo dropped out of primary school in grade 3 to work to help support her family. (Her father had married another woman years earlier and her mother couldn't make it on her own.) Chipo became a maid at the age of 10 and worked for various families. At the age of 15 she was the victim of a traumatic sexual assault. She went to live with an aunt in Harare and work as a maid/nanny. The aunt is a teacher and could see how bright Chipo was so she brought home Form 1 and Form 2 books for her to study. Chipo is a voracious reader so she decided to teach herself. By the age of 21, she wanted to enter Secondary School to take her O levels but schools wouldn't admit her because she didn't have any Grade 7 national exam results. Chipo went to a private, local college to prep for O levels and would pass 7 subjects. Once she had her O levels, she applied to Gaza High School for A levels, where Sam was

at school. She completed A levels with distinction and during her two years at Gaza High, she was elected Prefect, Vice Head Girl, and later became Junior MP (Junior member of Parliament) attending conferences nation wide on a variety of issues. Chipo initially aspired to attend college for law due to her ten year quest to have the man who assaulted her brought to justice. Although she was accepted at three Zimbabwe universities, she didn't have the \$500 per term to attend so for the past three years she has been working one job after another to try to save for college. Chipo, now 27 years of age, came to me just last week after hearing that Sam was attending school in the USA and she wanted to know if I could assist her. Right now we are looking at schools which give significant scholarship in the UK as she looks toward programs in social work. The UK also has a significant Zimbabwean population, a safety net which I feel is critical for success. Chipo said, "I decided not to settle for less in my life. If I am to have a brighter future, I need to do whatever I can to continue my education."

Two courageous, impoverished women with dreams bigger than their hardships. Just imagine.

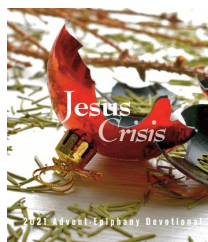
Connie Littlefield

The Shepherd Program Needs Help

The Shepherd Program is a community service project that has been serving the people in the Wakefield/Brookfield area since the early 1980s. It is a program that offers rides to medical appointments for people who, because of a medical reason, cannot drive themselves. Many of our riders are older and simply no longer drive. Currently our need is greater than ever, please consider becoming a volunteer driver. For more information, please call the church office at 603-522-3189.

ADVENT!

Informal Advent Discussion



After taking what was presumably a COVID-hiatus, StillSpeaking writers have returned after a year and a half to give us a new UCC-based Advent Devotional. This year's devotional is entitled: "The Jesus Crisis". Each day in Advent is accompanied by a piece of scripture, a reflection and a picture. Taken together, they speak to our hearts, minds and souls.

I am entertaining the possibility of getting together a few times through Advent to share impressions and insights into these daily devotionals. Days and times to be determined based on the interest level. Please let me, Julie Kessler, know if you would like to participate. (julielouisekessler@gmail.com or 603-871-8066)

Celebrations!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | Mary Ann Fountain | 20 | Mary Beth Cook |
| 2 | Glenna Nelson | 22 | Donna Lewis |
| 3 | Kim Cornell | 22 | Hector Livingston |
| 4 | Gail Feddern | 23 | Ann Bilodeau |
| 5 | Vincent Mangano | 25 | Lauryn Robinson |
| 8 | George Ackerman | 28 | Denine Foulks |
| 14 | Pam Wiggin | 29 | Catherine Britton |
| 16 | Julie Margolis | 29 | Rev. Mary James |
| 19 | Dana Margolis | 30 | Chuck Hodsdon |

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Skip & Sharon Theiling
- 18 Bob & Ann Eaton
- 21 Hector & Marlana Livingston



To my beloved church family,

With deep appreciation, surprise and joy, I thank you for the moment of recognition during our special 235 Celebration Service on Sunday, September 26, 2021. I was humbled and overwhelmed by the words spoken. The tribute imprinted on the plaque is also imprinted in my heart. My years with Wakefield Memorial Bells have been a rich and full journey – forever memories. Directing handbells has been my “purpose” and one of the greatest privileges of my life. I send sincere and heartfelt wishes for the continuation of our glorious music mission. Great things are possible with David Morrison who has agreed to lead our fabulous, talented, and dedicated ringers. Love to all of them: past, present and future...and to each of you.

Jan Stanley



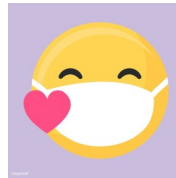
It is with great sadness that we announce three deaths in our church family recently.

Bob Chadbourne passed away on September 10. He was predeceased by his wife, Maxine several years ago. They were very active members in our church over the years.

Ron Fountain, a friend of the church known for his creative art, passed away on October 11. Please keep his wife, MaryAnn, and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

We also ask for prayers for the family and friends of Bonnie Hines. A Memorial Service for her will be held at our church on Sunday, November 7th, following the Worship Service.

Covid Protocols for Worship



At October Leadership Council meeting, it was agreed to keep current Covid protocols in place as is. This means that for now, masks are required and social distancing is being practiced at Worship and in the church building for other reasons.

We continue to offer online worship as well. Links to Zoom worship and Facebook Live are available on our website at www.fccwakefieldnh.org

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.

Please keep in prayer: Annie G, Bob J, Family of Bonnie H, Carol J's Niece Chrissy, Elizabeth H, Freddie K. Lyn S, Family of Ron F, Ryan S, Sue L's Daughter Cindy, Brandon & his Family, Wendy D, Aaron J.

Prayer Chain: Through 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 have a prayer request, please email Harriet Wilson (dhwilson39@gmail.com) All prayer requests are kept strictly confidential and will only be shared with the express permission of the people involved.

NOVEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 ALL SAINTS DAY Caregiver's Support Group 9:30–10:30 a.m.	2 Adult Faith Formation Via Zoom 12 p.m.–1 p.m. Spirit Discovery Group—4:30 Choir 5:30	3 Diaconate Meeting 4:30 p.m.	4 String Band Location TBA or Zoom	5	6
7 24rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship and Holy Communion 10 a.m. In-person or On Zoom/ Facebook	8	9 Adult Faith Formation Via Zoom 12 p.m.–1 p.m. Spirit Discovery Group—4:30 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.	10 Grief Support Group 11 a.m. Parish Helpers Room Leadership Council Meeting via Zoom 4:45 p.m.	11 VETERAN'S DAY String Band Location TBA or Zoom	12	13
14 25rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship 10 a.m. In-person or On Zoom/ Facebook	15 Caregiver's Support Group 9:30–10:30 a.m.	16 Adult Faith Formation Via Zoom 12 p.m.–1 p.m. Spirit Discovery Group—4:30 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.	17	18 Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m. to 11:30 String Band Location TBA or Zoom	19	20
21 26d SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Worship 10 a.m. In-person or On Zoom/ Facebook	22 Poinsettia Orders Due	23 Adult Faith Formation Via Zoom 12 p.m.–1 p.m. Spirit Discovery Group—4:30 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.	24 Grief Support Group 11 a.m. Parish Helpers Room	25 THANKSGIVING DAY	26	27
28 1st Sunday of Advent Worship 10 a.m. In-person or On Zoom/ Facebook	29	30 Adult Faith Formation Via Zoom 12 p.m.–1 p.m. Spirit Discovery Group—4:30 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.				

Celebration 235!

Kicking off the celebration early in the week, Evy Truhn and her band of cupcake makers & frosters packaged 235 chocolate cupcakes which were delivered all over town starting with the children attending Hazel MacBrien Nursery School and on to Town Hall, DPW, Transfer Station, Parks & Recreation, Gafney Library, Wakefield Library, Wakefield Family Medicine, White Mountain Medical Center and the Post Offices in Sanbornville, East Wakefield and Union! It was great fun to see the expressions on so many faces when they realized cupcakes were for them! These places were chosen for the public service they render in the community - a thank you and small token of appreciation.

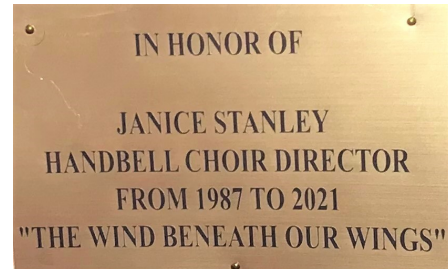


On Sat., September 25 the Wakefield Memorial Handbell Choir, under the direction of David Morrison, performed three 30-minute concerts to the delight of all who attended. Opening with the powerful "Chariots of Fire" and closing with the tender "You Raise Me Up", it was wonderful to hear the bells again! If you missed the concert, you can view it on YouTube by following this link

[:https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exEaT38kQlw&t=436s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exEaT38kQlw&t=436s)



Sunday Worship Service was amazing. The Bell Choir played again: Hallelujah - under the direction of Jan Stanley. Jan has been the director of the Bell Choir for 35 years! As she and Tom are moving to Nevada, tribute was paid to Jan by Kevin Connell who wrote some poignant memories to Jan - read by Connie Littlefield. Buddy Dee, in a surprise to Jan, escorted her to the front of the bell choir loft and revealed a dedication plaque in her honor. It was a very tender moment for all.



During worship, Pastor Emeritus George Harvey addressed the congregation noting how much has changed over time, but how the spirit continues to shine as the church family engages in so many meaningful ways of supporting community life here and in faraway Zimbabwe.

Patricia Golden who manages the church archives and understands genealogy research so well, made a historical connection from the family of FCCW's first pastor, The Rev. Asa Piper, to current day member and neighbor, Pamela Wiggin - imagine 7 generations later this Piper relative is a valued member of the congregation!

Rev. Tere gave a forward-thinking sermon encouraging current members and friends to envision and enable positive changes to stay relevant in today's world.

And we all say: Amen!

Carol Lundgren

If you missed the worship service, you can view it on YouTube. Follow this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRUDb6x1fHE>

Ed. Note:

Special thanks to Carol Lundgren for organizing the 235 Celebration along with a trusty band of volunteers: Patricia Golden, Nancy Dee, Buddy Dee, Evy Truhn, Kevin Connell, Connie Littlefield, Donna Ackerman, George Ackerman, Jo Szirbik, Margie Galabrun, Max Gehring, Cindy Eggleston and the Voice Choir, Jan Stanley and the Bell Choir, Barry Truhn, Frank Frazier, Judy Trepal, Rachel White, Andrea Selig, Carol Jeffery, the Finance Team, the Deacons, Sally Kratt, Susan Raban, Linda Messer, Patricia Anderson, Sue Lynn, Anne Palmariello, and youth volunteers Coralena and CeCe. It takes a village!

Calling and Discernment Ministry

“I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart.” Psalm 40:8

FCCW Members and friends always have opportunities to experience worship, serve the community and offer their unique spiritual gifts for the maintenance and improvement of our beautiful church.

Safe Church Team--We are so grateful that Tracey Kolb has agreed to coordinate the NH Department of Homeland Security Nonprofit Safety Grant that was recently awarded to FCCW. Her gifts, talents, and experience with grants will help the church with the transition from a ‘safety vision’ to an even more secure church. Buddy Dee, who worked as coordinator of the Safe Church Team until recently, wrote the application for the \$25,000 granted by the NH Department of Safety. The money will be used to enhance safe entrance to the church with upgraded lighting, locks, and video equipment. A huge THANK YOU to both Buddy and Tracey.

Faith Formation Ministry--There are always opportunities to assist with the faith education of our young children. Learning stories, songs, and faith base crafts are activities that FCCW children love. There are many ways that you may be the one who can inspire a child to say, “I can’t wait to be in church”. Are YOU feeling creative to become that adult?

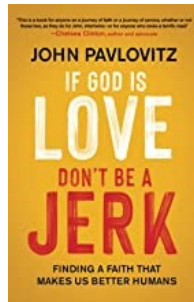
Sound Team--It takes a wizard to fire up the Sanctuary microphones, transmit Zoom on the Internet and go live on Facebook each Sunday---- all at the same time!! If you have gifts and interest in these areas, please consider sharing your talents with the FCCW Sound Team.

The Arts Ministry--Musical, theatrical, and decorative talents are always appreciated at FCCW. There are many possibilities for you to share your enthusiasm and love of the Arts. Presently FCCW would like help with the coordination of all things beautiful!

For more information on any FCCW team or Ministry or if you’re considering other ways to share your spiritual gifts, please contact Linda Messer at lindamesser@gmail.com or any other member of Calling and Discernment by leaving a message at 603-522-3189. Connie Littlefield, Donna Ackerman, Janice Brejwo, Margie Galabrun, Harriet Wilson.

Linda Messer, Co-coordinator

Faith Formation - Our Next Study!



Classes will be starting up in November for our next study - this one will be based on a book by John Pavlovitz entitled "If God is Love Don't be a Jerk"

In *If God Is Love, Don't Be a Jerk*, John Pavlovitz examines the bedrock ideas of our religion: the existence of hell, the utility of prayer, the way we treat LGBTQ people, the value of anger, and other doctrines to help all of us take a good, honest look at how the beliefs we hold can shape our relationships with God and our fellow humans—and to make sure that love has the last, loudest word!

Our first class will start on Tuesday, November 2nd at 12:00 and will be conducted via Zoom. If interested in joining us, please contact Julie Kessler to be sure you're added to the Zoom distribution list. (603-871-8066 or email julielouisekessler@gmail.com)

Julie Kessler

Thank you to Our Deacons!

Week after week, month after month, our Deacons are hard at work for our church. Over the past few years, we have witnessed their dedication as they’ve stepped up to take the reins when we have found ourselves without a full-time pastor. From the time before Rev. Mary’s retirement, to an interim minister, and between the times of interim to our settled Pastor, the Deacons have made sure that we have had someone in the Pulpit every Sunday, be it a guest preacher or one of themselves. They have been present and participate at every worship service whether it is in person, virtual or pre-recorded (as it was at the beginning of the pandemic) making sure all is well. In addition, they spend many hours in meetings, phone calls, making arrangements for memorial services, weddings, and checking in on our members and friends. They are resourceful, dependable, and caring individuals and we owe them our continued gratitude as they are the ones that keep the wheels turning, keeping us on track as a vital church in our community. Special thanks to the co-coordinators, Ginny Schweitzer and Jo Szirbik for their commitment and leadership and to the entire diaconate —Harriet Wilson, Gail Feddern, Evy Truhn, Chuck Hodsdon, Norma Gore, Max Gehring, and Donna Ackerman.

Carol Jeffery



Christmas Poinsettia Order Form



It's time to order your Christmas Poinsettia plants! These will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas and will be available for you to pick up after the Christmas worship service. Orders must be received by November 22. Please fill in the form below and make checks payable to FCCW. You can mail it to the church at 2718 Wakefield Road, Sanbornville, NH 03872, drop it in the mailbox that is attached to the side entrance of the church, or place it in CLA Andrea's mailbox in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel White at 603-520-2316.

Name of Donor (s)

In Memory or In Honor Of:

(Circle One)

Single Poinsettia Plant _____ @ \$12.50 _____ Red _____ White \$ _____ Total

Doubles Poinsettia Plant _____ @ \$24.95 _____ Red _____ White \$ _____ Total

Plants may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel White at 603-520-2316.

Parish Helpers

The Parish Helpers carry on! After a very successful season at the Treasure Shop, a few ladies got together to put the shop to bed for the winter. Rachel and Carole thank all the ladies who took time this summer to help out in the shop and add to the success!



The Treasure Shop has been the only PH fundraiser for the past two summers. Success in the shop means we are able to meet our charitable goals. Thanks all!



Several of the Parish Helpers gathered at the Silver Fountain Inn for "Tea" on October 14. Though there was a small group, they had a lovely luncheon and lots of fun!

Congratulations to Pat Anderson on being elected as Treasurer after the resignation of Jo-Anne Perks. Thank you to Jo-Anne for her years of service.

We look forward to being able to meet in person again soon! Meanwhile, hope everyone is well and safe!

A Prayer Meditation for All Saints Day

We give you thanks, O God, for all the saints who ever worshiped you
Whether in brush arbors or cathedrals,
Weathered wooden churches or crumbling cement meeting houses
Where your name was lifted and adored.

We give you thanks, O God, for hands lifted in praise:
Manicured hands and hands stained with grease or soil,
Strong hands and those gnarled with age
Holy hands
Used as wave offerings across the land.

We thank you, God, for hardworking saints;
Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted,
Head ragged or aproned,
Blue-collared or three-piece-suited
They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come.

Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us.
Bless the memories of your saints, God.
May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love



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