

FCCW OFFERS A HEARTSAVER CPR COURSE



SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022
from 9:00 am to 11:30 am



Who - CPR Trainer, Heather Powers.

Audience - For adults with limited or no medical training in CPR and AED operation.

Course Content - Instruction on Adult, Child and Infant CPR and AED use. It includes Adult, Child and Infant choking.

Course Format - Classroom-based (instructor and video, with skills conducted throughout).

Course Length - 2.5 +/- hours Course - Fee: \$35/pp. Checks will be accepted at class.

Certification - Upon completion of this course, students receive an American Heart Association HeartSaver CPR/AED e-Card, valid for 2 years.

****Space is limited, please call the First Congregational Church of Wakefield at 603-522-3189 to reserve your spot by June 1st!****

Church Art (pr 20092)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WAKEFIELD
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2718 WAKEFIELD ROAD
SANBORNVILLE, NH 03872



Treasure Shop
Opening Day
June 18
9 a.m. to 12 noon

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
JUNE 2022

PHONE: 603-522-3189
WEBSITE: FCCWAKEFIELDNH.ORG
EMAIL: CHURCHOFFICE@FCCWAKEFIELDNH.ORG
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
FIRSTCONGREGATIONALCHURCHOFWAKEFIELDUCC](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTCONGREGATIONALCHURCHOFWAKEFIELDUCC)

REJOICE AND RENEWAL A REFLECTION BY DONNA V ACKERMAN

The global pandemic of the past two years has found many of us in a confused and anxious state of being. Some of us have lost loved ones or know of friends who have spent days or even months under hospital care. But here we are at the beginning of summer 2022 with our lives returning to some sense of familiarity. We look forward to celebrating holidays, like Memorial Day and the 4th of July, with friends and family. We are once again eating in restaurants, attending ball games, and going to the beach.

Our church is slowly returning to in-person attendance. Some of us are still cautious about removing our masks, but for the most part we are finding some sort of normalcy. As I walk around our yard and gaze at the flower gardens it seems that they are more vibrant. Is it because of the extra time I devoted to them during the isolation of the pandemic? Maybe. Is it because of my more appreciative view towards life, nature, and relationships? Probably. With God's grace we have endured many hardships these past two years. And with God's grace we will endure those still to come. Some say, "But, what about inflation and gas prices? What about empty store shelves of baby formula and other goods? What about the war in Ukraine and another school shooting?" My response is, we have had these same or similar hardships in the past. For generations we have survived depressions and wars, plagues and climate crisis, political conflicts, and social unrest. With God's grace we will overcome today's and future challenges.

Lord, help us to understand that the things we find challenging can be overcome through your love and grace. Keep us in the palm of your hands as we move forward in the days to come. Show us the vibrant colors of your earth and bring peace to our hearts and minds. Guide us as we rejoice in your renewal.

Donna V Ackerman

Growing in Love and Faith..... one seed at a time!

It is like a tiny mustard seed that a man planted in a garden; it grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make nests in its branches." Luke 13:19 (NLT)

When I was a child I was given a necklace with a tiny orb strung on it. A minuscule round object was encased in the glass globe dangling on the fragile silver chain. It was a mustard seed. During my teen years, I was given a larger version of the encapsulated grain in a charm for my bracelet. But I never knew the significance of the mustard seed until I became interested in becoming a part of the congregation at FCCW. It was then that I learned that the tiniest of all seeds grows into something magnificent, as does faith and the love of God.

My faith has continued to evolve the more I have become engaged with the loving church family and the many various opportunities for growth found at FCCW. In many ways I have learned things about myself I never expected! And the good news is that exploring new ideas and opportunities are here for you too.

Even if you are not quite sure what you'd like to become involved with, please consider testing the waters by attending any one of FCCW's active ministries. Music, bookkeeping, outreach, organizing, technical skill, fundraising, and teaching are among the many skills adaptable to one or more of them. Any ministry here would open its door for help, but the Ministries of Stewardship, Outreach, and Faith Formation are also looking for coordinators.

Please leave a voicemail for Linda Messer (603-781-8745) or Connie Littlefield (603-268-5445). We would be happy to talk to you about what you love to do, might be interested in, or perhaps you'd simply like to know more about the fabulous First Congregational Church Wakefield, UCC.

*Linda Messer,
Calling and Discernment Ministry*

So, Stick a Geranium in Your Hat and Be Happy

By Barbara Johnson is in our collection in the Fellowship Hall —S-O (Spiritual Journey of Others Section)

Pain is inevitable but misery is optional, says Barbara Johnson, and she should know. The survivor of four devastating experiences, Barbara, with the wit of Erma Bombeck, teaches how to find joy in the midst of it all. Her credentials open doors and provide insight to all those who suffer from the difficulties of life.

Linda Petkunas, Church Librarian

Leadership Council Proposed 2022-23 Budget

The Leadership Council Proposed 2022-23 Budget and Summary is posted in the narthex and on the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall. It will also be emailed to all members in time for the Annual Meeting. If any member would like a copy they can request one from the office. Hope to see all of you in person or on Zoom at our Annual Meeting on June 26th.

Janice Brejwo, Finance Coordinator

Call to Annual Meeting

In compliance with our By-laws, the Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church will be held on June 26th at 11:30 a.m., following the morning worship. The meeting will be in person and via Zoom. Look for the Zoom link in your email in the days prior to the meeting. All members are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting.

SAVERS Collection Time is Now!

Clothing Drive



Our used clothing and soft goods collection is a relatively easy way for the church to raise funds, thanks to the dedicated FUNdraising Team who organizes, packs, and delivers the bags to Newington. It's just one more way we can ALL contribute to help meet the financial obligations of our church.

Hopefully by now, you've purged those closets and have bags of used clothing and other soft goods ready to donate to FCCW's clothing drive.

Collection will be held on the church lawn on the following dates:

Saturday, June 4 from 9 to 11 a.m.

Sunday, June 5, from 12 to 1 p.m.

Saturday, June 11 from 9 to 11 a.m.

Sunday, June 12 from 12 to 1 p.m.

Items should be bundled in plastic bags, securely tied (tall kitchen bags work well). Acceptable items include clothing, blankets, towels, pillows, linens, accessories. Please bag shoes, purses, and belts separately.

Thank you!

The FUNdraising Team

Hazel MacBrien NS News

During the month of May we worked on letters Bb and Nn and numbers 3 and 8. Our butterflies hatched and we released them on a beautiful sunny day with both the morning and afternoon classes. The kids celebrated mother's day by making a handprint keychain and even wrapping it up themselves. Our afternoon kids went to visit the Kindergarten teachers at the Paul School and then we played some outside games like; What Time is it Mr. Fox? and Red Light, Green Light. Pride Day came and the kids rode on our float. The kids made wizard hats, fairy crowns and magical wands. We also operated the Bouncy House and fun was had by all!! On May 24th we went on a field trip to Foxx Run Family Farm. It was a wonderful opportunity for the kids to see, touch and feed different animals. Some of the animals we saw were; horses, goats, sheep, chickens, pigs and peacocks. The morning kids got to take home a chicken egg and the afternoon kids planted bean seeds to take home. Miss Heather and her family were great with us and we will definitely plan another trip next year! The painted piano in the flower garden has been a hit with the kids and it's fun to open our doors and hear the kids playing music on it! It's hard to believe June is starting next week and we are looking forward to our fun end of year activities. Thanks again for your continued support.

HMNS

Parish Helpers News

A **regular monthly meeting** is planned for Thursday, June 9th, at 1 p.m. Refreshments will be served and we will have a Chair Yoga Presentation given by Lindsey Kipp of Sunflower Yoga of Shapleigh, Maine.

We are in need of 3 hosts to prepare and serve refreshments. If you are willing, please contact me at carol.jeffery@gmail.com or 603-838-5633 (call or text).

The **Treasure Shop** is being readied for the summer season. Rachel, Carole D and their merry bunch of helpers have been hard at work and the shop is looking fabulous! **Opening day is slated for June 18** and the shop will be open Wednesday and Saturday mornings until mid-September. We need ALL Parish Helpers to donate their time to work in the shop over the course of the summer. A sign up sheet will be circulated at the June 9 meeting, so bring your calendars!

Coming soon—in July, our **Annual Picnic**; in August, the **Village Fair** returns. We will be looking for volunteers to help at the Fair on August 13.

The summer is the busiest season and our opportunity to raise funds for the many charities we support

Carol Jeffery

Hearing God's Call ...

Pledges are coming in a little more slowly than in the past. One wonders if that is a reflection on ... so much that is unknown these days – like what gas prices will be tomorrow, for example. If you have not yet made your pledge, please do so soon! Have faith ... Hear God's Call. It is not always easy to make a financial decision, but in prayer, you will have your answer and know exactly what to do! Pledges will be dedicated and blessed at worship on June 12.

2022–2023 ANNUAL GIVING PLEDGE

Our Mission: Hearing God's Call. Growing in Love and Care

Dedication and blessings of all pledges: Sunday, June 5th



First Congregational Church
of Wakefield, NH UCC

Yes! I/we support this church with an annual pledge of : \$ _____

This gift will be fulfilled as follows: Weekly Monthly Quarterly Annually

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email(s): _____

Preferred Phone(s): _____

Zimbabwe News



Pre-distribution discussion at Mudziwa High School

As in the USA, the big concerns here are the economy. A bond note is now trading for 400-450 for 1 US dollar in the larger cities. When shopping you have three rates to consider: the store rate of

310 which usually is far below the street value; the street value which is generally 350 in Chipinge; and the swipe value -- using someone's debit card for 360 or more, knowing that they have traded cash (bond notes or US dollars) for a much higher rate and have money in their debit account. These people wait outside of stores and negotiate with those of us getting ready to shop.

It's a side hustle that can be very profitable. I realized that the people outside the stores are working with employees inside the store. The store employee is having the street negotiators use the employee card and later the outside negotiator gets compensated. I am no longer surprised at how creative people are at making ends meet.

Cooking oil is now \$6.00 US for a 2-liter bottle, up from \$3.00 a year ago. Fuel can run \$6.00-\$6.50 per gallon. People smuggle less expensive gas from Mozambique and sell on the side of the road but you take your chances because you aren't sure what has been added to it. Just about every basic commodity other than bread has jumped 30%. Those without access to US dollars -- all civil service employees are paid in Zim bond notes -- are in deep trouble. Some stores deal only in US cash. Street vendors prefer USD but will take bond notes.

Inflation has caused the use of bribes to increase exponentially. One friend is trying to get his driver's license. If you do not pay off the driving instructor, the person giving the written exams, and the person administering the driving test, you don't get a license. He said it is very clear who has paid whom. They take a series of written tests and those who have paid sit in a different part of the classroom; their tests already have answers filled in. Test administrators use a stencil when correcting tests. They may use stencil #4 to correct test #2 so, naturally, most of the answers will show up as incorrect. What is different now is that the bribes or "tokens of appreciation" are pretty much out in the open. The administrator tells the driving student they aren't getting paid by the government, so the student has to "top up."

In another example, a job applicant had to pay the person who interviewed them in order to get the job. A friend paid \$50 for his job delivering cases of beverages to local supermarkets. He says the manager is expecting a "token of appreciation" over the next few paychecks. His pay is in bond notes, so the value of his salary decreases weekly.

We distributed washable, reusable sanitary pads to 44 students at a local high school. The girls were solemn as they accepted the brightly colored bag with four pads and a new pair of underwear, giggling with hands over their mouths as they returned to class. The female teacher said this is a huge, huge deal as they either use very difficult methods to manage their menstrual cycle or they stay home from school.

Amidst all of the uncertainties of life for Zimbabweans, I often remember a visit the Z Team made on our first trip in 2005. Chris Feddern, Cathy Koukal, Donna Ackerman, Jo Szirbik, Pat Amroski and I were taken to the farm of Bridget Perkins (can't remember her husband's name). As we arrived in the company of UCCZ pastors, we noticed men standing among the macadamia trees armed with machetes and who knew what else. Bridget served tea and chocolate cake on special china dishes as she and her husband recounted their experiences of being second generation white farmers now dealing with the violent and terrifying farm invasions. I wondered then what would become of these people and the conflict caused so long ago by colonization and societal apartheid. It seems that whoever is in power, oppression remains.

Connie Littlefield

Music and Art Combined

Watch as our project evolves over the summer and into the fall. The old piano that was in the Fellowship Hall could not find a new home, so it was decided to make it beautiful one last time. Combining Installation and Landscape Art (that may be a reach), the old piano is already being enjoyed more than it has been in years. The youth will soon be painting sunflowers and Ukrainian blue and yellow peace signs on it. Live sunflowers will surround it. Children are already enjoying playing it as they walk by. It's fun, it's a learning opportunity, and it's an important statement as well.

Margie Galabrun



A Little Patience Please

Oh, My Goodness! Anyone who knows me, knows that patience is not part of my personality. I burst into colorful “sailor-like” vocabulary when dealing with inconsiderate drivers. You know the ones who ride your back bumper so closely you can see their eye color in your review mirror. Or race past you crossing a double yellow line, causing on-coming traffic and yourself to consider swerving to avoid an accident. I tend to pace when confronted with challenges or making decisions. I allow my “inner-monolog” to escape as I work through these challenges, resulting in saying the first thing that comes to mind, then realizing that’s not what I meant to say. It’s my way of mentally cataloging ideas into reasonable compartments. If I must sit for any length of time, like in a meeting, I scribble on my notes. Over the years, I have developed tools to assist me with my impatience. Music helps in all situations, whether it is in my head or playing in a room. Controlled breathing is another tool. I just have to make sure I exhale.

The Bible provides guidance in dealing with patience. Proverbs 14:29 says, “Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but one who has a hasty temper exalts folly”. And in verse 30 the Psalmist goes on to say, “A tranquil mind gives life to the flesh, but passion makes the bones rot”. Oooo, that seems harsh. James 5: 7a says, “Be patient, therefore beloved, until the coming of the Lord”. Now that’s a long time waiting since we are in the 21st Century with maybe that much more to follow before we see Christ return. In her infinite wisdom, God has provided me with the most patient of spouses. George would give Job a run for his money. James 5:7b says, “The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and late rains”. Yep, that’s my George. He charts his gardens and records past plantings and their progress. We are already enjoying the harvest of spinach, radishes, and asparagus and its only mid-May. I, on the other hand, have multiple flower beds in which I tend to move certain perennials into other spaces if I don’t see immediate results. In Romans 5: 3-5 the author relates patience with endurance, and endurance with hope. It reads, “Knowing suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us”. Wow! Suffering = endurance = character = hope = no disappointment. With that kind of calculation how can we go wrong.

Lord, you know me, and I thank you for the patience you have endured when dealing with me. Forgive me when I fall short. But I won’t let you down as I continue to work on that particular virtue. I know you will understand when I ask of you and myself to have, “A Little Patience Please”.

The Cheerful Giver!

The Stewardship campaign is in full swing -- welcoming YOUR pledge promise for the coming fiscal year which begins on July 1. We will bless pledges together on June 12th. Please pray about what your financial gift to church will be.

2 Corinthians 7: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

*Carol Lundgren and Frank Frazier
Stewardship Ministry Co-ordinators*

KIWI Club

Pride day was a success for the KIWI club. All funds raised will go to all KIWI's attending Horton Center this summer.* The group worked with church members to prepare the booth and at the end of the day our sales totaled over \$800! We thank you all for purchasing items, buying tickets for the raffles, for donating and stopping by the booth.

The KIWI club spent time with Frank F. last month planting sunflowers seeds at Mooseview Farm and they will be planted by the piano in the garden for all to enjoy.



Painting the Piano and Planting

The group also got together with the Men’s group and assisted in trail cleanup of the Cotton Valley Rail Trail and received an introduction from George A. about trail etiquette, safety and what to pack while on a hike. This info will come in handy for some future activities that the KIWIs are planning. Stay tuned if you would like to join them on an outdoor hiking adventure this summer/fall.

Upcoming events: **June 5** - KIWI club 3 p.m. - Songs and Signs with Buddy and Company; **June 19** - Children's Sunday - 10am -- Join the KIWIs as they participate in the worship service, share songs and host coffee hour.

*A reminder for KIWI members to start your registration if you have not done so already. July 1st is the cutoff date. The Men's group will once again be donating to the group and we thank you them all for that!

Celebrations!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 Nicholas Legere | 15 Adam Koukal |
| 6 Sienna Canney | 16 Frank Frazier |
| 6 Julie Kessler | 16 Cathy Koukal |
| 6 Ron Kratt | 16 Julie Leyare |
| 7 David Coutreau | 17 Janet Carr |
| 7 Donna McDougal | 19 Lorrie Hughes |
| 8 Chuck Dolbear Jr. | 20 Cameron Currier |
| 9 Kevin Connell | 21 Connie Littlefield |
| 9 Carol Lundgren | 21 Dorothy Smith |
| 9 Colleen Nicastro | 22 Jean Ball |
| 11 Steve Michalsky | 25 Kaylee Fogg |
| 13 Joseph Cawlina | 25 Ron White |
| 14 Jason Johnson | 27 Morgan Haag |
| 14 Erin Perkins | 28 Louise Wheeler |
| 15 Gina Golden | 30 Seth Fogg |

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Mary & Bob James (1979)
- 5 Ryan & Martha Jo McCarthy (1993)
- 12 Jack & Marie Hebb (1952)
- 15 Phil & Connie Twombly
- 17 Walter & Laura Frye
- 20 George & Donna Ackerman
- 21 Wayne & Lisa Robinson
- 26 Sid & Susan Girardin
- 26 Ken & Carol Jeffery (1976)
- 28 John & Sarah Duplinsky
- 29 David & Jan Fairchild

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: Glenna Nelson and family on the passing of Dick. Bob and Mary J, Carol J's Niece Chrissy, Wendy D, Arlene L., Josiah S., Kris W, Curt C., Cindy E, Peter and Linda F

Thank You to the Stanleys



There is a new piano in the Fellowship Hall! The Stanleys have donated Jan's piano to the church and have covered the moving expenses as well. It's now available for our pleasure. We so often think of bringing music lessons to our community. Maybe this will be incentive to allow for piano lessons to be offered in our facility. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

Margie Galabrun

ATTENTION:

We have a nesting bird on the entry door wreath. Please only use the side door until further notice.

Thank you!



Mother's Day Celebration

The hospitality team wishes to give a joyful shout out to the Men's Group for hosting a delightful coffee hour on Mother's Day. The beautiful carnations that were presented to all the women were so appreciated and enjoyed. Thank you, Men!

Blessings, Rachel, Janet and Laura

Back by Popular Demand!

The PKZ/ Zimbabwe Team will once again host a Pancake Breakfast. The event is **tentatively planned for Saturday, June 18**, at the church. Look for more details coming via email/ announcement/ Facebook/ or our Website!

JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Sunday Worship Options: In person, Via Zoom or Facebook </div>			1 Diaconate Meeting 4 p.m.	2	3	4 SAVERS Donation Drop-off 9 to 11 a.m.
5 PENTECOST SUNDAY Worship and Holy Communion 10 a.m. SAVERS Donation Drop-off 12–1 p.m.	6 Caregiver's Support Group 9:30–10:30 a.m.	7 Choir 5:30	8 Grief Support Group 11 a.m. Parish Helpers Room Leadership Council 4:45 p.m.	9 Parish Helpers Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 1 p.m. Creation Justice Webinar 4 p.m.	10	11 SAVERS Donation Drop-off 9 to 11 a.m. CPR Course 9–11:30 a.m. Creation Justice Webinar 11 a.m.
12 1st Sunday after PENTECOST Family Sunday Worship—10 a.m. Dedication of Pledges SAVERS Donation Drop-off 12–1 p.m.	13	14 Choir 5:30	15 Grief Support Group 11 a.m. Parish Helpers Room	16	17	18 PKZ Pancake Breakfast 7:30–11 a.m. (Tentative) Treasure Shop Open 9 a.m. to 12 noon
19 2nd Sunday after PENTECOST Worship—10 a.m. FATHER'S DAY JUNETEENTH (Holiday)	20 Caregiver's Support Group 9:30–10:30 a.m.	21 Choir 5:30	22 Grief Support Group 11 a.m. Parish Helpers Room Treasure Shop Open 9 a.m. to 12 noon	23 Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 a.m.– 11:30	24	25 Memorial Service for Elizabeth Heinlein 11 a.m. Treasure Shop Open 9 a.m. to 12 noon
26 3rd Sunday after PENTECOST Worship—10 a.m. ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING SERVICE	27	28 Choir 5:30	29 Grief Support Group 11 a.m. Parish Helpers Room Treasure Shop Open 9 a.m. to 12 noon	30		