



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH *of Essex Junction*

*Love. Serve. Grow.*

***A Welcoming Community, Accepting and Serving All in the Spirit of Christ***

*The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction, United Church of Christ, is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, because we are all created by a loving God. We seek to live Christ's call for compassion, justice, healing and wholeness in life. Therefore, we welcome into our community persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, faith background, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, mental and physical ability, economic and social position, gender identity and expression, level of education and family structure. We invite all to share in the life, leadership, ordained ministry, lay ministry, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, fellowship, blessings, and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love.*

**1 Church Street Essex Junction, VT 05452**

Phone: 802-878-5745

Fax: 802-872-8236

Website: [www.fccej.org](http://www.fccej.org)

E-mail: [welcome@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org)

Join us for worship via Facebook Live Stream @

<https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej>

Sunday worship services are available via radio broadcast

@ **FM 104.1**. To listen, park in church parking lot

Located at 39 Main Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452.

### **Teleworship & Fellowship Services**

Most Zoom links require a password. Please, contact Josh Simon ([jhsimon@fccej.org](mailto:jhsimon@fccej.org)) for the password. Also, keep an eye open for some passwords like Fellowship Hour to be shared during teleworship.

- Sunday Worship at 9:30am. Live Stream @ <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>
  - Fellowship Hour, after Sunday Service ~ 10:30am @ <https://zoom.us/j/980588369>
  - Saturday Worship at 4:30pm @ <http://zoom.us/j/403773331>
  - Daily Devotionals, Weekdays 8am and 8pm @ <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>
  - Daily Lunch Break, Weekdays at Noon @ <https://zoom.us/j/954072355>
  - Yoga with Jonah, Mondays and Thursdays at 5:30pm @ <https://smcvt.zoom.us/j/620842254>
  - Solidarity Group with Rev. Josh Simon, Mondays at 7pm @ <http://zoom.us/j/910565449>
  - Sermon Talk Back, Tuesday at 8:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>
  - **\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* Storytime with Laurie now has a password. Contact her at [lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org).** Storytime with Laurie, Thursdays at 10:30am @ <https://zoom.us/j/461548603>
  - Church Committees utilize Zoom as-needed. Please, contact the relevant committee chair for details.
  - Don't have a webcam? No problem! Visit our Facebook Events page and click your desired event for a list of phone numbers that you can call to join by telephone/cellphone. (There are numbers for people living nationally and internationally):  
<https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/events/>
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**Easter Sunday  
April 12th, 2020  
Live Streaming**

**Order of Worship**

**Introductory Music**

**Begins at 9:15 a.m. with music and pre-worship notes**

**As worship begins: Light a candle at home, Sit in a comfortable spot, Center yourself w/ breathing**

**Service Input Preparation: Text NOW to make the service run more smoothly.**

- 1. Thankfulness: Text Rev. Mark one thought of gratitude [802 922-1773]**
- 2. Kid's Names: Text Rev. Mark your child's name for Children's Message**
- 3. Prayer Requests: Text Rev. Mark your Prayer Requests [802 922-1773]**

**Welcome**

*No matter who you are  
or where you are on life's journey  
you are welcome in this place.*

**An Opening Reading on Gratitude** [Sharing some items of gratitude from the congregation]

**A few key announcements** [most will be at the end of the service]

**Hymn**

**Christ the Lord Is Risen Today**

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, glad heavens and earth reply, Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!  
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross the grave the skies, Alleluia**

**Children's Message**

**Easter Hymn by Finally @ First.....*Lord I Lift Your Name on High***

**Lord I lift your name on high  
Lord I love to sing your praises**

**I'm so glad you are in my life  
I'm so glad you came to save us  
You came from heaven to earth, to show the way  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift your name on high**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Text the prayers you want the minister to include during the prelude:

Rev. Mark 802 922-1773

Will end with the Lord's Prayer

**Scripture.....Matthew 28:1-10 - *The Resurrection of Jesus***

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

**Finally at First Anthem.....We Are One Body**

**Sermon**

*Easter's Well Needed Gift, Yet Again*

Rev. Mendes

**Closing Hymn**

**To You, O God, All Creatures Sing**

**To you, O God, all creatures sing and all creation everything, sing your praises, alleluia!  
Your burning sun with golden beam, your silver moon with softer gleam  
Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia alleluia, alleluia.**

**Your wind that blows the tempest by, your clouds that sail across the sky, sing your  
praises, alleluia.**

**Your morning rises with a song, and lights of evening sing along,  
Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

To you, O god, day after day, your planet earth in every way, sing your praises, alleluia.  
 As savory fruit and fragrant flower show forth your glory and your power  
 Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Benediction and blowing out our candles**

**Go Now In Peace**

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
 God will go with you each hour of every day.  
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
 Know God will guide you in all you do.  
 Go now in love, and show you believe.  
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
 God will be there, holding you in love.  
 Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

**Announcements and Zoom Fellowship Hour. Link: <https://zoom.us/j/980588369>**

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<b>Our Prayer Ministry</b>		
Heather (Catherine Lapierre's niece)	Richard Ansell (Carol Spradling's Father)	Graham Sicalowski (Lauren Starkey's son)
Robert & Claire Deal	Christine Sinkewicz & Family	Denise Keating & Family
Barb Blanchette	Rev. Patricia & Rev. Fred	Judy Janwich
George Jackson	The Schneider Family	Fletch & Peg Coolidge and Family
Betty Adams & Family	John A & Family	Matt & Kaki McGeary and Family
Those defending us or harmed by the Coronavirus	Kristin (Nancy Hall's daughter)	Diane & Sara
Russ Schneider	Alison Wermer & Family	Dorothy Knox

**The altar flowers are given by  
 Merrill & Erin Cate  
 In honor of their mothers.**



**Our Easter Flowers are given by:**

FCCJ in loving memory of Charles Thomas West, Harold Bergeron, Alberta Martha Reed, James "Jim" W. Gray II, Nancy Hunt, and Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Terry;

Sylvia Nyhagen for the Nyhagen family;

Carol Spradling in loving memory of James Coates, Sr.;

Richard Higgins in loving memory of his wife, Diana Higgins;

Shane, Chad, Mindy and Zach Higgins in loving memory of their mother, Diana Higgins;

Colby and Mckenzie Higgins, Parker and Paige Bero in loving memory of their grandmother,  
Diana Higgins;

Connie Beliveau in honor of the FCCEJ community;

Rose Drost in memory of Ernie Drost;

Joanne Irwin in memory of loved ones;

Myrna Doney in honor of mother's 100th birthday;

Judy Pomainville in memory of Virginia & Wesley;

Judy McCullen in memory of her family;

Laurie Chipman in honor of all grandparents;

Mark Mendes for loved ones we miss dearly.

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## Announcements

### **Easter Flowers**

The deadline to order flowers has passed, and we thank those of you who bought Easter flowers. Your bouquets will be displayed during our Easter teleworship service on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. All purchasers of flowers were recently contacted either by phone or email in which we asked what you would like done with your flowers after service. If you purchased flowers but haven't responded with your preferences, then please, let us know by responding to the email, or send a new email to [welcome@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org); or call the Administrator at 1 802 878 5745 extension 100.

### **FCCEJ selected as Hannaford Fight Hunger Bag Program beneficiary**

For the month of May, our Heavenly Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford store located at 21A Essex Way, Essex Junction VT.

### **Hannaford Gift Cards are still available!**

The church receives \$5 for each \$100 Gift Card we sell, and we appreciate this fundraising now more than ever! *Want to get started?* Contact Pat Seaver at [vtri2@aol.com](mailto:vtri2@aol.com) and she will mail a card to you. Let her know how much you would like to add to the card and send a check to the church. Be sure to put "Hannaford Card" on the reference line of your payment. *Need a refill?* Contact Pat Seaver at [vtri2@aol.com](mailto:vtri2@aol.com) and give her your name, the amount of money to be applied, and the last four digits of the gift card. Note: if you bought your card somewhere other than the church, you would need to provide the full length of digits. You will receive an email when funds have been added to your card. Please allow 1-2 weeks for processing as the cards are done in batches. Questions? Please call Doug Ovitt in the Church Office at 802-878-5745 extension 100.

Please make checks payable to "FCCEJ" (or use online Bill Pay) and mail to this address:

Attn: Financial Secretary  
First Congregational Church of Essex Junction  
1 Church Street  
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Please include "Hannaford Reload" and the date on the subject line of your email or check memo.

## Ministry Directory

### Church Staff

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Mark Mendes [[mmendes@fccej.org](mailto:mmendes@fccej.org)]

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Josh Simon [[jsimon@fccej.org](mailto:jsimon@fccej.org)]

**Music Director:** Carol Spradling [[cspradling@fccej.org](mailto:cspradling@fccej.org)]

**Christian Education Director:** Laurie Chipman [[lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org)]

**Church Administrator:** Doug Ovitt [[welcome@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org)]

### Music Ministry

**Cherub Music:** Jenny Bourn [[jennybourn4@gmail.com](mailto:jennybourn4@gmail.com)]

& Laura Marthaler [[Laura.marthaler@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.marthaler@gmail.com)]

**Currier Bell Choir Director:** Carolyn Harris [899-6759]

**Finally @ First Director:** Rick Dooley [[rickdooley5@gmail.com](mailto:rickdooley5@gmail.com)]

**Joyful Noise:** Jessica Moos [[jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com](mailto:jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com)]

**Men At First Director:** Bill Bickford, Jr. [[bill.bickford@aol.com](mailto:bill.bickford@aol.com)]

**Sanctuary Choir/Heavenly Harmony Director:** Carol Spradling [[cspradling@fccej.org](mailto:cspradling@fccej.org)]

### Committee / Church Officer Contacts

**President, Chair Human Resources Committee:** Maureen Evans [233-6127]

**Vice President, Chair Finance & Pastoral Relations:** Cathy Shearer [878-6023]

**Treasurer & Historian:** Ann Gray [878-4088]

**Asst. Treasurer:** Dan Petherbridge [879-0261]

**Financial Secretary:** Pat Seaver [879-4445]

**Clerk:** Christine Sinkewicz [878-4470]

**Christian Education:** Lisa Clark [872-5849]

**Communications:** Andrea Sharp [879-0580], Judy McCullen [878-9794]

**Deacons:** Judy Larrabee-Pomainville [802-236-0604]

**Hospitality:** Jim Glatz [503-5076]

**Missions:** Joanne Irwin [878-2528], Ed Steele [871-5897]

**Music:** Denise Keating [345-8900]

**Nominating:** Barb Smith [310-2491]

**Stewardship:** Jessica Moos [399-8068], Shannon McCullen [922-8792]

**Trustees:** Kaki McGeary [879-2062]

**Ushering:** Justin King [238-6273], Jessica Moos [399-8068]

### Recognized Groups at First Church

**Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop** Sue Wood [879-6552] OR [woodsusanjane@gmail.com](mailto:woodsusanjane@gmail.com)

**Heavenly Food Pantry Contact:** Valerie Gabert [879-0109]