



SPIRIT @ FIRST

FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH *of Essex Junction*

Love. Serve. Grow.

May 2022: In this issue...

- *Simon Sez*.....2
- *Laurie's Lens*.....3
- *Faith Formation, Youth Ministry*.....4
Vacation Bible Camp
- *Camping Ministry, Concert Series*.....5
- *Deacons Corner, Missions*.....6
- *Communications*.....7
- *Worship & Connection*..... Insert

FCCEJ Welcomes New Music Director, Bethany Blake



We are thrilled to introduce our new Music Director, Bethany Blake! Bethany joins the First Church community in May, 2022. She has previously served as the organist for churches of various faith backgrounds, including Catholic, Lutheran, Unitarian Universalist, Baptist, and Episcopalian.

After growing up in Michigan and graduating from the University of Michigan, Bethany continued her musical pursuits at Stony Brook University where she specialized in eighteenth-century British vocal clubs and gender studies. At SBU she met her husband and became an enthusiastic hiker and road biker. Together with their three children they are happy to call Vermont home.

Bethany teaches music history and piano at the University of Vermont. She is also an experienced harpsichordist and early music advocate, with a partiality for French Baroque music.



Global Ministries

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
and the United Church of Christ

Global Ministries Co-Workers Visit May 1

John and Karen Campbell-Nelson served for more than 30 years in West Timor, Indonesia. As they transition to retirement, we are fortunate that they are ending their service to Global Ministries by presenting at the Annual Meeting and visiting local churches throughout the conference. They also plan to settle in Montpelier for the beginning of their retirement time.

During worship on Sunday, May 1, they shared some of the history of Indonesia as well as their experiences in the region. They included photos and testimony from the members of the Evangelical Christian church of Timor and spoke about the challenges and celebrations of their work there. We offer our sincere thanks for their time and talents and hope they will join us again in the future!

Global Ministries is a common missional witness of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. Global Ministries works with approximately 290 faith-based international partners in close to 90 countries with the vision that all of God's people and creation share in God's abundant life.

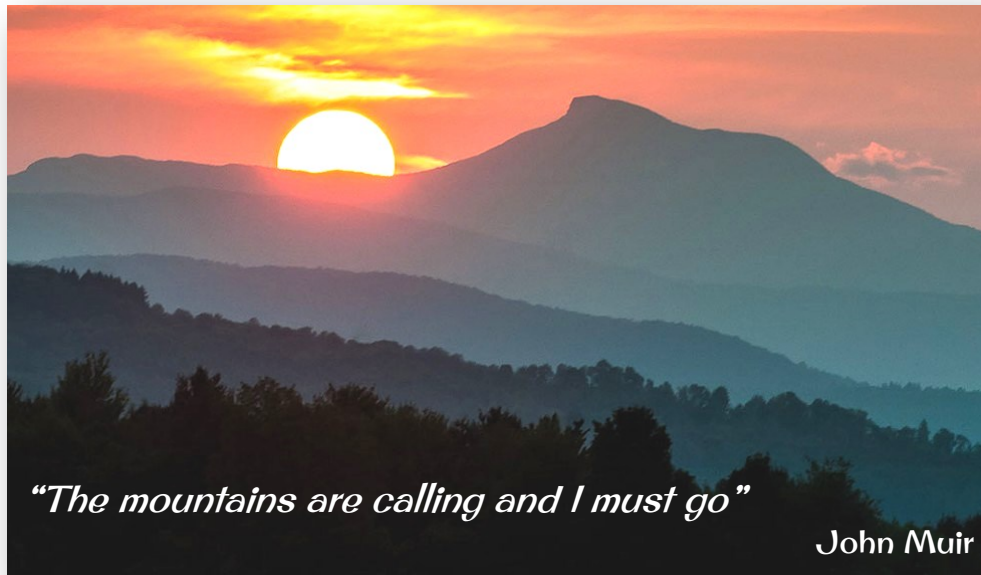
Simon Sez...

During the Lenten season, a group of us read Eric Elnes' book, "Phoenix Affirmations: A New Vision for the Future of Christianity." It is a deeply theological book that grounds us in the historic Christian tradition and presents us with a path to living our faith in the 21st Century. It recognizes that the Holy Spirit leads and shapes churches, in every generation, into new life. The third affirmation is "Celebrating the God whose Spirit pervades and whose glory is reflected in all of God's Creation, including the earth and its ecosystems, the sacred and secular, the Christian and non-Christian, the human and non-human." Here the distinction between the physical and spiritual, the sacred and the secular are intertwined together.

One of the reasons why I wanted to move here is for Vermont's mountains. Wisconsin does not have any. We have beautiful rolling hills and forests. I first saw mountains in person when I went to Denver for an alternative spring break trip to help build Habitat for Humanity houses. But it was not until I lived in Santa Fe, NM for me to venture out to hike mountains. Yes, Santa Fe's mountains are significantly taller than here.

Hiking in the mountains and in the wooded forest brings me a sense of peace and calm. There is a physical and spiritual process taking place within me. I experience the wonder of creation: aroma, touch, sound. The swooshing sound of the wind blowing through the trees or crashing against the rocks. My body responds to the physical exertion that then releases feel-good chemicals and my memory reminds me God's spirit is like the wind and, like the wind, has shaped the very landscape of nature. And from Great is Thy Faithfulness, I sing, "Summer and winter, springtime and harvest sun, moon and stars in their courses above. Join with all nature in manifold witness. To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love." And in that moment, the physical and spiritual come alive within me. It is an act of praise and giving glory to the divine.

Pastor Josh



Green Up Vermont

Vermont's has a proud tradition of arranging a statewide day to remove trash and debris. Being good stewards of the earth honors God's creation and helps us connect with the beauty of nature. Please, join us for Green Up Day on Saturday, May 7th at 10am in the church parking lot. We will remove trash and debris in the streets surrounding the church. Pastor Josh will bring the Green Up Day bags.

How long do your Easter decorations stay up? Have you ever thought about Easter as a season? On the church calendar Easter is not just a day. There is the season of Eastertide which lasts for 50 days until we arrive on Pentecost Sunday. Some call it the time of resurrection. We celebrate with so much joy on Easter Sunday, the first Sunday of Eastertide, but what about the other 6 Sunday of Eastertide? Well, this year on the 2nd Sunday we continued to celebrate as it was our 10th Anniversary of being Open and Affirming. We have new rainbow paraments that are hanging up front in the Sanctuary. So, do you think we can keep this celebration going, in church, in our hearts, with others we meet? When you sit down with your family, or chat with them on the phone, talk about what it would look like for you to celebrate all 50 days of Eastertide. (Remember in Lent we didn't count the Sundays as part of the 40 days, in Eastertide we count them. Can you figure out why?) What would 50x as much joy look like for your family? For you? How might you reach out and continue the celebration of God's love for everyone and what Jesus's resurrection means to you? When Pentecost arrives on June 5th this year we will be welcoming the Holy Spirit with our confirmation class leading the worship service that morning. We will also give thanks for all those who have helped our children and youth programs this year and then enjoy some ice cream. A wonderful celebration of welcoming the Holy Spirit among us, hearing the story and being together as a community of faith. So, between now and then, what ways can you continue celebrating the risen Christ in your life? At our Good Friday service we were asked to write down an action that one could take that might lead to positive changes in our world. We then walked them forward and put them into a basket. At the end of the service we each took one from the basket, hopefully not to take our own. The paper I selected said, 'smile at or compliment someone you wouldn't usually'. This is one of the ways I will celebrate the Easter joy throughout this Easter season. Feel free to use this one and think of more ways to celebrate the risen Christ among us.

Spring is here and it's great to be outside with my hands in the dirt. There seems to be more things to do now that the weather is warming up. I hope God's great outdoors won't stop you from attending in person when you can, and being filled with the love of God in community with all your FCCEJ friends and family. Read on to discover all the offerings and ways you can get involved here at First, and don't hesitate to speak up and ask questions.

Peace & Blessings to you all,

Laurie Chipman

Christian Education Director

Volunteer Recruitment for 2022-23 Program Year

It's that time of year when we start recruiting faith formation volunteers for next year. If you love children, want to know more about the bible and grow along side them, then please reach out to Laurie. Faith is not taught, faith is caught. Help other catch the faith, and catch some yourself. Church life is so much more full when we help others, learn and grow and be a witness for Jesus. You can volunteer as often as you like. Maybe that's once a month or maybe that's every Sunday. You decide. You are always with another person. Safe conduct trainings and weekly emails keep you connected and supported. Reach out to Laurie and she'll help you figure out the best fit. High school youth are encouraged to join in as well. Be a peer group helper. Give back and collect community service hours in the process. Looks great on your resume!

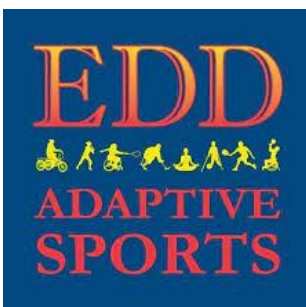
Come sow
the seeds of
FAITH.

Matthew 13



Join us in spreading the Gospel message to our young people.

2021-22 Faith Formation Offering



EDD Adaptive Sports ~ www.eddfund.org

Help us level the playing field for people with disabilities.

EDD Adaptive Sports helps to engage those who will always need assistance and additional support to play all those fun sports we like to enjoy. They help those who have a permanent physical condition. Visit their website and ask yourself ~ what can I give to help those in need? Put a jar aside and add something in each week, then bring it to church and put it in a Bible picture envelope in the Narthex by the basket 'Faith Formation for EDD'. We will celebrate our offering on June 5th. Mark your calendars and join us. Our giving is currently at \$459.97.

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

****Watch for Faith@Home emails in your inbox****

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

We are back to in person during our 10:15am service (masked) and offer peer groups for PreK – 2nd, 3rd – 5th grade and 6th – 8th grade.

Everyone begins in the Sanctuary, then following the children’s message those in PreK – 8th grade are welcome to follow Laurie out and move into peer rooms (air purifiers are running and all volunteers are vaccinated). Come build your faith community with old friends and make new ones. Come reconnect! High school youth are welcome as helpers. This is a great way to give back, gain service hours and put on your resume.

May Schedule:

May 1st ~ Intergenerational Worship/Communion/Missionaries

May 8th, 15th & 22nd ~ Peer Groups

May 29 ~ Intergenerational Worship

June 5th ~ 9am summer intergenerational worship begins

Reminder to parents/guardians: Please pick up and sign out your child (PreK up to 5th grade) at 11:30am after you have greeted the pastor and had some fellowship time with others following worship.

Young Apostles

(3rd – 5th graders

& a Parent/Grandparent)

This group meets once a month for fun-filled fellowship. Recreation, Bible study, mission projects, laughing & talking, and, most important, creating bonds that will steer our children into lasting friendships in their teen years. This is all found in Young Apostles.

Next Gathering is May 15 4pm -

Come join the fun as we gather together one more time before we take a summer hiatus!

Youth Ministry

Junior Youth - 6th-8th grade - May 15 from 11:30am to 1pm

Join Pastor Josh & Laurie for this special fun day of celebrating the end of our program year. RSVP to us what you like on your pizza and number of slices.

Youth Gathering for High School - 9th – 12th grade

May 22nd from 4-6 pm at SpareTime in Colchester. Reservations have been made at SpareTime. Please RSVP to Pastor Josh ASAP if you can attend. If you need a ride, let him know. This is our closing event of the program year!

Join the Youth Ministry Team

A group of adults are forming to help the staff (Pastor Josh & Laurie) plan and lead youth times, mission experiences and trips. Join Barb Smith & Kathryn Brennan. The goal is to build the team up to 8 to 12 adults who, through their involvement in the program, will build relationships with our youth and therefore help build our programs. Interested? Want to hear more? Reach out to one of us, we’d love to chat with you. Help our youth build long lasting relationships and stay connected to their church.



Vacation Bible Camp - Coming August 8-12, 2022 - Mark your calendars!!!

Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God!

9am to 11:45am - Program starts at 9am. Parents can drop off beginning at 8:45am or stay and join us.

Outside on the church lawn or inside on a rainy day.

Join the fun! Registration is open and ready! **Register online:** <https://www.fccej.org/v5/grow-in-faith/vacation-bible-camp/>. **Same link to sign up and volunteer!**

You & Me Toddler (attend with an adult) up thru current 5th graders

Youth Assistants – are 6th grade and up

VB Camp Team is Coming Together

Recruitment is underway! Are you available? We can use your help with Crafts, Science, Photography and Set Crew. We are also looking for youth helpers (going into 7th grade and up) and a photographer. <https://www.fccej.org/v5/grow-in-faith/vacation-bible-camp/> All volunteers arrive by 8:30am for our morning team meeting and depart by noon. Not sure where or how to get involved? Contact Laurie. There’s a place for everyone at VB Camp!



Camping Ministry

FCCEJ Camping Trips



Whether you like to camp in a tent, lean-to or a camper we hope you will join us! Our camping weekend of June 24-26 is at Lake Carmi State Park. Labor Day weekend will be at Grande Isle State Park, September 2-4. Book your campsite! Arrive Friday afternoon/evening and receive a welcome packet at your campsite that will include our flexible schedule, map of where our FCCEJ families are located and ways we can build community. Plans so far include a scavenger hunt, a hike, lawn games, swimming/beach time, picnic style lunch or supper and an evening of s'mores around a campfire. Come enjoy Sunday worship in God's great outdoors (known as morning watch for outdoor ministry). On Labor Day weekend we may also have Sunday evening vespers.

Join us for the full duration of the weekends or the days/nights that work for you. Flexible is our middle name. Pass along your site # to Laurie or Pastor Mark so we can add you to our email group that will receive info prior to each camping weekend.



Outdoor Ministry Camps

FCCEJ Camp Scholarships await you! For children, youth, adults or families. Connect with Laurie or a pastor and let us know which outdoor ministry camp at either Horton Center (NH), Silver Lake Conference Center (CT) or Pilgrim Lodge (ME) that you would like to attend. Funds are also available to help you and your family attend one or both of our FCCEJ camping weekends in Vermont.

Attending a week of OM camp is a powerful way to connect with God, get to know others while enriching your faith. If you like VB Camp then you are really going to enjoy your time at OM camp. There will be a fun schedule with a 24/7 experience that will be life changing and a cool adventure.

Family Camp Weekend at Horton Center

'Family & Friends - Beginnings' on Memorial Day weekend May 27-30th. All ages are welcome! Really.

It's also Leadership weekend at Horton Center for high school youth to gain some skills. Here's your chance to check it out HC with your family or attend by yourself. All ages are welcome this weekend. Come enjoy God's beautiful place on top of Pine Mountain outside of Gorham, NH.

Laurie is waiting to register until she knows you are planning to attend. HC offers many activities including hiking, caving, rock climbing, nature walks, arts & crafts, field games, campfires and s'mores, and just sitting on the porch in an Adirondack chair looking at the views.

https://hortoncenter.org/summer_camp_sessions/family-friends-beginnings/

Visit their website for more pictures of the great views on top of Pine Mountain: www.hortoncenter.org

Open House Day @ Horton Center is on Saturday, June 18th from 11am to 4pm. Take a drive and check it out!

Community Concerts

@ FIRST



Claire Black

Renowned Burlington-based pianist
Music by Robert and Clara Schumann
and Ludwig Beethoven



Inaugural Concert

Classical Piano

May 15, 7:00 PM

Suggested Donation: \$20

A portion of the proceeds will go to
Spectrum Youth and Family Services

Deacon's Corner

We hope that everyone was fulfilled by the Lenten season, and welcome any feedback about this year's services and program offerings. In addition, if you or anyone you know would like a home visit from one of our ministers or staff, please do not hesitate to contact the church office, or let one of the Deacons after church. We are still in the midst of the pandemic, and want to be sure we do not miss any needs of the Congregation due to communication issues. The month of May in Vermont is a time of rebirth and renewal, a time to take joy in many of God's natural wonders, whether it be the blossoming of gardens, the gathering of people in parks, or the start of trout season (my personal favorite!). We hope that you all will also find joy in our upcoming services in person or online, particularly as we begin marking our 10-year anniversary as an Open & Affirming congregation!

Best wishes,

Peter Schmalz, FCCEJ Deacons

Church Survey Results

Thank you for your responses! Church Council is pleased to report 80 people (almost a quarter of our members!) responded to the survey about Stewardship, the Church's Covid response and communication, and the upcoming Music Series. As always, we are happy to hear your feedback and information. The responses have been forwarded to the appropriate committee or staff to start processing all of the good ideas and translate them into action. Please feel free to see Art Winslow, Kathryn Brennan, Sue Wood, Francis Gravel, Marlene Frank, or Cathy Shearer with any questions.

Missions Committee

The Missions Committee Members have been busy this spring with our outreach work that has tapped into the kindness and love of our congregation.

Called To Care Easter Baskets: 50 Easter basket gifts were beautifully prepared for delivery by Catherine Lapierre. Many people gave donations for the baskets and others volunteered to be delivery drivers. These baskets provide a way for us to let the recipients know we are thinking of them and sending our love their way. Thank you to all who contributed items and volunteered their time!

Chili Grab 'n Go and Ukraine Donations: A check for \$2642.00 was recently sent to the United Church of Christ (UCC) for Ukraine relief. Thank you to all who bought chili dinners and to the many folks who donated beyond the cost of the meal. May our gifts provide some solace to the suffering people of Ukraine.

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop May News!

Happy Spring everyone! The Thrift Shop began offering Spring and Summer items on April 2 and had a very successful day serving many customers! In fact, it was a record day at the shop for sales: over \$600.00! Thanks to many generous community members who make donations, we continue to meet our Mission of serving others, both with sale items and financial donations to local organizations.

Recently, the Thrift Shop decided to give \$500.00 to both Outright Vermont and Pathways to help fund their missions. We are also exploring ways to reuse and recycle items donated that we cannot sell, with a goal of keeping the clothing waste in our community. We have reached out to folks who reuse and recycle. One example is a local artist who weaves strips of fabric! She was quite pleased to be contacted.

We appreciate the continued support our community at large provides us and continue to welcome donations in good resaleable quality. Currently we need men's, women's, young children's clothing, shoes, accessories, and household items to keep our shelves full. We no longer accept books, toys, and larger items. Wall artwork and jewelry are also appealing to our customers.

Please spread the "good word" of the shop's mission with your friends and if you are interested in volunteering, contact Elaine Raymond, 879-7350 or Sue Wood, 878-3068.

We are open for shopping and receiving donations on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10-1 and Wednesday evenings from 4-7pm!

Heavenly Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is allowing families to "shop" inside on a limited basis. Masks are still required for volunteers and patrons, and we are committed to continue the mission of feeding those in the area who need assistance. The next food distribution is Monday, April 11 from 5pm to 7pm.

Please consider donations of the following items: Chunky soups, canned fruit, toilet paper, canned baked beans, canned pasta, rice, empty dozen-size egg cartons.

www.fccej.org/Serving-Others/Heavenly-Food-Pantry.

Communications

The Committee discussed the potential Front Porch Forum (FPF) postings for this year. The FCCEJ FPF account allows for 12 posts per year and 2 posts in any given month. The forum is a popular form of communication within the community which makes it a great way to get the word out about events. The list of potential posts that the team came up with is as follows:

- ◆ Concerts - 4 (May, late June, early September, early November)
- ◆ Essex Eats Out ? (2 posts TBD)
- ◆ Yard Sale - 1 (Early August)
- ◆ Welcome Back Sunday - 1 (August/September depending on date)
- ◆ Craft Fest - 1 (October)
- ◆ Chili Dinner - March 8, 2022 (complete)
- ◆ VBC - 1 (July)
- ◆ Christmas - 1 (December)

This list has some flexibility and various church committees are encouraged to submit FPF posts.

The Communications Committee also discussed a request for input by the Concert Committee in regards to a sign that they would like to put up at 5-Corners next to Lincoln Hall. A list of must-have and might-have items for inclusion on the sign were sent to the Concert Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Francis Gravel

Committee Members: Goeff Brown, Hannah Tracy, Andrea Sharp and Francis Gravel

Donate to FCCEJ

Your donations support music, youth, missions, adult enrichment, Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, and more! We are also a United Church of Christ "5 for 5" participant in these fundraisers: Per Capita, One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need and The Christmas Fund. Here are a few ways that you may help our ministry:

- ⇒ **Send a Check or use BillPay.** This is a remote service that issues one-time or recurring check payments by mail. Please contact your banking institution for details. Please note the reason for your donation in the check's memo line (e.g., "missions").
- ⇒ **Shop using Amazon Smile.** We receive 0.5% of your purchases! To start, visit <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0212216>
- ⇒ **Send money via PayPal.** We accept electronic donations! Visit paypal.me/fccej.
(A PayPal account is not required to donate money.)



Worship & Connection

Sunday Worship - 8:30am* & 10:15am

*Streamed via [youtube.com/c/fccej](https://www.youtube.com/c/fccej)

We are pleased to offer in-person worship with masks encouraged but not required. Faith Formation for ages PreK through 8th grade is offered during second service. Communion is served in the Sanctuary on the 1st Sunday of each month. Our Sanctuary Choir provides music at first service and Finally @ First Praise Band leads music at the second.

Sermon Talk Back

Join us every Tuesday from 8:30-10am to talk about the Sunday scriptures and message. This provides opportunities to delve deeper into scripture and hear perspectives of others in our faith community. We meet in Marvin Lounge and via Zoom: <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>.

Friday Coffee Clatter

All are invited to Martone's in Essex Junction on Friday mornings from 8 to 9. Get coffee and baked goods with Rev. Mark and other faith friends and talk about absolutely anything! The mask policy is determined by Martone's. We laugh often while discussing aspects of life and current events. It's a great way to start your day!

Monthly Bridge Group

Each month, folks get together to play bridge. The skill level is diverse; some know all sorts of strange conventions and others just like to get together to dabble with the game and catch up on "the haps" in our community. We have snacks and Rev. Mark offers a jar of homemade jam to the winning score. We meet in Marvin Lounge on the 3rd Friday of each month from 1:30 to 4pm. Our May date is 5/20—see you there!

Noontime Book Group

The Noontime Book Group will meet in the Marvin Lounge at 11:30 on Monday May 16. This month we will be discussing "In the Garden of Beasts" by Erik Larson. This is an historical novel set in the year or so before World War II when Hitler was coming to power. An American diplomat and his daughter went to Germany. They found high-level government people and wealthy folks enjoying life, wining and dining, without much thought to what was happening to the Jewish members of their community. The book gives clues as to how Hitler was able to persuade the people to follow him into the horrors of what was to come. What we can learn from the ideas in this book could well have a profound influence on the future of our country and our world. Rev. Josh Simon will lead our discussion this month. Join us in person with your lunch or join us on Zoom with the Meeting ID 626 841 083 Passcode 455075.



Celebrating Graduates

Do you have a graduate in the family? Graduation Sunday is June 19! Email Pastor Josh (jsimon@fccej.org) your graduates (high school, undergraduate/grad school) their graduation/most recent picture and a baby/young picture. Include where they're graduating from and their future plans. The deadline for submissions is noon, June 16.

Greeting & Ushering

The Greeting and Ushering Committee needs you! Please consider greeting/ushering in the beautiful month of May. Specifically, we need to fill May 8th, 22nd & 29th (2nd service on 29th, please). Visit our website to sign up ([fccej.org/serving others](https://fccej.org/serving_others)), or email Aimee Koch at aimkath@comcast.net. Please include the date and service you'd like to serve. The time commitments of each service are: 1st Service: 8-9:15am; 2nd Service: 9:45-11:15am. Thank you for considering volunteering in one of our services and for your support in helping us continue to Love, Serve and Grow!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

MEILLEUR, Sena	05/01	DUELL, Marsha	05/09	FRANK, Marlene	05/20
PARKER, Collin	05/01	BOTTAMINI, Mike	05/10	HOY, David	05/20
PETTINGILL, James	05/01	HARRIS, Allie	05/10	BICKFORD, Arlene	05/24
SHARP, Steve	05/01	BAKER, Chris	05/11	RELYEA, Becky	05/24
MITTL, Steve	05/02	HOY, Jennifer	05/11	CARLSON, Maryann	05/25
SCHNEIDER, Jane	05/02	KEATING, Denise	05/11	RICHER, Mary	05/25
FOSS, Donald	05/03	OWENS, Gretchen	05/11	WOOD, Susan	05/25
NUTTING, Lester	05/03	PARKS, Jackie	05/11	WARREN, Mary Anne	05/26
GRAY, Don	05/05	LINDHOLM, Eric	05/13	BASHAW, Dan	05/27
RUSHFORD, Carolyn	05/06	HIGGINS, Rich	05/14	MCDONALD, Dianne	05/27
CULVER, Brian	05/07	JOHN, Alex	05/14	MCKENZIE, Maureen	05/29
CUNNINGHAM-FIRKEY, Laura	05/07	BEEBE, Wayne	05/19	WERMER, Leo	05/29
BLAKE, Pam	05/08	CIEPLICKI, Betsy	05/20	PALMER, Amanda	05/31
DROST, Rose	05/09	EHLER-VOCK, Kyle	05/20	PETTINGILL, Alyssa	05/31

Heartfelt Thanks

"Thank you First Congregational Church for my surprise Easter Basket. It was fun going through all the "goodies."

Elizabeth Stone

"To the Easter Basket Committee, Thanks so much for the thoughtful Easter Basket. I was really thankful for the crossword puzzle book."

Joyce Jacobs

"Dear Church Members,

When Sue delivered my lovely Easter basket, I was so touched by your kindness, I almost cried. I've missed you all so much. Weather, ill health, and virus concerns have keep me homebound too much. I try to get out on nice days to go on errands, and my children look after my needs. God bless you all."

Rose Drost

"Dear Church Family,

What a nice surprise to receive a delightful Easter basket filled with goodies. We appreciate your thinking of us who have been participating in on-line services. We are looking forward to returning to church."

Bill & Grace Jones

"Dear Friends,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the beautiful Easter basket!"

Mary Ellen Grove

"Dear FCCEJ Family,

Thank you so much for the delivery of the lovely Easter basket to my parents, Alma and Russell Wilson. It means so much to know you're thinking of them. A special thank you especially to Paula, for staying and visiting when she delivered the basket. We are truly blessed to be part of such a loving faith community!"

Kathy Galbraith

"Thanks so much for the lovely yellow rose for my birthday. In addition, thank you for the Easter Basket."

June Silverman

"Darby Mayville and her daughter brought me an Easter basket. Please thank all who put these baskets together. It is a very thoughtful and wonderful thing for FCCEJ to do."

Mary Richer

"I was surprised and pleased to find an Easter basket on my porch and have so enjoyed all the treats. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness."

Connie Marshall

"I am so thankful for the Easter basket that was delivered. Our faith family is such a blessing!"

Jackie Knapp

***Editor's Note: A very special and heartfelt thank you to Cathy LaPierre, who organized the baskets and spent countless hours on the project.**

Easter Flower Dedications

Betty Busciglio

~In memory of loved ones~

Brian & Laurie Chipman

~In honor of all grandparents~

Bill Codington

~In memory of Lynn Codington~

Jen & Rick Dooley

~In memory of Harry Dooley and Joe & Dot Pine~

Rose Drost

~In memory of Ernest Drost, husband & father~

Ann Gray

~In memory of Pat Seaver~

Marti Hopkins

~In memory of my parents, Lois & Arthur Anderson~

Joanne Irwin

~In memory of Alan Irwin, Dorothea & Edwin Hilbert, and Edward & Virginia Irwin~

Marie & David Johnson

~ In memory of our parents~

Derek Lyman & Rachel Humphrey

~In memory of Brian Latuch~

Amy McIntyre

~In memory of Robert Trimble~

Maureen McKenzie

~In memory of my parents, Ruth & Ray McKenzie~

Judy Larrabee Pomainville

~In memory of Wesley & Virginia Larrabee~

Molly Powell

~In honor of Helen Potvin~

Sanctuary Choir

~In honor of Marie Johnson and Denise Keating~

Jane Schneider

~In memory of Russ Schneider~

Andrea & Steve Sharp

~ In honor of our son Josh, at seminary~

Cathy & Tom Shearer

~In memory of Malcolm Forbes~

Heather & Terry Stein

~In honor & memory of Ukrainian Citizens~

Carolyn Toof

~In memory of Dick Toof~

Beth Volker

~In memory of Charlie Volker~

Carl & Alison Wermer

~In memory of our parents~

W
o
r
s
h
i
p
&
C
o
n
n
e
c
t
i
o
n

First Congregational Church of Essex Junction
1 Church Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Phone: 802-878-5745
Email: welcome@fccej.org

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Morning Worship - 8:30 & 10:15

In-person and streamed via youtube.com/c/fccej
(8:30 service only)

Music: Marie Johnson and Denise Keating lead our Sanctuary Choir during first service and Rick Dooley leads our Praise Band Finally @ First at second service
Communion is served on the 1st Sunday of each month.

Visit us online:



FCCEJ.ORG



FCCEJ



FCCEJ_802



FIRSTCONGREGATIONALEJ

