



First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

FCC Friday Link



Published Friday, January 29, 2021

Weekly Inspirational Words

Some of the secret joys of living are not found by rushing from point A to point B, but by inventing some imaginary letters along the way.

-Douglas Pagels-



"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10.

This is one of my favorite Scriptures. I am thinking of having that be the theme of my Ordination. It conjures up images of peace and quietness.

The context of verse 10, though, is war. God enters the battlefield of the raging nations and defeats them with His voice.

When He says, "Be still and know that I am God", He is not talking to His people but He is talking to the nations that are the enemy, the enemy of God.

If only all those people today who are rioting, causing destruction, and killing would hear God yelling at them to be still and know that He is God. All in God's time. In the meantime we can all be still and listen to God. Peace and Blessings to you all. - Barbara -

The Women's Connection Zoom Bingo Gathering!

Last week fun was had by all at the WC BINGO Gathering. Jeanine Finefrock was the big winner earning her bragging rights and a crown as the "Bingo Queen"!

The next Women's Connection Zoom Gathering is scheduled for Saturday morning, February 13th at 9:30 am. Reach out to Pam or Denise for more details about this Valentine's Day themed event!



11 Special Ladies joined the fun!



This is Jeanine's Winning Card



Each player used their own unique placeholders

Let the field be joyful, and all that is therein: then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice. - Psalm 96:12



Photos above courtesy of the Rev. Kevin Pleas, biking the trails at Lake Massabesic, 2020



***Join us for Weekly Trivia*
with Pip Adams!**

This week's Questions

1. What U.S. newspaper is nicknamed "the Gray Lady"?
2. What country has the most vending machines per capita?
3. Carrots are a good source of which vitamin?

[Answers from Last Week. . .](#)

1. What U.S. president put a twinkie in the country's millennium time capsule? . . . **Bill Clinton**
2. In ancient Greece, throwing an apple at someone was a declaration of what? . . . **Love**
3. Who wrote songs for "The Lion King"? . . . **John Elton**



Tonight! Friday Night Mini Concert with Adam Peithmann

At 6:00 pm on Facebook

Feel inspired and be delighted! Go to: www.Facebook.com/FCCManchester.



Seeking a New Building Manager

For those who may not know, Larry Dearborn is in the process of retiring from his long-held position as the Building Manager at FCC. We are actively looking for someone who would be interested in this 10-15 hour a week position. Building management experience is required. If you or someone you know might be a good fit for this job, please call or drop a note in the office for the Rev. Kevin.



Barbara's Office Hours

Please note Barbara Papagian's current office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 2:30 pm. Thursday off.

Relay for Life Fundraiser with Eric Gagnon

A cause dear to Eric Gagnon's heart --- the "Relay for Life" American Cancer Society community-based fundraiser is happening now and Eric invites you to donate if you feel inclined. He is proud to announce that through his efforts and the enormous generosity of friends, he has raised over \$1000 so far. Deadline to donate is June 5th.



To donate please send checks made out to the "American Cancer Society" to Eric Gagnon at 39 Walnut Street, Apartment #3, Manchester, NH 03104.



The Open and Affirming committee commits to ongoing efforts that will bring religious perspective to issues of race and justice.

We highly recommend a relevant and inspiring podcast, "Be A Bridge," from *The Good List* podcast of Tsh Oxenreider. The 37-minute recording features a conversation with Tsh and friend Alecia, who "shares what's most helpful and loving for white friends and allies, both now and for the long-haul." Selma Naccach-Hoff listened recently and shares these reflections on her listening experience.

Reflections on "Be a Bridge, #34"

Listening to Alecia's talk is almost like listening to a transcendental message, the core of which is *Loss of Self*. Every religion seems to have some such tenet as part of its core beliefs: that humans are part of

something greater. That is the message of Christianity, certainly, and Alecia invokes this same message as she gives guidance to how we (middle class white women in particular!) can help heal the divide among races. It's not about the 'I' (the 'ego', as Freud calls it), but how the 'I' can help the 'We', the 'Us': by teaching and learning about color and not being blind to color, by listening with humility, by being supportive for the long haul. We are all alike in the eyes of God, and Christ can overcome evil. Therein lays the message for all.

--- Selma Naccach-Hoff

We encourage you to listen and share your thoughts about this podcast. *Be A Bridge Episode 34*

You are invited to attend a virtual concert with Elizabeth Blood next month!

"Celebrating Piano Music of Black Composers" is offered by the Manchester Community Music School. Elizabeth Blood, pianist, will be joined by Sean Parr, musicologist, for this lecture-recital on **Thursday, February 18th at 7:00 pm.**

The program will explore piano music by Black composers including works by Florence Price, H. Leslie Adams and Margaret Bonds. This program will be held on Zoom and is free and open to the public.

To register simply email one of the MCMS staff, Daisy, and she can get you registered. Her email address is: daisy@mcmusicschool.org

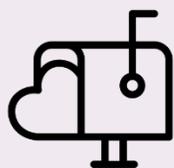


Important Covid-19 Vaccine Information!

Those aged 65 years and older can now schedule a vaccination.

To find information online regarding the scheduling of your Covid-19 vaccine please visit: <https://www.vaccines.nh.gov> or [Home | COVID-19 \(nh.gov\)](#)

You may also call 211 to speak with a Health and Human Services Resource Clerk.

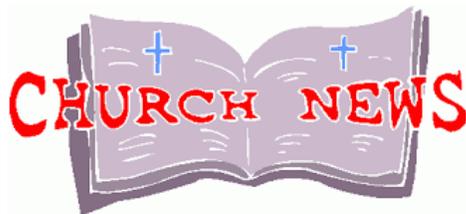


Sending Cards to Members and Friends

Many of you know **Judy Copeland** who was Associate Pastor here and Minister of Children and Families. Judy has resigned from her Ministry at Hancock Congregational Church in Hancock, New Hampshire. She has been fighting cancer for many years and she now needs the time to fight that battle full time.

The address to send her messages and cards:

**First Congregational Church
PO Box 98
Hancock, NH 03449**



News and Events at First Congregational Church

Announcements by
Barbara Papagian

This Week's Happenings

- Rev. Kevin Pleas will lead worship this Sunday, January 31st at 10:00 am and his sermon is titled, "A Word the Lord Has Not Spoken". Liz Verity will be the Scripture Reader.
- Rev. Kevin continues to host the "9:10 Morning Watch" each Monday thru Thursday morning on Facebook Live at 9:10 am.
- Tomorrow, Saturday, January 30th from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm there will be a special *Open and Affirming Zoom Conference*. Please reach out to anyone on the ONA Committee to find out more about this event or read details at <https://nhcucc.org/weekly-news>.
- The Deacons' will meet on Zoom this coming Monday, February 1st at 6:30 pm and the Membership Committee will meet on Zoom this Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:30 pm.
- Book Club meets Friday mornings at 9:30 am for 8 weeks on Zoom through Friday, February 26th. The book we are using is *The Book of Job, When Bad Things Happened to a Good Person* by Rabbi Harold S. Kushner.
- *Join Us in Supporting the 2021 "Souper Bowl" Food Drive:* The pandemic can't stop FCC from holding the Souper Bowl VIII! There are too many people in Manchester who don't have enough to eat. There will be some changes this year... Instead of asking you to risk the crowds at the grocery store and then cart them to church where the staff and outreach volunteers would have to organize and count the items, we are asking for monetary donations which will go to the New Horizons food pantry. Just make out a check to FCC, put "Souper Bowl" in the memo line, and bring or mail it to the church office by Monday, February 8th, 2021. Each dollar will count as one food item. Help us to keep this great tradition alive as we have kept so many other of our church traditions alive despite the closing of the building.

*Future and Ongoing Happenings

- The Annual Meeting is going to be virtual this year on Sunday, March 7th at 11:30 am on Zoom. The Zoom invitation will be sent out prior to the meeting date and the meeting will open at 11:15 am with a start time of 11:30 am.
- The FCC 2020 Written Committee Reports are available on our website: www.FCCManchesterNH.org and Financials will be available for pickup, emailed by request, or mailed in mid-February.
- The Church Office is open M-F from 9AM to 2PM but we are closed on major holidays and also for poor weather conditions. Please call ahead when you want to stop by to be sure we are here to welcome you (625-5093).

Barbara Papagian, Director of Parish Care bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org

"Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart." Psalm 111:1

"Friday Funnies"

You know you're in a redneck church if....the choir is known as the "OK Chorale"





First Congregational Church
508 Union Street
Manchester, N.H. 03104
Office Phone: (603) 625-5093
Office Fax: (603) 625-9107
Church Office Email: BPapagian@fccmanchesternh.org

www.FCCManchesterNH.org

Photos above: From the 2017 Fall Senior Luncheon