



# First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

## FCC Friday Link



Published Friday, February 19, 2021

### Weekly Inspirational Words

***Just take everything exactly as it is, put it in God's hands, and leave it with him.  
Then you will be able to rest in him — really rest.***

**-St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross-**

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**Those words in the above message are wonderful words to think about during this Lenten season.**

This past Saturday I spent the day in self-retreat. It is a Seminary requirement, although normally it is done at a retreat center, but this pandemic time forces us to do it on our own. I recommend that all of you do this. You don't have to do the eight hours that I did, but at least four hours.

I made a plan in advance what I would be doing which included prayer, listening to sacred music or classical music, devotions from a devotional book, meditations (you can google meditations and get an app, or there are a lot of books about it). I did some qui gong movements, but you can do stretching or yoga; and reading scripture (I just opened my Bible and read and thought about the scriptures on the page I turned to). I snacked on healthy foods throughout the day. By the end of the day I was feeling calm and relaxed and very in tune with God. No TV, no phone except to use my meditation app. No clock...I set the alarm for 4:00 when my eight hours were up.

Don't say you don't have time to do this. I work and take two classes and I found the time. This is time with God and there is no one I would rather spend time with.

-Barbara Papagian-

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." James 4:8



### **Megan Jones does Virtual Penguin Plunge!**

Megan recently completed her 9<sup>th</sup> Penguin Plunge to support Special Olympics NH. With the help of many people from FCC, she raised the amazing amount of \$4,389. Because of Covid, this year's Plunge could not be held at Hampton Beach with a plunge into the icy Atlantic Ocean. Instead, it was a D-I-Y virtual Plunge. Plungers were provided with a Plunge Pail to have water poured over their head. Megan decided to sit in the hot tub while Dad poured the water over her.

It's important to note that half of the donations received will be allocated to support the Manchester Young Athletes Program, run by her Dad – Bill Jones. There are many people from FCC who volunteer as Coaches to support the Young Athletes Program.

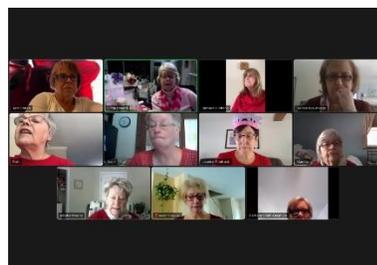
Megan would like to thank all of her supporters from FCC.

Photos: Megan receiving her Plunge Pail from the Sheriffs and then seen on the receiving end of the Plunge Pail! Go Megan!



### **The Women's Connection Valentine's Zoom Gathering was very successful!**

Our Gathering last Saturday, February 13th, included three time zones in the United States. We had a special guest from the Pacific Time Zone in CA., Barbara Smith-Delahunt! It was great seeing her and catching up. We had Terri Pattee who is enjoying the warmer weather in FL in the Central Time Zone and the rest of us are all in the frozen tundra of the Eastern Time Zone! We were eleven ladies total.



Doing Zoom does have some advantages and seeing people from other areas is one of the amazing perks! The next WC Zoom is scheduled for Wednesday, March 10th at 6:30 pm.



Jeanine's finished craft - beautiful!



Liz's prize for winning the Scavenger Hunt!

Terri won this jar of candy with her guess of how many candies were in the jar.

### THE 2021 SOUPER BOWL TOTAL ANNOUNCED!

Way to go FCC!

The grand total is \$1462 with 37 contributions. That is an average of almost \$40 per contributor.



Thank you to all for your tremendous generosity.



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

### This week's Questions

1. What has approximately 50 miles of canals?
2. What can hear with it's tongue?
3. What does "Chop Suey" mean?

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

1. A flamboyance is a group of what animals? . . . **Flamingos**
2. If a male donkey is a jack, what is a female called? . . . **Jenny**
3. What were the two sides of World War II known as? . . . **Allies and Axis**

**The Open & Affirming Committee would like to highlight the following two programs honoring Black History**



**"The Black Church: This is Our Story, This is Our Song".**

Find it on the NH PBS Channel 2/802 or online.

Airs on February 16th and 23rd from 9 - 11 pm.

Online: <https://www.pbs.org/show/black-church/>

**"White Nationalism, Contemporary Racism and the Christian Church"**

with Rev. Dr. Velda Love, Racial Justice Minister, United Church of Christ

Saturday, February 20th, 2021 from 10 am – 1 pm Via Zoom Webinar

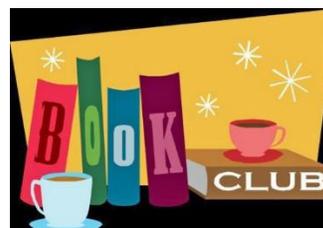
The event is free and sponsored by the Racial Justice Mission Group through your OCWM offerings.

**Register by Sunday, February 14th in order to receive pre-webinar resources.** See NHCUCC

Weekly News for additional info: [www.nhcucc.org](http://www.nhcucc.org)

**\*Book Club/Bible Study\***

Friday mornings at 9:30 am, John Rowe hosts a Bible study session on *Isaiah, Part 2*. The Zoom Link Invitation is below and all are welcome to click and join...



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87247169653?pwd=MThxY0UwOHQvdmt4TmRPy1VXaGg3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 872 4716 9653

Passcode: 361028

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)



**\*Sending Cards to Members and Friends\***

Please send sympathy cards to Jeanine Finerock for the death of her friend, Pat.

Jeanine Finerock, 45 Fox Street, Manchester, NH 03103

**News and Events at First Congregational Church**

**Announcements by  
Barbara Papagian**



**\*This Week's Happenings\***

- Rev. Kevin Pleas will lead worship at 10:00 am on Facebook this First Sunday of Lent, February 21st, 2021. The sermon is titled, "Changing Lives: Zaccheaus". There will be a virtual Communion service and Peter Perich 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.
- Today is the deadline to submit articles and pictures for the upcoming March Church Window Newsletter. Please send your entries to Lauren in the church office at [LHendersonFCC @yahoo.com](mailto:LHendersonFCC@yahoo.com).
- The next Mini Concert with Adam Peithmann will be held on Facebook on Friday evening, February 26th at 6:00 pm.

### \*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 emailed on March 1st. You will need to cut and paste the link into your browser. If you don't know how to do that, please email Linda. 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](http://www.FCCManchesterNH.org). Financials are available and can be mailed to your homes on Monday, February 22nd. If you would like to help us save on postage, please email the office for pick up! [LBonetti@fccmanchesternh.org](mailto:LBonetti@fccmanchesternh.org)
- Wednesday, March 10th at 6:30 pm will be the next Women's Connection Zoom Gathering. Look for more details about this event in the March Church Window.
- Please mark your calendar for Barbara Papagian's Ordination scheduled for Sunday, May 16th! More details to come!
- Please call ahead before heading to the church office in inclement weather. If your driveway is slippery at home, it will be at church too. We want to keep you safe!

Barbara Papagian, Director of Parish Care [bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org](mailto:bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org)

"For God alone my soul waits in silence;  
from Him comes my salvation.  
He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall never be shaken." Psalm 62:1-2

### \*Friday Funnies\*

#### THE PHONE CALL

"Hello, is this Father O'Malley?"  
"It is."  
This is the I.R.S. Can you help me?"  
"I can"  
"Do you know Ted Houlihan?"  
"I do".  
Is he a member of your church?".  
"He is".  
"Did he donate \$10,000.00 to the church?"  
"He will."



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Photo: Meeting of the "Bon Appetit" FCC Cookbook  
Committee, 2018