



First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

FCC Friday Link



Published Friday, April 16, 2021

Weekly Inspirational Words

If God sends us on strong paths, we are provided strong shoes.

-Corrie ten Boom-



I like that sentence by Corrie ten Boom. I read a book she wrote many years ago about how her Dutch family helped Jews escape from the Nazis by hiding them in their home. There were a lot of brave Christians in Holland who did the same thing, endangering their lives in order to save the lives of others.

We all complain about the bad news that we read in the newspapers and see on TV, but there are also stories to be seen about brave acts being done by police and fire people, soldiers, and all kinds of people, even children. Acts such as pulling people from burning buildings and cars, and children calling 911 when a parent gets hurt. There is good news out there. The best news of all is that God loves us and is always with us and gave us His son, Jesus. He died a horrendous death so that we might live. That is bravery and love.

So we thank God for the beauty of the world, and the goodness of brave people. And from me, a special thank you for dolphins.

-Barbara Papagian-

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go". Joshua 1:9

Dolphin Dance painting by Karen Whitworth

Elizabeth Blood, a Friend whose talents you have enjoyed during our online worship services as she sings and brings the piano to life, is sharing her experience of reviewing the new book written by Osheta Moore, "Dear White Peacemakers: Dismantling Racism".



I have had the wonderful experience of serving on the launch team -- a first for me! -- for this new book, which will be released on May 18th. I have been a fan of the author for a few years, so I was very enthusiastic about this opportunity, even prior to committing to it.

As a member of the launch team, I have agreed to read the book and write reviews on Amazon and Goodreads.com and, generally, serve as an ambassador for the book. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to participate in a private Facebook group with about 350 other launch team members.

This has been an incredible experience and I have absolutely loved reading this book. It is beautifully written and full of heart, grace, honesty and hope. Ms. Moore draws upon her own experience as a pastor in St. Paul, MN and extends an invitation to white Christians to join in the holy work of anti-racism and building the Beloved Community.

I hope you will consider joining me in reading this very thoughtful, encouraging and inspiring book.

Here is a link: <https://heraldpress.com/books/dear-white-peacemakers/>



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

This week's Questions

1. How many jelly beans do Americans consume each year?
2. In which country did the tradition of the Easter bunny originate?
3. Where is the largest Easter egg museum in the world?

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

1. In the Bible, Judas traded Jesus in exchange for what? . . . **30 pieces of silver**
2. What state held the largest Easter egg hunt ever in the United States? . . . **Florida**
3. What is the color of aircraft black boxes? . . . **Bright Orange**

Women's Connection Hosts Zoom Bingo! Tuesday, April 20th at 6:30 pm

Come and enjoy another WC BINGO Zoom Gathering! If you missed January's game here is your chance to join in on the fun!

Just email Pam (blanclp@comcast.net) or Denise (beau.de@comcast.net) to let us know you want to play and you will be sent a blank BINGO card with directions on how to fill it in with your own numbers. If you played in January and you still have cards, you can use them again if you would like but you still need to email us to receive the Zoom Invitation.



Calling all graduating seniors, and others pursuing higher education!

Our church scholarships are available for you to apply now.

- **The Senior Scholarship** for graduating high school seniors
- **The Beth Jenkins Ernest Scholarship Award** for graduating high school young women
- **The William P McGuiness Scholarship Award** for graduating high school young men
- **A New Chapter Award** for active church members who require schooling to pursue a new career
- **The Higher Education Award** for students who have graduated from high school who are continuing their education



Please contact Ellie Stetson for application forms.
ebstetson@aol.com
603-485-7853

All Scholarship Applications must be submitted by May 15, 2021.



Mother's Day Blanket Sunday - May 9th, 2021

Please honor your mother and maternal caregivers with \$10 donations to the Church World Service Blanket Fund.

Donations may be sent to the church office by mail or in person. The traditional CWS Greeting Cards are available in the office and can be picked up in person or mailed to you.

Print and fill out the official form linked below and return it with your donation to the church office before Friday, April 30th, 2021.

[CLICK HERE](#) to download & print your form. Printed forms are also available to pick-up in the church office.

We would like to add pictures of the loved ones you have honored with your blanket donation into the online Mother's Day Worship Service. Please consider sending your pictures to Adam Peithmann by uploading them on wetransfer.com. To do this, simply click on this link: wetransfer.com and it will walk you through the steps. The website is free and you don't have to sign up to take advantage of it -- we thank you for contributing to this special online worship service!

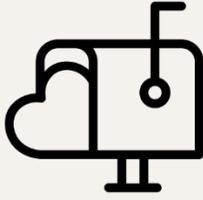
Join us for "Movie of the Week Club" at 9:30 am on Friday mornings on Zoom!

The movie we will be discussing on April 23rd is "**Becket**"

If you would like to join us, we meet via zoom, so call Barbara Papagian at the church office (625-5093) to be included on the invitation list. We will be voting via email for the movie to watch each week, so let me know if you are interested. Also, if you have any suggestions for appropriate movies, let me know. Feel free to join in all sessions or just the ones that interest you.

Have fun watching movies, eating popcorn, and joining in the movie discussion with some fun people!





Sending Cards to Members and Friends

Please send *thinking of you* cards to Phillip Dubois, (son of Deanna Dubois) and Dubois Family...Deanna's burial service was this past Saturday.

Phillip Dubois & Family, 103 Greenwood Court, Manchester, NH 03109

Please send *get well* cards to Pip Adams recovering from Diverticulitis.

Pip Adams, 13 Greystone Way, Manchester, NH 03104

Please send *messages in sympathy* to Stephen Gaspar and family. Stephen's father, John Gaspar, died Sunday, March 30th.

Stephen Gaspar, 123 Ridgefield Drive, Milford, NH 03055

Please send *get well* messages to Sue Clement as she is recovering from Covid-19.

Sue Clement, 25 Hosley Street, 2nd Floor, Manchester, NH 03103

News and Events at First Congregational Church

Announcements by Barbara Papagian

This Week's Happenings

- Rev. Kevin Pleas will lead Sunday Worship at 10:00 am on Facebook this Sunday, April 18, 2021. His sermon is titled, "Healing the Creation". Michelle Harrington 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.
- The Church Trustees will meet on Monday, April 19th at 6:30 pm on Zoom.
- Women's Connection is hosting BINGO on Zoom this Tuesday evening, April 20th at 6:30 pm. Please reach out to Pam or Denise to join!
- Today is the deadline to submit articles for the May edition of the Church Window newsletter. Please email your submissions to Lauren in the office at LHendersonFCC@yahoo.com -- thank you!

Future and Ongoing Happenings

- For the month of April 2021, the First Congregational Church Food Pantry will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford store located at 79 Bicentennial Drive in Manchester. This is a great way to support our church pantry!
- The Horton Center, Faith-based Camp and Retreat Center, will be back to in-person camp this summer! It is offering 5 weeks of camp to choose from. Scholarships are available so reach out to Kelda at kyork@fccmanchesternh.org for more information. Read about the camps offered at www.hortoncenter.org.
- Friday, April 30th at 6:00 pm is the next Friday Night Mini Concert on Facebook with Adam Peithmann.

- The Hillsborough Association Annual Meeting is on Sunday, May 2nd at 3:00 pm on Zoom. For more information visit: nhcucc.org
- Save the Date: Sunday, May 16th is Barbara Papagian's Ordination on Zoom. More details coming soon!
- On Sunday, May 23rd at 7:00 pm on Zoom, you are invited to a conversation and musical presentation on Zoom with church musician, composer and educator, Mark Miller! Sponsored by FCC's Music Ministry, Open & Affirming Committee, Outreach Committee and Church Council. Registration for this event will open on May 1st!

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

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others". Philippians 2:4

Friday Funnies

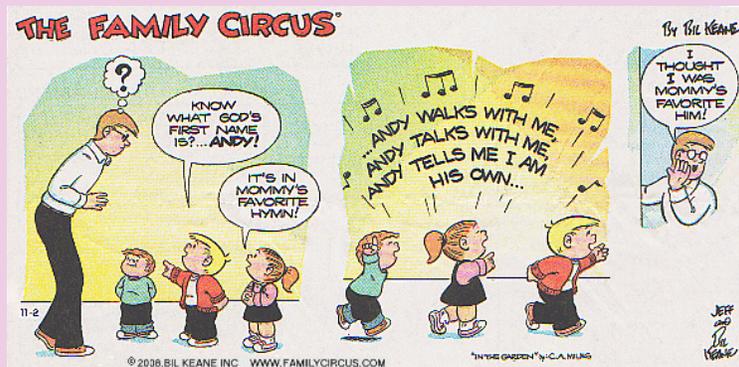


Photo: The children assist at the fellowship hour, November 2017

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