



First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

FCC Friday Link



Published Friday, April 23, 2021

Weekly Inspirational Words

Friendship is like a rose... opening one petal at a time, only as it unfolds day by day, it reveals its true beauty.

-Joan Walsoh Anglund-

A picture of our church and words about friendship... Church and friends certainly go together very well.

There are different kinds of friends that range from very close friends to people we know and see occasionally. Church is such a perfect place to form friendships. We are in church to worship together and help others together, and praise God together.

I met two of my very best friends at church. They have both since passed away, but they are still in my heart. My friends with whom I work with, and meet with, and read books with are all special to me, and of course my very special friend, Larry.

Most of all, though, I love my friends, God and Jesus. They never leave my side and they love me unconditionally. We have our disagreements at times, but they always work out for the best.

Who are your best friends? Who are your special friends? I hope God and Jesus are on your list.

-Barbara Papagian-



"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:12-13

New Hampshire's Historical Markers

By Barbara Papagian

Larry and I have been traveling around New Hampshire the past two years seeing all of the historical markers. There are around 260 of them and we only have about 15 more to see, although each year they add one or two.

It is interesting to read the signs and our trips have taken us to places in New Hampshire we have not seen before. When I am finished working on my Master's Degree, I am going to start a blog and give more details of our trips and the signs. We have had some very humorous moments. I especially like this sign about the covered bridge in Plymouth. The original cost of building the bridge was \$2,700.00 in 1850. The bridge was burned down by an arsonist in 1993 and rebuilt at the cost of \$3.3 million dollars.

Do you like history? Do you love New Hampshire? You may like to travel the state and read some historical markers.



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

This week's Questions

1. How many states consider Good Friday a holiday?
2. Buying what for Easter is said to bring good luck for the rest of the year?
3. What garment was popularized by the song, "Easter Parade"?

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

1. How many jelly beans do Americans consume each year? . . . **16 million**
2. In which country did the tradition of the Easter bunny originate? . . . **Germany**
3. Where is the largest Easter egg museum in the world? . . . **Poland**



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 next Friday, April 30th!

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!



The Meal Train's cupboard needs soup, muffins, and cookies. Donations are gratefully accepted at any time.

Thank You in advance!

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.

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 30th is "Tootsie".

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!



Women's Connection Zoom BINGO!

WC had nine ladies participate in another successful BINGO Zoom Gathering. We all enjoyed each other's company and talked about many important subjects like what we all wear when going to church on Facebook on Sunday mornings. If you're wondering what we said, you just had to be there. So next time we play maybe you will join in on the fun. Our BINGO Queen and winner of the crown is Barbara Papagian with 28 wins. Congratulations Barbara!!!



"What We're Reading & Watching"...

Special Book and Video Suggestions from the Open and Affirming Committee!

American Spiritual Ensemble 2021 Virtual Tour, "The Power of Spirituals"

The concert video can be rented for \$10, to be viewed during a two-day rental period. It includes commentary by Eileen Gunther (author of *In Their Own Words*). You will be transported by the music. Carol Soucy adds, "The concert was wonderful, the commentary was powerful and enlightening, and listening to pieces like 'Go Down, Moses' and 'We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace' were well worth the cost of the concert!" <https://www.americanspiritualensemble.com/>

***In Their Own Words: Slave Life and the Power of Spirituals* by Eileen Guenther**

This groundbreaking study of slavery and spirituals is the first to place the unique voices of an enslaved people squarely within the context of their daily lives. Dr. Guenther's deeply researched account includes an examination of the role of singing and religion in slave life and directly correlates slave testimonies in their own words to the themes of Spirituals.

**Draw the Circle Wide:
An Evening with Mark Miller**

You are invited to a Zoom conversation and musical presentation with church musician, composer & educator, Mark Miller!



Mark believes passionately that music can change the world. He also believes in Cornell West's quote that 'Justice is what love looks like in public.' His dream is that the music he composes, performs, teaches, and leads will inspire and empower people to create the beloved community. Mark will lecture about his music and social justice topics. His presentation will include musical performance along with his personal story. Q&A session is also planned.

When:
May 23rd at 7 pm

Where:
On Zoom!

All are Welcome!
 • Event is Free & Open to the public.
 • Registration opens May 1st! Go to: FCCManchesterNH.org

Sponsored by:
 The First Congregational Church's:
 Music Ministry, Open & Affirming Committee, Outreach Committee & Church Council

First Congregational Church
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[Facebook.com/FCCManchester](https://www.facebook.com/FCCManchester)



Sending Cards to Members and Friends

Please send *thinking of you* messages to Bruce Kinney. Bruce's father suffered a stroke recently and is now in hospice care.

Bruce Kinney, 1 Greenbriar Lane, Amherst, NH 03031

Updates:

Pip Adams is in the hospital after having surgery, recovering from Diverticulitis.

Sue Clement continues to recover from Covid-19.

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 25, 2021. His sermon is titled, "Fulfilled in Your Hearing". 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.
- The Open and Affirming Committee will meet this Sunday, April 25th at 1:00 pm on Zoom.
- Next Friday, April 30th at 6:00 pm is the Friday Night Mini Concert on Facebook with Adam Peithmann.

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 Hillsborough Association Annual Meeting is on Sunday, May 2nd at 3:00 pm on Zoom. For more information visit: nhcucc.org
- Sunday, May 16th is Barbara Papagian's Ordination at 3:00 pm on Zoom. Please contact Barbara for the Zoom invitation if you would like to attend.

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

"That is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine." Romans 1:12



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Photo: Memory Garden Spring Planting, 2018