



First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

FCC Friday Link



**Keeping the Members and
Friends of First Church Connected!**

Published Friday, April 30, 2021

Weekly Inspirational Words

Your talent is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift back to God.

-Leo Buscaglia-



My Ordination is only a couple of weeks away and I am excitedly preparing for it with the help of a UCC Tech team.

We are working out the logistics of doing it on Zoom and I think it will be meaningful. There will be music from Adam and maybe a couple of our beloved choir members. Some of the people who have supported me and helped me since I first started this long journey will be taking part, as well as my sister and brother-in-law who have been at my side through all of my ups and downs.

You are all invited to attend via Zoom on May 16th at 3:00 pm. Let me or the church office know if you would like to attend and we will send you the Zoom invitation.

I am so humbled to be serving you all at our beloved First Congregational Church and I promise to keep loving you, honoring you, and caring for you as your Associate Pastor after May 16th. Blessings and thanks to you all.

"I am grateful to Christ Jesus our LORD, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service..." 1Timothy 1:12

Barbara Papagian, Director of Parish Care

A Goodrich Family Update!

From Greg, Lindsey and Piper

The Goodrich family is doing very well. Little Miss Piper is growing so fast. It seems like we just brought her home from the hospital yesterday. She is a very happy baby! She is sleeping through the night now and loves eating foods like strawberries, sweet potato and carrot puffs and her new favorite oatmeal cereal. She has made some friends at daycare and enjoys being outside to go for walks with Mom and Dad, and loves looking at all the budding flowers and being in nature. She is looking forward to many summer adventures to come!

She can't wait to meet everyone at FCC very soon!





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

This week's Questions

1. Each year, Easter is recognized on the first Sunday after what?

2. What bread-based snack is associated with

Easter?

3. What two games are traditionally played with Easter eggs?

Answers from Last Week. . .

1. How many states consider Good Friday a holiday? . . . **12**

2. Buying what for Easter is said to bring good luck for the rest of the year? . . . **New clothes**

3. What garment was popularized by the song, "Easter Parade"? . . . **Easter bonnets**

FCC Memory Garden

From Liz Verity, originally published in the May 2021 Church Window Newsletter

We are starting work in the Memory garden this month. It is wonderful to see those green shoots popping through the earth - even the weeds. I am always amazed at the feeling of renewal and rebirth at this time of year.

The first week in May, we will fertilize and enrich the soil, and remove any new weeds, ready for planting annuals and mulching during the last two weeks of May. We also plan to add two Hydrangea Trees (or something similar) to add height to the back of the garden.

We are grateful for all donations received that honor the loved ones of those connected to our church community. Anyone who would like to lend a hand, please contact me as I would appreciate the help.
-Liz (liz-v@comcast.net 603-494-6785)



Women's Connection raised a total of \$205.00 (\$75 from WC funds plus \$130 contributions from friends of WC) to the Memory Garden in memory of Eldena Lard, Deana Dubois and Pam Pleas —three ladies who were very active with Women's Connection.

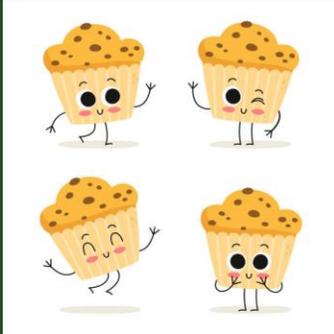
Thank you to all who contributed!

You and a friend are invited to attend the 2021 Women's Connection Ninth Mystery Ride!

Date : Saturday, June 5
Time: Arrive in the church driveway at 8:45 am.
Estimated time of return 3:00 pm.
Destination: An Outside MYSTERY!!!!???
Cost: \$15.00 not including lunch.
Lunch will be your own choice, ordered that day at an indoor-outdoor restaurant.



More information: Anyone who is planning on going, needs to either be able to drive your own car, or feel comfortable riding with someone.
Email either Pam LeBlanc blanclp@comcast.net or Denise Beurivage beau.de@comcast.net to sign up. Please let them know what your plan is for transportation.



The Meal Train's cupboard needs soup, muffins, and cookies.

Donations are gratefully accepted at any time.

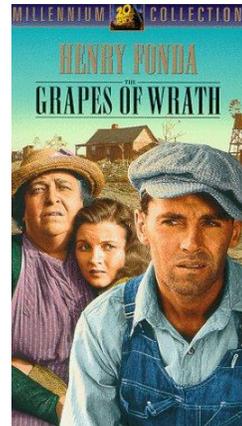
Thank You in advance!

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

The movie we will be discussing on Friday, May 7th is "The Grapes of Wrath".

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!



"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." - Emilie Buchwald

***Children's Book Drive for Elliot Hospital* May 9th - June 6th, 2021**

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a children's book drive to benefit the Elliot Hospital's family/children outreach program. This program provides free NEW BOOKS to families of children from birth to age 5 to foster reading and learning skills.

Follow these easy steps to participate:

- Purchase a NEW BOOK suitable for ages birth - age 5.
- Drop off the book to the church office.
- If ordering a book online, have the book sent to the church. Address to:

Outreach Committee
First Congregational Church
508 Union Street
Manchester, NH 03104

Outreach Matching Grant: For every book donated the Outreach Committee will purchase 2 new books.

The Outreach Committee is excited to partner with the Elliot Hospital as we look forward to finding different ways to extend our community outreach.

“A book is a gift you can open again and again” - Garrison Keillor



Draw The Circle Wide: An Evening With Mark Miller

Sponsored by First Congregational Church Manchester's Music Ministry, Open & Affirming Committee, Outreach Committee, and Church Council.

You are invited to a conversation and musical presentation on Zoom with church musician, composer and educator, Mark Miller! The event is scheduled for **Sunday, May 23 at 7 pm.** Our own Rev. Kevin, Adam Peithmann, and Jeffrey Frye will serve as Zoom Hosts that evening.

[CLICK HERE](#) to enjoy a special video advertisement Adam created!

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 share some of his work and we will have time for Q&A.

Registration is now open, **[CLICK HERE](#)** to complete the simple, free registration process. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

For more information, please see the FCC website at FCCManchesterNH.org. If you have questions, please contact Carol Soucy carolsoucy@comcast.net or 603-591-6387.

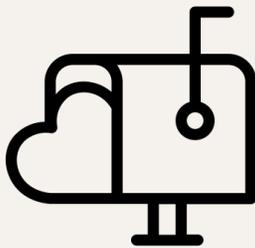


5K VIRTUAL
June 12th-26th, 2021

Register @ TotalImageRunning.com

The Wesley's Way Foundation, in honor of Wesley Belisle, gives back to our community in memory of Wesley through various activities related to water safety, literacy and education, parks and playgrounds and more!

Visit wesleyswayfoundation.org to find out more about current activities including their Virtual 5K happening this June!



Sending Cards to Members and Friends

Please send your *sympathy messages* to Bruce and Regina Kinney. Bruce's father has passed away.

Mr. Bruce & Rev. Dr. Regina Kinney, 1 Greenbriar Lane, Amherst, NH 03031

Please send *thinking of you* cards to Eric Gagnon. Eric is having some health issues including ongoing recovery from a broken rib.

Eric Gagnon, 39 Walnut Street, Room #3, Manchester, NH 03104

Please send *thinking of you and healing prayers* for Sokhom Sar and his daughter Paula. Paula is going through some personal hardships and needs prayers and comfort.

Sokhom Sar, Paula & Sar Family, 218 Frederick Street, #2, Manchester, NH 03102

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, May 2, 2021. His sermon is titled, "Acts of Faith". Tom Irving 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 Deacons' Board will meet on Monday, May 3rd at 6:30 pm. The Membership Committee will meet on Tuesday, May 4th at 6:30 pm, and the Outreach Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 pm. All meetings are currently held on Zoom.
- Today is the last day to donate a Mother's Day Blanket in honor of your mother and/or maternal caregivers for our *Church World Service Mother's Day Blanket Fund*. Please reach out to the church office if you would like to donate.
- Tonight at 6:00 pm tune into Facebook to see the Friday Night Mini Concert 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

Future and Ongoing Happenings

- Church Scholarships for 2021 are now open. Please reach out to Ellie Stetson for application forms at ebstetson@aol.com. More information on each scholarship requirement is available in the May Church Window newsletter and applications are due by May 15th.
- Saturday, June 5th is the Women's Connection Annual Mystery Ride! More details to come.
- Horton Center News!...It's that time of year to start thinking about summer camp. The Horton Center, Faith-Based Camp and Retreat Center, will be back to in-person camp this summer and is offering 5 weeks of camp to choose from! Scholarships are available if you are interested. To learn more, visit www.hortoncenter.org or reach out to Kelda at KYork@fccmanchesternh.org for information!

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

"You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name". John 15:16



Friday Funnies

Aging is kind of like a cute puppy... it's a little hairy but you might as well embrace it!

Worship This Sunday
CLICK HERE

Past Links & News
CLICK HERE

You are always welcome to join us for online worship at
First Congregational Church of Manchester!

www.FCCManchesterNH.org



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www.FCCManchesterNH.org

Printed copies of **FCC Friday Link** will be available in the church office and will be available to you by mail. Please contact the church office for a copy!

Photo: Bridget Thornton's Choir Solo, Worship Service, December 2018

First Congregational Church of Manchester N.H. | 508 Union Street, Manchester, NH 03104

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