



# First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

## FCC Friday Link



Published Friday, May 28, 2021

### Weekly Inspirational Words

***Life is like the ocean. It can be calm and still or rough and rigid but in the end, it is always beautiful. - Aravidh Rvp-***

***Individually we are one drop. Together we are an ocean. -Ryunsuke Satoro-***

Ah, the ocean. It can be so very peaceful and it can also be angry and destructive.

We humans can also be peaceful and angry. We don't all become destructive when we are angry in the way the ocean does, but we can be destructive to those we are angry at. We can say hurtful things and become very judgmental.

That is when we should stop for a moment and think of God who says, "**Be still and know that I am God.**"



Life is too short to carry around anger and grudges. We don't all like everyone we come into contact with, but God tells us to love all His children. So even if we don't like them we can be respectful, helpful, and kind. Peace starts with us.

Peace and blessings to you all.  
-Rev. Barbara Papagian-

"May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!" Psalm 29:11

Dear FCC Community,

It has been a week of many challenges but also blessings as well. While we were excited to see Barbara Papagian become an ordained minister, and Covid cases decrease significantly, we learned of Kevin's imminent retirement. But our church is up to the challenge of moving forward.

Right now, a small group of members constitutes the Interim Search Committee. They are Jeanine Finefrock, Bill Jones, Fred Simmons, Carol Soucy, and Selma Naccach-Hoff. We take our calling seriously, and look forward to presenting the congregation with its next Interim Minister.

-Selma Naccach-Hoff, Church Moderator-

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### Mark Miller's *Draw the Circle Wide* event – Inspiring and Well-Received!

*"Thank you for having this webinar. It was enlightening and enjoyable."* - Jim Fogle

Another attendee sent a note, *"Thanks for...arranging the Mark Miller concert on Zoom. He was delightful and very enjoyable - he must be wonderful in person!"*

Sunday evening's webinar with nationally renowned composer and church musician Mark Miller took us on a wonderful journey of music and messages of faith. Over 50 attendees enjoyed Mark's hymns, anthems, and songs interspersed with his personal story of growth and commitment to welcome and treating each other as "children of God."

Carol Soucy adds, *"I encourage you to set aside time to watch the recording that Adam posted on Vimeo. You'll be inspired, challenged, and uplifted. God's spirit of love flows throughout the program."* Click this exact link, <https://vimeo.com/554087615>

Thanks to the Outreach Committee, Church Council, Music Ministry, and the Open and Affirming Committee for sponsoring the event, and to Adam and Jeffrey Frye for their support during the program. It was heartening that over one-third of the attendees were "guests" invited from other churches and area organizations. Adam promises that the choir will be learning more of Mark's music, so Mark's influence will continue to touch our hearts and minds during worship.

-Carol Soucy, Chair, Open & Affirming Committee, First Congregational Church-

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### Open and Affirming Committee at Queen City Pride!

First Congregational Church will be represented at the upcoming Queen City Pride Festival, to be held at Arms Park on Saturday, June 19th, from 12 - 6 pm. The Open and Affirming Committee is hosting a booth at the festival. We invite you to join in the day by attending or volunteering in our booth.



If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Carol Soucy 603-591-6387 or [carolsoucy@comcast.net](mailto:carolsoucy@comcast.net). You may also call Lauren Henderson in the church office or sign-up on the church office window. As the date approaches, we will share additional info and event publicity. We appreciate the involvement and assistance offered by the Membership Committee. They are preparing print give-aways and FCC labeled water bottles to distribute that day.

Join hands to share the good news of our FCC faith community!

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

**This week's Questions**

1. What famous Walt Disney character's first words were "Hot Dog"?
2. What is the birthstone color of July?
3. Was salt water taffy created accidentally - True or False?

**Answers from Last Week . . .**

1. What is the top selling item in the Summer? . . . **Swimsuits**
2. In the heat of the Summer, the iron in the Eiffel Tower expands, making the tower grow more than how many inches? . . . **6 inches**
3. What U.S. holiday unofficially signifies the end of the U.S. summer season? . . . **Labor Day**



**\*Bracelet Making with Terri!\***

**Women's Connection had a couple of small gatherings at Terri Pattee's house in her back yard last week. She had it set up perfectly to make bracelets for the Holly Berry Christmas Fair. We made more than 10 beautiful beaded spring bracelets that you won't want to miss. There will be more gatherings like this in the future.**

Yes, the Holly Berry Christmas Fair is still happening - mark you calendar for November 20th, 2021! Groups are beginning to get together to make items for the fair. If you have any ideas for projects and would like a group of people to help make it just contact Pam LeBlanc or Peggy Neveu and they will help coordinate it ([blanclp@comcast.net](mailto:blanclp@comcast.net) and [frannys1@aol.com](mailto:frannys1@aol.com)). The fair is not just a Women's Connection event. It is an all church event!



**Church World Service Father's Day Tools**

**Father's Day is Sunday, June 20th - honor your father and paternal caregivers with \$10 donations to the *Church World Service Father's Day Tools Fund*.**

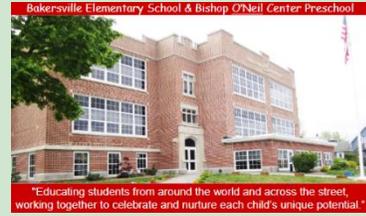
Donations may be sent to the church office by mail or in person. Find the order form by clicking [HERE](#) or pick up a printed copy in the church office, and return it before Friday, June 11th, 2021.

Please consider emailing a photo of your loved one to Adam Peithmann to be included in the Father's Day Online Worship Service. Click [HERE](#) to use the free and easy wetransfer.com service to send photos electronically.

**\*NEWS FROM THE FCC OUTREACH COMMITTEE\***

**The Outreach Committee will give a final thank you luncheon for faculty and staff of Hallsville School on June 17th at 11:30 AM.**

We have been working with the school for several years and have ended each school year with a luncheon for the faculty and staff. Now that Hallsville is closing, that tradition will end. We are proud of what we have accomplished together and grateful for their dedication to the children.



**The Outreach Committee has met with Bakersville social workers Danielle Longo and Kate Kelly.**

Danielle works with the approximately 300 students at the elementary school and Kate with the 90 students at the Bishop O'Neil Center Preschool. They identified their biggest immediate needs are for booster car seats for the preschool and emergency grocery store gift cards. On Monday we delivered 4 booster seats and 10 \$50 Market Basket gift cards. We will be talking to them again before school starts to explore ways to grow a partnership similar to the one we have enjoyed with Hallsville.

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

**The movie we will be discussing next Friday, June 4th is "Senior Moment".**

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!



**Happy Birthday to all of our friends born in June!**

**June 1st  
Melanie Nickerson**

**June 3rd  
Jeanine Finefrock**

**June 5th  
Ron Poloski**



**June 20th  
Craig Finefrock**

**June 21st  
Barbara Allard  
Tammie Morris**

**June 22nd  
Ellie Stetson\***

June 6th  
Bailey Rose

June 9th  
Lindsey Rose

June 10th  
Carol Soucy\*

June 12th  
Rachel Pantazis

June 13th  
George Goedecke

June 15th  
Linda Sowa

June 19th  
Alice Asadourian  
Jacob Caveny  
Zane Knoy\*

June 24th  
Caitlin Johnstone

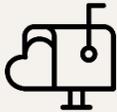
June 25th  
Barbara Downton  
Dorine Newell

June 26th  
Anita Patsos

June 29th  
Christian Eaton  
Pamela Taber-McCarthy\*

June 30th  
Elaine Belanger

\*Indicates milestone birthday!



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

Please send messages of comfort to Ellie Campbell. Ellie's brother recently passed away.

Ellie Campbell, 75 Greeley Street, Manchester, NH 03102

**\*Updates on Members and Friends\***

Nancy Blackwood passed away on Sunday, May 23rd.

## News and Events at First Congregational Church

### Announcements by Rev. Barbara Papagian

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

- Rev. Kevin Pleas will lead Sunday Worship at 10:00 am on Facebook this Sunday, May 30, 2021. His sermon is titled, "The Healing Touch" and Ruth Knowles 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.
- Tonight is the Friday Night Mini Concert with Adam Peithmann at 6:00 pm on Facebook.
- The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 31st for the Memorial Day Holiday.
- The Membership Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 1st at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

- **Saturday, June 5th is the 2021 Women's Connection Ninth Mystery Ride! . . .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](mailto:blanclp@comcast.net) or Denise Beurivage [beau.de@comcast.net](mailto:beau.de@comcast.net) to sign up. Please let them know what your plan is for transportation.

### **\*Future and Ongoing Happenings\***

- **\*You're Invited to a Virtual 5K!\*** . . . Happening June 12th thru June 26th! To complete this race, it is your choice to run, walk or jog any time from 6/12 to 6/26, at a location that you choose. Then submit your results online! To register **CLICK HERE. 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!
- **\*Children's Book Drive for Elliot Hospital\* ENDS SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH! . . . So far we have \*60\* books! THANK YOU! . . .**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. 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. 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

Rev. Barbara Papagian, Associate Pastor [bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org](mailto:bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org)

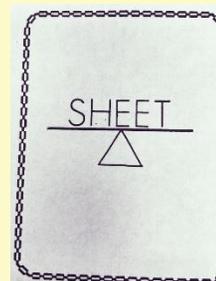
"For God is not the author of confusion but of peace" 1Corinthians 14:33

### **WORDLES!**

Word puzzles that are made up of a series of cryptic letters, words and patterns which, when combined, represent a common word or phrase!

Can you figure them out? . . .

\*Kindly Submitted by Karen Hawver\*





**Memorial Day, Monday, May 31st, 2021**  
***To those who courageously gave their lives and those who bravely fight today, we thank you and may God bless you.***



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Photo: Women's Connection Card Making Event, 2017