



First Congregational Church

A Friendly Church in the Heart of the City

FCC Friday Link



Published Friday, August 20, 2021

Weekly Inspirational Words

Advice from a Banana: Always be ready when the time is ripe, Friends are better by the bunch, Sometimes when you're slightly bruised is when you're at your very best, and Life's little surprises are what makes it so "apeeling"!

-Scott Mendenhall-



This picture reminds me of the sermon I will be doing Sunday about choices.

All day long we make choices, and we probably don't think too much about it. What to wear to work, what to cook for dinner, do I want to go to the gym or not today.

But when it comes to choices of behavior....do I go out of my way to help someone, do I go to church or play golf, do I help my friend move or go to the beach...these are the choices that we should consider making with God in mind.

Are we thinking about doing to others as we would have them do to us. Are we thinking about the day God set aside for us to rest in Him.

Do we take that clear cut, easy walking path, or do we take the more difficult path that probably has obstacles in the way.

God is very clear about how we should behave, always with His teachings in mind. His path is clearly marked. All of us at one time or another veer off on another path, but when we have faith and belief in God, we will be led back to the right path.

"In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths" Proverbs 3:6

-Rev. Barbara Papagian-

Photo: From the June 2021 Women's Connection Mystery Ride to Bedrock Gardens in Lee, NH.

Hello - My name is Watson!

The First Congregational Church's **Hands On Mission (H.O.M.E Team)** has been so pleased to have been able to continue our connections with The UpReach Therapeutic Riding Center in Goffstown throughout the pandemic. Through the FCC Meal Train we have provided cookies, all baked by the loving hands of Meal Train volunteers for UpReach's Caring Connections program. *Caring Connections* is a complimentary therapeutic program designed for professionals, who have worked on the front lines of the Covi-19 crisis.



Thanks to the efforts of Meal Train organizer Peggy Neveu, we have also been able to donate new books from Scholastics Books, to be given to kids aged 8-17 years in their Resilience Reins program.

In past years FCC volunteers have cleaned offices, meeting rooms and the kitchen, all thanks to the connection made by Bill Jones between FCC families and UpReach.

Today I would like to introduce you to Mr. WATSON, Mathew Jones's favorite horse. He is UpReach's barn greeter, nothing gets past him, he see's everything. He is intuitive and will try to snap anyone who's having a bad day, out of it. He's intelligent, astute and curious, and although his name is Watson, he is really more like Sherlock Holmes.

Watson is 16.2 hands, a "gentle giant" which makes him ideal for the job he has done with the UpReach's unmounted program. This is a program where youth, individuals, and families, work with horses on the ground to help improve overall physical and mental wellness. While waiting for full retirement and his forever home, Watson also works with veterans, youth and families, and substance abuse clients from local non profits.

Watson, like the century is 21yrs old, and was donated to UpReach in 2015 by Cami Beckman. UpReach's goal is to improve lives with the power of the horse, and Watson has done just that.

-Kindly Submitted by Liz Verity-





Join us for Weekly Trivia
With Pip Adams!

This week's Questions

1. What is the oldest beach in America?
2. What is the longest day of the year?
3. What U.S. holiday unofficially signifies the end of the Summer season?

Answers from Last Week. . .

1. The term SPF is seen on all sunscreen bottles. What does it stand for? . . . **Sun Protection Factor**
2. Which President hosted the first BBQ at the White House? . . . **Lyndon B. Johnson**
3. What is the longest continuous beach in America? . . . **Long Beach, Washington**

All in-person and virtual (Facebook) services are at 10:00 am every Sunday

- **Sunday, August 22nd** Facebook only
- **Sunday, August 29th** In-person and Facebook
- **Sunday, September 5th** Facebook only



NEW TIME! NEW HOSTS! JOIN US FOR THE MORNING WATCH PRAYERS!

Join Rev. Barbara and Peter Perich every Monday thru Thursday morning at 9:00 AM on Facebook for the Morning Watch!
Monday we will be starting our new devotion book, "A Guide to Prayer for all who Seek God".



Join Us Thursday Mornings!
Holly Berry Fair Craft Prep Workshops

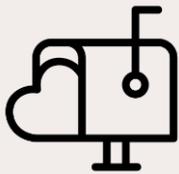
The crafting workshops will continue on Thursdays through September 9th from 9:30 am -12:00 pm.

Come and see what is happening, socialize and help out even if you can only spend an hour or so, we would love to have you. If you think you are not real crafty we have lots of things that need to be done. Call Lauren in the church office at 625-5093 or email Pam LeBlanc or Peggy Neveu and your name will be added to the list. Pam's email is blanclp@comcast.net or Peggy's email is frannys1@aol.com.

Has your attic, basement or garage been cleaned out lately? The "Attic Treasures Shoppe" is looking for interesting one of a kind type of items. Not yard sale items! We can not store Attic Treasures at this time, but start cleaning and collecting because the time is drop them off will be coming soon. If you are not

sure about the items you find just contact Peggy or Pam and they will help you decide. The crafting group is looking for glass stemware, glass plates any size and color, interesting shaped vases, glass jars and bottles any size, to create yard sculptures. We would also love to acquire some lace, lace curtains and doilies even if they are worn and tattered. If you have anything of this nature and would like to pass it on please let Pam or Peggy know and arrangements can be made to pick it up.

"The Jewelry Shoppe" is looking for your old unwanted, haven't-been-used-in-many-years, jewelry. These pieces might be repaired and cleaned for resale or repurposed into a craft. Please contact Terri Pattee (seamstressed@yahoo.com) to arrange pick up.



Sending Cards to Members and Friends

Please send a *friendly hello message* to Vance and Suzanne Spaulding.

Vance & Suzanne Spaulding, 6 Fourth Street, Bedford, NH 03110

News and Events at First Congregational Church

Announcements by Rev. Barbara Papagian

This Week's Happenings

- Rev. Barbara Papagian will lead virtual Worship on Facebook at 10:00 am this Sunday, August 22, 2021. Her sermon is titled, "The Choice is Yours". Jeanine Finefrock will be the Scripture Reader.
- The "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook are every Monday thru Thursday at 9:00 am.
- The Holly Berry Fair Craft Prep Workshops continue every Thursday morning from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm in the dining room through September 9th.
- Next Sunday, August 29th will be an in-person service at 10:00 am.

Future and Ongoing Happenings

- **HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR PHOTO FOR THE PICTURE DIRECTORY?** *You will have the opportunity after worship on Sundays to have your picture taken in the parlor! . . .* We are asking Members and Friends of First Church to take their own “selfie” pictures and email them to Lauren Henderson in the church office at: LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org. Pictures can be of individuals, couples, or families – it’s up to you. If you have problems with this approach, such as an older cell phone or no cell phone at all – you can stop by the church office from 10 to noon this summer and Lauren or Linda will gladly take your picture. Just give them a call to let them know you are coming at 625-5093. If that is not convenient for you – please call Bill Jones at 603-860-1236 to discuss coming to your home to take the picture. If you do not wish to have your picture in the Picture Directory – that’s fine – just drop Bill Jones an email to tell him you are not interested – wjones0615@comcast.net.
- ***Summer Altar Flowers Needed*** for Sunday, August 29th. Notify Lauren in the church office at 625-5093 or email Terri at seamstressed@yahoo.com or Pam at blanclp@comcast.net. The arrangement can be flowers from your own garden, the grocery store or from a florist. If a florist is used, check with Lauren and she can set it up.
- Please note summer church office hours: M-TH from 9 am to 2 pm and Fridays 9 am to Noon. As always, we will be here if you want to stop in so please call ahead 625-5093.
- There will be an ***All Church Picnic*** on Sunday, September 12th! This event is in the planning stages and tentative based upon the status of the Covid-19 virus in the coming weeks. If all goes to plan we will be looking for volunteers to help make it a success. Watch for more details to come!

Rev. Barbara Papagian, Associate Pastor bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org

"In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."
Proverbs 3:

IMPORTANT REOPENING INFORMATION

The Task Force met and reviewed the latest CDC protocols. These are our latest guidelines for Worship Services:

We appreciate those who made advance reservations, however they are no longer required.

Social distancing will be practiced in order to be able to sing.

If ramp access is needed, please ring the bell.

Collection box will be located in the narthex and plates by the exit doors.

Hand sanitizer and wipes will be available.

Ushers will hand out bulletins to those entering the sanctuary.

People may seat themselves in open pews.

No child care or Church School. The Cradle Room is available but not staffed.

Masks are appreciated but not required if you are fully vaccinated.

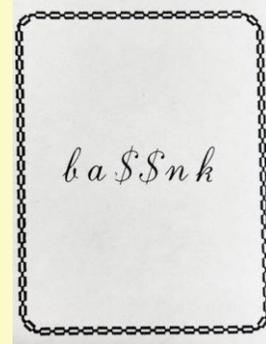
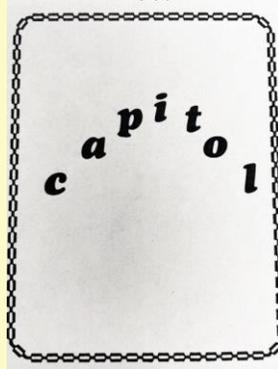
We look forward to seeing everyone, but urge you not to congregate inside the building at this time.

-Thank you, The Reopening Task Force 6/23/21-
The next Reopening Task Force meeting is scheduled for 8/18/21

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



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Photo: Memory Garden at Union Street Entrance

