



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, October 15, 2021

Weekly Inspirational Words

*Sometimes I just look up, smile, and say, 'I know that was you, God, thank you'.
-Unknown-*



Isn't it wonderful how we get a last burst of color before winter sets in?

I love living in New England where we have four distinct seasons. There is beauty in all of them, and if there is one season we like more than the others, we know it will be back next year. We can count on that.

We can count on God, too. There are times when we don't like what's going on around us and we don't feel like God is with us. But circumstances change and we again feel God's presence. Just like

the trees are always there in Winter, Spring, and Summer...(they just aren't as colorful as the Fall), God is always with us, even in times when we feel He is not with us. Trust in God and enjoy all of God's beauty that surrounds us every day.

-Rev. Barbara Papagian-

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

Photo: "Chasing the Golden Light" at Lake Massabesic by Howard S. Muscott



Trevor Poisson and Audrey Peithmann having fun! They painted a wooden cut out and made it their favorite character.

Worship Service on World Communion Sunday October 3rd, 2021



SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

Being able to worship together again on Sunday mornings is not only spiritually fulfilling but paramount in being able to reconnect with one another and with God. In light of this, the Re-Opening committee will continue to meet and adjust our Covid protocols.

In concurrence with the Church Council and the Deacons, we believe that our established protocols will help ensure all our members and visitors will stay safe while worshipping with us and will allow us to continue to worship in-person each

Sunday! At the same time, we are aware that our church family includes children who are unable to be vaccinated, as well as those whose vaccination status is compromised because of health issues. Recognizing the increasing number of Covid cases in the Manchester area, including breakthrough cases of those who are vaccinated, we urge you to follow the protocols that have been established.

Let's continue to gather safely every Sunday and find the strength and guidance from God that we all need during these uncertain times.

*** Masks are strongly urged to protect everyone, following CDC recommendations.**

*** Social distancing indoors should be practiced.
(Feel free to greet one another outdoors)**

*** If ramp access is needed, please ring the bell.**

*** Offerings may be left in the box located in the narthex and in plates by the exit doors.**

*** Hand sanitizer and wipes will be available.**

*** People may seat themselves in open pews.**

*** The Cradle Room is available but not staffed.**

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

- Thank you, The ReOpening Task Force, 9/16/21 -



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

This week's Questions

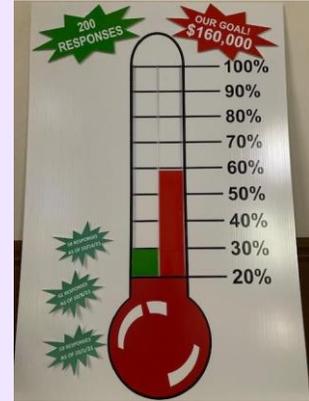
1. Why do we tell actors to break a leg?
2. What ends everything always?
3. You can hold it without using your hands or arms. What is it?

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

1. Where is the World Margarita Championship held each August? . . . [Tuscon, AZ](#)
2. Where did the largest Summer bikini parade take place on August 19, 2012? . . . [Huludao City, Liaoning, China](#)
3. Which tower actually grows in the heat of the Summer? . . . [The Eiffel Tower](#)

2022 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

As of 10/15 we're at about 60% of our goal with 58 out of 200 responses received, or about 30%!



This is the time of year we have the opportunity to show our thanks to the Lord for all His blessings in the form our Pledges.

Everyone should have received a mailing from the Church containing a letter from Rev. Carolyn Keilig and the Stewardship Committee, a Pledge Form, and a return envelope. It is important to return the Pledge Forms in a timely manner.

This year's campaign theme is, "Faith in our Hearts - Hope on the Horizon - Patience Well Spent". Our Campaign Banner is displayed in the front of the Church throughout the Campaign (seen in photo above).

The Church Trustees need to know the total of all Pledges in order to prepare the Annual Church Budget. We are fortunate to be blessed with a generous Endowment Fund. The Endowment covers approximately two-thirds of the Church annual budget. Our contributions through Pledges, Plate Offerings and Gifts need to cover the other one-third.

All Pledge amounts are confidential but the Committee acknowledges all who respond. This year we will use a large "Thermometer" located in the front left-hand side of the Church to better communicate the progress of the campaign (seen in photo above). The left-hand side of the Thermometer will track Pledge Form Responses. The right-hand side will track the Pledge \$ totals toward our goal of \$160,000.

If you request weekly envelopes on your Pledge Form you can expect them the first week in January. They will be located for pick-up in the Narthex.

We have guest speakers on Sunday's in October:

Sunday, October 17th is Jennifer Plourde, a longtime member of the Church.

Sunday, October 24th is John Rowe, of our Church, and he will read a message from Bakersville School.

Sunday, October 31st we will hear from Elizabeth Blood, a new member of our Church.

In closing, we would like to thank all of you for your past and future generosity and your support of the Church. It is important that we all give what we can.

This article originally read during Worship Service by Daniel McKenney on Sunday, September 26th, 2021 (shown in photo above).

Interfaith Women of New Hampshire invites you to a special program via Zoom, 'FAITH INSPIRED STORIES: teaching tolerance, overcoming prejudice, acting from faith', on Monday, November 15th, 2021 at 6:45 pm.

This program offers a continuation from IWNH's March program, 'Let's Talk: Faith and Race', sharing our thoughts, concerns and response to each other as people of faith.



'FAITH INSPIRED STORIES' provides stories from the Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths of respect for the humanity of all peoples, making choices related to tolerance issues, taking action to better people's lives regardless of race, religion or nationality.

We invite you to view these thoughtful, faith-based presentations, and stay with us for Zoom "break out room" discussions facilitated by the IWNH Leadership Team to share your related thoughts and real life experience regarding the matter of faith and race.

TO REGISTER: email interfaithwomennh@gmail.com. Once registered you will receive a Zoom meeting invitation. **Check-in on 11/15/21 begins at 6:30pm, program begins promptly at 6:45pm.** For questions, call **603-233-7760** or visit our website: interfaithwomennh.org to learn more about us.



Women's Connection is participating in a Holiday Card Challenge for Soldiers

However, this is open to anyone in the church if interested! Pick-up a package of Christmas cards that are in a box on the tables in the back of the church. There are directions inside the card package that can also give you ideas what to write. Add a sentence or two inside, sign with just first name and put "First Congregational Church Manchester" if you like. Please follow the directions inside the package. Return the cards by Sunday, October 17th, 2021.

Let's see how many cards we can gather to send in!

SHOES & BOOTS FOR BAKERSVILLE SCHOOL!

In past years we have provided boots and coats for kids at Hallsville. Bakersville has a source for coats but are in need of shoes (sneakers) and boots for many kids. The Outreach Committee has already supplied some sneakers to give them a start, but we are again asking the congregation to participate.



There are signup sheets on the office window! Please add your name/contact information beside the size item you would like to donate, and also indicate whether you are donating shoes or boots! We ask that you try to find boots and shoes that are UNISEX so that they can be used by both boys and girls. The sizes needed are Children's 12 & 13 and Youth's 1, 2, 3 & 4.

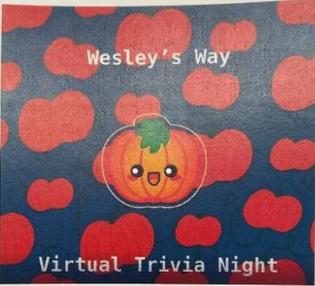
Although donations can be used anytime you bring them in, the official due date to donate shoes and boots is October 31st! FCC members are extremely generous and we thank you so much for providing so much for children in need!



**Just us for a fun night of online trivia on
October 28th at 7:00 PM EDT**

Details below and on our website:

[Wesley's Way Foundation \(wesleyswayfoundation.org\)](http://wesleyswayfoundation.org)



Wesley's Way
Virtual Trivia Night

Join us for a fun night of online trivia!
October 28th, 2021 @ 7:00 PM EDT

Scanning the QR Code will bring you to
the registration page

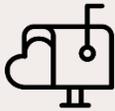


<https://www.wesleyswayfoundation.org/event/trivia-night>



Please join us in celebrating the November Milestone Birthdays!

Peggy Neveu -- November 16th
Charles Stetson -- November 27th
Carol Forest -- November 28th



Sending Cards to Members and Friends

Please send your condolences to Pam Smith and Family on the recent passing of Genevieve Merrill. Gen passed away last night, October 14th.

Pam Smith, 12 Edgemont Street, Concord, NH 03301

Please send your condolences to Carmen Rivera, C/O Barbara DelloRusso of the English for New Americans Program. Carmen has worked for the ENA Program housed at FCC for many years and is loved dearly by staff and students. Carmen's sister Nilda passed away on October 11th. Barbara DelloRusso (ENA Program Director) will be collecting cards and monetary gifts to help with her burial arrangements.

Carmen Rivera, C/O Barbara DelloRusso, English for New Americans Program, 508 Union Street, Manchester, NH 03104

News and Events at First Congregational Church

Announcements by Rev. Barbara Papagian

This Week's Happenings

- Rev. Carolyn Keilig will lead Worship at 10:00 am this Sunday, October 17th, 2021. Her sermon is titled, "In the Midst of a Whirlwind". The Sacrament of Baptism will be part of the Worship Service and Sue Clement will be the Scripture Reader. Jennifer Plourde will be the Guest Speaker for the Stewardship Moment.

- The "Morning Watch Prayers" continue on [Facebook](#) every Monday thru Thursday at 9:00 am, led by Rev. Papagian and Peter Perich.
- The Church Trustees will meet on Monday, October 18th at 6:30 pm in the church parlor. The Reopening Task Force will meet on Thursday, October 21st at 6:00 pm on Zoom. The Open and Affirming Committee will meet on Sunday, October 24th at 1:00 pm on Zoom. The Outreach Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 26th at 6:30 pm on Zoom. ***Please contact Committee Chairs to confirm if your meetings will take place in person or by Zoom.
- The Senior Fellowship Board will meet on Monday, November 1st at 10:00 am and the Deacons' Board will meet that evening at 6:00 pm. The Membership Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 2nd at 6:30 pm (tentative/please check with committee leaders). ***Please contact Committee Chairs to confirm if your meetings will take place in person or by Zoom.
- Chancel Choir and Sabbath Bells will now meet on alternating Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Chancel Choir will meet this coming Wednesday, October 20th and Sabbath Bells will meet the following Wednesday, October 27th.
- Today, October 15th, is the deadline to submit articles for the November Church Window Newsletter! Email Lauren at LHendersonFCC@yahoo.com
- Please note: The Friends of the Office Staff (FOOS) will not be meeting in October to prepare the Church Window newsletter.
- Next Sunday, October 24th, Worship Service will be lead by Rev. Carolyn Keilig and Vicki Tinsley will be the Scripture Reader. John Rowe will read a message from the Bakersville School for the Stewardship Moment for Mission.
- On Sunday, October 31st, Worship Service will be lead by Rev. Carolyn Keilig and Janie Shaklee will be the Scripture Reader. This will be New Member Joining Sunday. Elizabeth Blood will be presenting the Stewardship Moment for Mission.

Future and Ongoing Happenings

- Bill Jones or Pam LeBlanc will be available in the parlor after Worship each Sunday to take your picture for the Photo Directory. OR please send your photo to Lauren Henderson in the church office at: LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org. The deadline to submit a photo is Sunday, October 24th.
- *Yarn Donations Needed!* The Knitting Ministry is looking for yarn! Specific colors include: navy, brown, black, dark green, burgundy. Some bright colors (for accents) are welcome too. Colors that are not needed at this time: white, off white and pale yellow. This yarn is needed to make balaclavas, and hats and mittens! Please reach out to JoAnn Ward if you have some to donate or contact the church office. Thank you!
- UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP EVENTS: Sunday, October 31st is New Member Joining Sunday & Sunday, November 7th is Membership Recognition Sunday.
- *SAVE THE DATE* ---The Worship Service on Sunday, November 14th will include selected worship elements and music in observance of the FCC Open and Affirming Vote Anniversary!
- Audio Copies of Worship Services Available! We are doing cd recordings of the services like we did before the pandemic, so if you would like to receive the cd of the service, call me and we will deliver one to you every week or if you are unable to attend church on occasion, we can make an audio cd for you! - Rev. Barbara Papagian— (603-625-5093 x23)

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

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

ANSWERS FROM 10/1 FRIDAY LINK EDITION BELOW!



"A-Frame"



"Buckle up for safety"



"Weather forecast"



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www.FCCManchesterNH.org

Photo: Terri and Pam during the Women's Connection Apple Picking Outing on Sunday, October 3rd at Mack's Apple Orchard in Londonderry, NH