

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism (see insert)

**We give you thanks, Great Loving One, for the gift of this precious child, and for your kindness, which embraces us through this water and through your Holy Spirit. Help us, your grateful sons and daughters, to love our sister Kinsley. Help us to welcome, nurture and befriend her, as she grows in the body of Christ. Give Kinsley, who is baptized today: strength for life's journey, courage in suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

\*Hymn #468 "Good Shepherd, Take This Little Child"  
Moments of Concern and Celebration *(please fill out a blue card)*  
Pastoral Prayer with Our Savior's Prayer *("trespasses")*  
Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings, Offertory Music  
\*Doxology (#815) and Offertory Prayer

Scripture Acts 2:42-47

Sermon "Day by Day"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Communion Prayer: **You have given yourself to us, loving God, in the simple food and drink we have shared. Jesus has been here. Even now, his presence is strengthening us to be his Body. God, give us courage; make us whole and give us peace. Fill us with Holy Spirit and send us out to touch the world with your healing Presence; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Friend. Amen.**

\*Hymn #384 "Spirit Song"  
\*Benediction  
\*Response #384 "Spirit Song" (Refrain)  
\*Postlude

Lectionary readings for the coming week:  
Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

*First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Littleton, New Hampshire  
May 7, 2017*



<b>Pastor:</b> Rev. W. David Weddington E-mail: <a href="mailto:pastordavid@myfairpoint.net">pastordavid@myfairpoint.net</a>	189 Main Street Littleton, NH 03561 603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589 E-mail: <a href="mailto:fstcong@myfairpoint.net">fstcong@myfairpoint.net</a> <a href="http://www.1stconglittleton.org">www.1stconglittleton.org</a>
<b>Music Director &amp; Organist</b> Dorothy Morton Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	~~~~~ Church office hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ~~~~~
Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 a.m.	FCC Shining Lights Learning Center 444-7379
Coffee Fellowship 11:15 a.m.	E-mail: <a href="mailto:fccshininglights@myfairpoint.net">fccshininglights@myfairpoint.net</a>

*Our Mission Statement:*

*As followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we are called to provide a loving invitation and welcome to all, to inspire and uplift through the worship of God, to reach out to heal and enrich lives through the Holy Spirit, and to nurture people at various stages of their spiritual growth.*

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**United Church of Christ**

**May 7, 2017—Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Those who are able may stand where marked (\*).

Gathering #188

“Praise Him”

Welcome, Announcements and Prayer

*Mary Menzies*

Prelude

Responsive Reading

*(with hymn #430)*

**Sing: There shall be showers of blessing;  
this is the promise of love.**

**There shall be seasons refreshing,  
Sent from the Savior above.**

**Refrain: Showers of blessing, Showers of blessing we need!  
Mercy drops round us are falling,  
But for the showers we plead!**

One: We are a people of water! We worship a God  
whose love flows through water.

**All: Love, like the water in which we take form,  
holds us in safety, softens our world  
until we can live on our own.**

One: We are a people of water! We worship a God  
whose love flows through water.

**All: Love like a puddle inspires our delight—we jump,  
we splash, we dance with wild, wet joy.**

**Refrain**

One: We are a people of water! We worship a God  
whose love flows through water.

**All: Love, like a steaming shower  
at the end of a long day's work—  
it cleans us, relaxes our muscles, wakes us up.**

One: We are a people of water! We worship a God  
whose love flows through water.

**All: Love, like the holy, delightful water in which  
we are baptized—it drops like gentle rain  
from loving fingertips to our waiting forehead.**

One: This is the water of baptism. In this water,  
Christ is with us!

**All: In this water, Christ is with us, indeed! Alleluia!**  
**Refrain**

Confession: **Loving God, you shower us with blessings all the  
time. Trouble is, we carry umbrellas of anger; we wrap  
ourselves in raincoats of self-centered fear. Loving God,  
forgive us for dodging your love; help us find the courage to  
take off our raincoats, fold our umbrellas and dance in your  
Reign. We pray in the wild, abundant Spirit of Jesus. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

\*Gloria Patri #813

\*Statement of Faith: A New Creed: United Church of Canada  
**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has  
come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make  
new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to  
proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are  
not alone. Thanks be to God.**

Children's Time

Choir Anthem “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

*Watts*

## 2017 Meals on Wheels Walkathon:

On Saturday, May 20, 2017, the Littleton Area Senior Center, on behalf of the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, will host the fifth annual Meals on Wheels Walkathon, starting at the Littleton Area Senior Center, 77 Riverglen Lane in Littleton. Registration will open at 8:30 a.m. and walkers will have the opportunity to fortify themselves for the walk with a pancake breakfast. The walk will commence at 10:00 a.m. and alternative 1-mile and 3-mile routes are available. The event will also feature entertainment and assorted vendors, plus a barbecue lunch to be served at the conclusion of the walkathon. You can learn more about the Littleton Area Senior Center in last month's issue of Steeple Talk!

The **Community Outreach Group** and the mission committee will be working to organize a robust complement of church members and friends to participate in the walk, donate and/or solicit supporting pledges. Pledge sheets are available during Coffee Fellowship. For those who are unable to participate, donations are always welcome; checks should be payable to "Littleton Area Senior Center" and a notation of your affiliation with the church would be helpful.

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**There are Bibles at the back of the Sanctuary available for you to take home with you!**



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What are the **Community Outreach Group** and **CE** planning next?



### **Positively Pancakes!**

*A free pancake breakfast ~ June 10<sup>th</sup>*  
to coincide with Pollyanna Day  
**8 am to 10 am** in the Fellowship Hall

Please join us for a fun start to your **Day of Gladness!**

Decorate a Pollyanna-style hat to wear at the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Ceremony at Pollyanna Gateway at 11 am or the many other happenings during the **Festival of Gladness**. There will also be other **POSITIVELY** fun giveaways. For ALL Ages! Donations will be accepted, but are not necessary.

But a fun-filled morning like this needs your help! There will be a sign up soon for donations of artificial flowers, feathers, ribbons, (hat decorations) syrup, breakfast items and help on that morning. Please contact Pam in the office or Tim Gould if you have any questions, ideas or if you already know how you may want to contribute.

**PLANNING MEETING ON THURSDAY MAY 11<sup>th</sup> in the Classroom @ 7:15 PM**  
**COG and CE needs your help make *POSITIVELY PANCAKES!* a success**

## **Notices for the week of May 7, 2017 – May 13, 2017**

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**TODAY....** 9:00 am ....Adult Bible Study – Classroom  
10:00 am ....Worship Service, Communion and  
Sunday School  
11:15 am ....Coffee Fellowship – Ladies Parlor  
**Mon.....** 5:30 pm ....SLLC Board & CE following - Classroom  
Pastor's Sabbath  
**Tues.....** 6:00 pm ....AlAnon – Ladies Parlor  
**Wed.....** 1:30 pm ....Ladies Society – Ladies Parlor  
5:00 pm ....AA – Ladies Parlor  
6:30 pm ....Choir Practice  
7:00 pm ....Weds. Night AA – Fellowship Hall  
**Thurs.....** 4:30 pm ....Property Committee – Classroom  
7:15 pm ....COG – Classroom  
**Sat.....** 8:00 am ....Men's Breakfast – Menzies Residence  
7:00 pm ....AA – Fellowship Hall

AA meetings: Monday – Friday 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

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**Usher/Greeter:**

**Coffee Fellowship:** Darcie Miller

**Flowers:** to the Glory of God

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### **Strengthen the Church Special Offering – Pentecost Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

Strengthen The Church (STC) is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC. Shared at the conference and national levels, STC largely supports youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. There will be special envelopes in the bulletin for this offering. Thank you.

# May Prayer Request Concerns & Celebrations

## CONTINUING & NEW

Keeping those in need of our prayers: The President, World Leaders, the Youth of our Community, the future of our World, and Rev. David and Wilma Weddington as they participate and lead us into the future.

**Josie Smith & Family** – 3 year old diagnosed with cystic fibrosis.  
(Tianna & Cindy Sparks)

**Curtis Sears** – Going for bone marrow transplant or cell something, his last hope. Needs lots of prayers. (Emily LaFlam)

**Doris Blodgett** – Mark's mother is dying. (Rachel Clark)

## Cancer

Paul McMillan (Tina Peabody)	Curtis Sears (Emily LaFlam)
Peter Low (Tina Peabody)	Joni Prell (Linda Warden)
Rebecca Griffin Martel (Glenda Iles)	James Stewart (Tim Gould)
Rita Biagioni (Bob Oleary)	Ron Bolt (Alison Bolt)
Arped Lind (June Davis)	Judy Jalbert (June Davis)
Travis Gay (Judy Warden)	Mike McKillop (Brenda Fairweather)
Joyce Willoughby (Glenda Iles)	Cynthia Farquharson (Linda Warden)
Peter Campbell (Glenda Iles)	David Sime (Linda Smith)
Judy Dean (Alice Muh)	Tracy Lange (Mark Blodgett)

## Loss/Grieving

Family of Joe Donnan (Donna Matz)      Kirk McKenzie (Tina Peabody)

## Illness/Recovery

Bev Frankenwich (Tina Peabody)  
Barbara Enderson (Judy Warden)  
Pat Tuck (David Weddington)

Sandra Eaton (Judy Warden)  
Joy Moore (Mary Menzies)  
Jeff White (Donna Matz)

## Military

The names of people in the military are on the name board by office.

*To add a name to our prayer list, please fill out a blue card located in the pew racks and place them in the offering plate or hand them to a Deacon. The name will remain in the bulletin for approximately 4 weeks. We understand that some situations are very serious and a longer period of time would be helpful. You may call the office with any names that need to be added or to update the status.*

*If you or someone you care about would like a visit or call, please contact Pastor David at 603-991-0535 or Pam Nute at 603-444-3376.*

*If you have an emergency during the week and Pastor David is away, please call the church office at 444-3376 and Pam Nute will contact someone for you.*

*\*\*Names listed without original contact person will be removed from the list if we are not notified. In order to keep this list up-to-date, it is important that we be notified when someone should come off the list. Thank you.*

