

**CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor: Rev. W. David Weddington  
Organist & Music Director: Dorothy Morton  
Administrative Assistant: Pam Nute  
Sexton: Joe Chukinas

**OFFICERS:**

Moderator: Ann Craxton  
Vice-Moderator: Lars Nielson  
Treasurer: Dudley Bailey  
Assistant Treasurer: Joyce Krill



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*Thank you for joining us for worship today!  
It is our sincere hope that all who gather in  
this place will know and experience the love,  
forgiveness, hope, and new life available  
through Jesus Christ.*

*First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Littleton, New Hampshire  
October 2, 2016*



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| <p><b>Pastor:</b><br/><b>Rev. W. David Weddington</b><br/>E-mail: <a href="mailto:pastordavid@myfairpoint.net">pastordavid@myfairpoint.net</a></p> <p><b>Music Director &amp; Organist</b><br/>Dorothy Morton</p> <p>Wednesdays. 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm<br/>Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p><b>Church office hours: Monday-Thursday</b><br/>9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.</p> | <p>189 Main Street<br/>Littleton, NH 03561<br/>603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589<br/>E-mail: <a href="mailto:fstcong@myfairpoint.net">fstcong@myfairpoint.net</a><br/><a href="http://www.1stconglittleton.org">www.1stconglittleton.org</a></p> <p>~~~~~</p> <p>Worship Service and Sunday School<br/>10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Coffee Fellowship<br/>11:15 a.m.</p> |
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*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.*

## Come Away from Rush and Hurry 655

Unison

1 Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the still-ness of God's peace;  
 2 In the pas-tures of God's good-ness we lie down to rest our soul.  
 3 Come, then, chil-dren, with your bur - dens—life's con - fu - sions, fears and pain.

from our vain am - bi-tion's wor - ry, come to Christ to find re - lease.  
 From the wa - ters of God's mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made whole.  
 Leave them at the cross of Je - sus; take in - stead his king-dom's reign.

Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de-mands and fren-zied pace;  
 At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the saints are rich - ly fed.  
 Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them—he a - lone will sat - is - fy.

come to join the peo - ple gath - ered here to seek and find God's face.  
 With the oil of God's a - noint - ing in - to ser - vice we are led.  
 All our long - ings find at - tain - ment when to self we glad - ly die.

"Come Away from Rush and Hurry"  
 Music by Attr. B.F. White  
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Words Marva J. Dawn  
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## 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.**



**Thank you to everyone who donated and/or participated in the walk!**

We exceeded our goal!

**\$4,210 is the new total**

## October 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.

### Cancer

|                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Betsy Warden (Linda Warden)     | Lois Smith (Alison Bolt)       |
| Joyce Willoughby (Glenda Iles)  | Jennifer LaFlam (Emily LaFlam) |
| Paul McMillan (Tina Peabody)    | Diane Stinaker (Judy Warden)   |
| Curtis Sears (Emily LaFlam)     | Ray Morton (Dottie Morton)     |
| Joan Ziter (Judy Warden)        | Peter Low (Tina Peabody)       |
| Astrid Warden (Judy Warden)     | Joni Prell (Linda Warden)      |
| Robin Derrington (Emily LaFlam) | Sandra Eaton (Judy Warden)     |
| Suzanne Pelletier (Judy Warden) |                                |

### Illness/Recovery

Amy Welch (Wilma Weddington)      Kristen Steele (Barbara Holland)

### Loss/Grieving

Family of Bonnie Ardid Hall (Tina Peabody)  
Family of Pierre Lafitte (Ginger Miller)  
Family of Walter Weddington (Ann Craxton)

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

### United Church of Christ

October 2, 2016

### World Communion Sunday

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

Welcome *Deacon – Ann Craxton*  
Gathering Music (see left) “Come Away from Rush and Hurry”  
Announcements and Prayer  
Prelude

Call to Worship

One: From north and south, from east and west, we come;

**All: God’s people called to the table where simple grace nourishes us.**

One: From down the street to across town, from single households to apartment dwellers;

**All: God’s people are called to community where we live and serve one another.**

One: From every class, every race, every status; from little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts;

**All: God’s people are called to witness to God’s hope, to offer peace to a shattered world.**

One: Almighty God, even as the sounds of warfare break the silence of the night, even as the cries of injustice linger in the morning, even as the hustle of busyness rumbles through the day, quiet our hearts.

**All: Still our thoughts. Remember us in your mercy, God, as we worship you in prayer, word and song. Amen**

\*Hymn: #429      “They’ll Know We Are Christians”

\*Confession

**All: Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, *at the table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.***

\* Assurance of Pardon, Gloria Patri #813

\* Statement of Faith (*see right*) *Maasai*

Anthem "Celtic Communion" arr. Hayes  
Children's Time

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: *Rev. Edward Craxton*  
Oliver Robert Clarke

Moments of Concern and Celebration (please fill out a blue card)  
Pastoral Prayer and Savior's Prayer (trespasses)

Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings  
Offertory Music  
\*Doxology #815 and Offertory Prayer

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-7

Meditation: "Returning Home – to the Love of God"

\*Hymn: #460 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

\*Hymn: #435 "God of Grace and God of Glory" *vs. 1-3*

\*Benediction

Response: #435 "God of Grace and God of Glory" *vs. 4*

## Notices for the week of October 2, 2016 – October 8, 2016

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TODAY..... 9:00 am ....Adult Bible Study - Classroom  
10:00 am ....Worship Service and Sunday School  
11:15 am ....Coffee Fellowship – Ladies Parlor  
*Neighbors in Need Special Offering*

Tues..... 6:00 pm ....AlAnon – Ladies Parlor

Wed..... 1:30 pm ....Harvest Dinner Prep. – Kitchen  
5:00 pm ....AA – Ladies Parlor  
6:30 pm ....Choir Practice – Ladies Parlor  
7:00 pm ....Weds. Night AA – Fellowship Hall

Thurs..... 5:30 pm ....Harvest Dinner Prep. – Kitchen

Fri..... 1:30 pm ....Set Up: Harvest Dinner – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 pm ....NA – Ladies Parlor

Sat..... 5:00 pm ....Harvest Dinner – Fellowship Hall  
7:00 pm ....AA – Ladies Parlor

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

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**Usher/Greeter:** Judy Warden & Vivian Davis

**Flowers:** to the Glory of God

**Coffee Fellowship:** Glenda Iles & Judy Oleary

.....  
The Abiding in Christ Adult Bible Study has been postponed until Pastor David returns. Thank you for your understanding.

Pastor: Let us, together, pray for Oliver.

**People: 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 brother Oliver. Help us to welcome, nurture and befriend him as he grows in the body of Christ. Give Oliver, who is baptized today: strength for life's journey, courage in times of struggle, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

Please return to Page 2 of your bulletin  
for the remainder of the service.

*This morning we have the great joy of celebrating the baptism of Oliver Robert Clarke. Oliver's mother, Lindsey, was raised in this congregation and is a member here. Ryan and Lindsey currently live in Manchester, NH. Ryan's parents, William and Debrah Clarke, reside in Manchester, NH. Lindsey's parents, Robert and Glenda Iles, reside here in Littleton.*

## **A Maaisai Creed**

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything good in it. God created human beings and wanted us to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the earth. We have known this High god in the darkness, and now we know this High God in the light. God promised in the book of God's word, the Bible, to save the world and all nations and tribes.

We believe that God made good this promise by sending God's son, Jesus Christ, a human being in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left his home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by your power, teaching about you and human beings, showing that the meaning of religion is love. He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died. He was buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, he rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through him. All who have faith in him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love, and share the bread together in love, to announce the good news to others until Jesus comes again. We are waiting for him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

## The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Pastor: The prophet Isaiah spoke to a people who felt cut off from God. He said: Listen to the loving voice of God, who created you and formed you—

**People: “Don’t be afraid. I have rescued you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”**

Pastor: One time, some people brought children for Jesus to touch, and the disciples scolded them. Jesus was very unhappy about that, and said to the disciples:

**People: “Let the little children come to me; don’t keep them away, for the Realm of God belongs to those who become like little children. Truly I tell you, only those who come to God like children will enter God’s Realm.”**

Pastor: And Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. The promise of the gospel is not only to us; it is also to our children. Baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ’s church; it is the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, freed from the life-stealing power of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.**

*(The parents and godparents make their vows. Then the pastor says—)*

Pastor: *(to the congregation)* Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament,

promise your love, support, and care to this child who is about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

**People: With God’s help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround this child with a community of love and forgiveness, so that he may grow to entrust himself to God, and to be faithful in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.**

Pastor: Let us join with the church in all times and places, as we entrust our lives to the triune God:

**ALL: We entrust our lives to God, the eternal Creator. We entrust our lives to the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. We entrust our lives to the Holy Spirit, who moves through all Creation, drawing everyone and everything into the loving family of the living God.**

Pastor: May God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift our hearts to God.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Kind and loving God—Womb of Creation, Self-giving Friend, Energy of the Sacred within and among us—we offer this water to you for your special blessing. As we touch this child with water today, we ask you to touch him with your loving Spirit. Free him from a life of anxious worry, free him from temptation and the power of sin, give him new life and an eternal home with you by the love of Jesus Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, who was, and is, and will always be, world without end.

**People: Amen.**

*(We baptize our new brother. Turn to the next page in your bulletin for the final blessing.)*