

Pastor:
Rev. W. David Weddington
E-mail: pastordavid@myfairpoint.net

Music Director & Organist
Dorothy Morton

Wednesdays. 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Worship Service and Sunday School
10:00 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship
11:15 a.m.

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Church office hours: Monday-Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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FCC Shining Lights Learning Center
444-7379
E-mail: fccshininglights@myfairpoint.net

189 Main Street
Littleton, NH 03561

603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589
E-mail: fstcong@myfairpoint.net
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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.

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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  
December 11, 2016**

**Third Sunday of Advent—Gaudete! Rejoice!**

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

Gathering #244 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Welcome Announcements and Opening Prayer *Mary Menzies*

Prelude

Lighting the Advent Candle “Go Tell!” **Luke 1:46b-55**  
*Doug and Mary Menzies*

**Refrain: God fills my soul with wonder;  
my heart declares the greatness of the Lord.**

**God satisfies my longing, my Joy has been restored!**

My God has shown me favor, though many thought me frail,  
and every age will echo the angel’s first “All hail!”

**Refrain**

God’s mercy shields the faithful and saves them from defeat,  
with strength that turns to scatter the proud in their conceit.

**Refrain**

The mighty have been vanquished, the lowly lifted up.  
The hungry find abundance, the rich an empty cup.

**Refrain**

Abraham’s descendants rain blessings from above,  
for God has made with Israel a covenant of love.

**Refrain**

*(We light three Advent Candles)*

One: We light these three candles as beacons of Hope;  
a little child is coming to bring the world Peace;  
we will welcome our Prince, with deep, abiding Joy!

**All: And all shall be well; and all shall be well;  
and all manner of thing shall be well.**

\*Hymn #90 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Children’s Time

Anthem “Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes” *Raney*

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

We Worship God with Our Pledges, Our Tithes and Our Offerings  
Offertory  
\*Doxology #815  
\*Prayer of Dedication and Offertory Prayer

Scripture Isaiah 35:3-7, 10

\*Hymn #270 “Joy to the World”

Sermon “Magnificent Mercy, Magnificent Joy!”

\*Hymn #258 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

\*Benediction

\*Response #258 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” *(refrain)*

\*Postlude

**Message from the Deacons**

Every December our Church assembles and delivers Christmas baskets filled with cookies, fruit, and other goodies to shut-ins, folks in nursing homes, and others we want to touch with our love. This task has traditionally been performed by the Deacons. However, we are now down to a very small number of Deacons and could use some help with this again. Last year several people assisted by making extra Christmas cookies while they were doing their holiday baking. That was wonderful!!

This year we have a list of 20 potential gift basket recipients. We would like to be able to reach out to all of them. With your help, we will be able to do so! We need the following:

**Donations of:**

- Christmas cookies..... 12 each / 20 dozen total, assorted
- Candy (individually wrapped) ..... 6 pieces each / 120 pieces total
- Mini loaves of quick breads..... 1 each / 20 loaves total
- Popcorn balls or similar goodies ..... 1 each / 20 goodies total
- Fruit (apples and oranges) ..... 1 of each, (2 if small, like clementines) / 20 or 40 total
- Money to buy baskets, wrappings, etc. .... as your heart dictates

**Help assembling** the baskets (meet in the Church Hall Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am)

**Help delivering** the baskets immediately afterwards or in the next day or two. With enough helpers, you will only need to deliver a couple of baskets. A brief visit with the recipient is also much appreciated.

Please call or email Mary Menzies (444-2165; [dmenzies@roadrunner.com](mailto:dmenzies@roadrunner.com)) by Monday, **December 12<sup>th</sup>** with your specific commitment (number of cookies or whatever you will be donating or helping with). We will decide on the final number of baskets when we know what help we will be getting.

Thank you in advance for helping with this project. It truly is a blessing to both the giver and the recipient!

**The Board of Deacons:** Mary Menzies, Doug Menzies, Emily LaFlam, and Lars Nielson

**Poinsettia Order Form**

Poinsettia orders are now being taken. The cost is \$17.50. All orders must be given to Glenda Iles (444-5336 or cell 398-7353) by December 12<sup>th</sup>.

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "CHERRY BLOSSOMS".  
The poinsettias will be used at the service on December 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

| QUANTITY | COST EACH | TOTAL   |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| _____    | \$17.50   | \$_____ |

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory/honor of (circle one):**

*All dedications must be given to Glenda in writing. Thank you very much.*

**Notices for the week of December 11, 2016 – December 17, 2016**

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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
- 11:30 am ....Adult Bible Class
- Mon..... Pastor’s Sabbath
- Tues..... 5:30 pm ....Property Committee – Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 pm ....AlAnon – Ladies Parlor
- Wed..... 5:00 pm ....AA – Ladies Parlor
- 1:30 pm ....Ladies Society – Ladies Parlor
- 6:30 pm ....Choir Practice – Ladies Parlor
- 7:00 pm ....Weds. Night AA – Fellowship Hall
- Fri..... 7:00 pm ....NA – Fellowship Hall
- Sat..... 9:00 am ....Christmas Basket Assembly – FH
- 7:00 pm ....AA – Fellowship Hall

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

**Usher/Greeter:**

**Coffee Fellowship:** Judy Warden & Vivian Davis

**Flowers:** to the Glory of God

Movie at the Opera House ~ **Mr. Skeffington**

Starring Bette Davis and Claude Rains

Saturday, December 17 at 7:00 pm

Theater opens at 6:30 for a slide presentation of Bette’s birthday and world premiere of her movie “*The Great Lie*” in Littleton, NH on April 5, 1941.

Door prize and raffle for a collection of movies done by Bette Davis.

Sponsored by the Littleton Area Historical Society and Museum

For more information, call 444-6052 or 444-6435

## December 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.

**Rita Biagioni** – cancer in the vertebrae and spine. (Bob Oleary)

**June Davis** – neck problems. (Emily LaFlam)

**Barbara Spencer and Family** – husband died in a car accident  
(Linda Warden)

**Brother and sister-in-law of Pat Whipple** – not doing well physically  
(Linda Warden)

**Glenn Bogert** – has COPD and asthma. On oxygen almost 24/7, no medicine to help. (Karen Morneau)

**Marla Strong** (*aunt*) - needs surgery for her neck and back. (Kim Smith)

**Wayne Chase**, Reg's brother-in-law, – stomach cancer and blockage in his liver. (Emily LaFlam)

### Cancer

|                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Betsy Warden (Linda Warden)          | Arped Lind (June Davis)         |
| Joyce Willoughby (Glenda Iles)       | Jennifer LaFlam (Emily LaFlam)  |
| Paul McMillan (Tina Peabody)         | Diane Stinaker (Judy Warden)    |
| Curtis Sears (Emily LaFlam)          | Peter Low (Tina Peabody)        |
| Joni Prell (Linda Warden)            | Robin Derrington (Emily LaFlam) |
| Rebecca Griffin Martel (Glenda Iles) | Judy Jalbert (June Davis)       |
| James Stewart (Tim Gould)            |                                 |

### Illness/Recovery

Joel Peabody (JoBeth Dudley)      Jeff White (Donna Matz)  
Jean Kimball (David Weddington)      Richard & Janet Nelson (Janet Nelson)  
Rev. Thomas Campbell (Martha Jane Aldrich)

### Loss/Grieving

Family of Anna Jackman (David Weddington)  
Family of Dotto Ruggles (David Weddington)  
Family of Ray Morton (David Weddington)

### 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.***

