

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.

189 Main Street
Littleton, NH 03561
603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589
E-mail: fstcong@myfairpoint.net
www.1stconglittleton.org

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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

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 13, 2015**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Gaudete! Rejoice!**

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

Gathering Music #243      “Emmanuel”

Welcome, Announcements and Prayer      *Ann Craxton*

Prelude

Lighting the Advent Candles      *Dudley and Dottie Bailey*

One: Last week, we lit two purple candles, solemn and serene.

One of them is for Christ our Hope,  
the other for the Prince of Peace.

**All: Two purple candles, solemn and serene:  
the light is growing in the darkness  
and the darkness has not overcome it.**

One: Today, we light a candle for the Joy that floods our lives  
when we open our hearts and let the Christ Child in.

**All: The angel comes to us and asks us:  
“Will you let Jesus grow in you?  
Will you let God take on flesh in you  
to touch the world with life-saving love?”**

One: By the light of this bright pink candle,  
we answer the angel, “Yes, yes, yes!”

**All: Yes! By the light of this bright pink candle,  
we welcome the Christ Child into our lives!  
Yes! We accept God’s amazing invitation  
with hearts that are full of Joy!**

\*Hymn: #269      “How Great Our Joy”

Anthem      “Advent Promise”      *Martin*

Children’s Time

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:      Luke 1:26-38

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

Sermon      “With Hearts Alive with Pure, Abundant Joy!”

\*Hymn #270      “Joy to the World”      *vs. 1, 2, 4*

\*Benediction

Response #764      “The Trees of the Field”

\*Postlude

# DEACON'S FUND

**There will be a special collection today to benefit the Deacon's Fund. This fund helps people who come to our door in need of assistance. Envelopes for this specific purpose are included in the bulletin. Thank you!**

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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 19 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 14<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: Emily LaFlam, Doug Menzies, Mary Menzies, Lars Nielson

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## Wreath Dedications

- Elaine Strop – *To Everyone who touches our lives***
- Anna Jackman – *In loving memory of her husband, Elmer***
- Brenda & Ross Fairweather – *To the Glory of God***



## Notices for the week of December 13, 2015 – December 19, 2015

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TODAY. ... 10:00 am .. Worship Service & Sunday School  
11:15 am .. Coffee Fellowship  
1:00 pm ... Wedding - Sanctuary

Mon..... Pastor's Sabbath

Tues..... 6:00 pm .. Al Anon/Ladies Parlor  
7:00 pm ... Eastern Star – Fellowship Hall

Wed ..... 5:00 pm .. AA – Ladies Parlor  
6:30 pm ... Choir Practice – Ladies Parlor  
7:00 pm ... Weds. Night AA – Fellowship Hall

Fri..... 5:30 pm .. Children's House Winter Pageant – FH

Sat..... 9:00 am .. Basket Assembly Fun – Fellowship Hall  
7:30 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:**

**Flowers:** to the Glory of God

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# December Prayer Request Concerns & Celebrations

## CONTINUING & NEW

Keeping those in need of our prayers: The President, World Leaders, the improvement of our economic situation, Syria and its people, 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.

**Family of Lily Bloom** – She died on the 3<sup>rd</sup> in a nursing home in Boise, Idaho. She was 101 years old and used to be in the Ladies Society. (Emily LaFlam)

**Robert Karmen** – just diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease. (Judy Warden)

## Cancer

|                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ron LaFlam (Emily LaFlam)         | Betsy Warden (Linda Warden)    |
| Alison Bolt (Linda Warden)        | Joyce Willoughby (Glenda Iles) |
| Holly Hyslop (Su Schott)          | Joe Carter (Donna Matz)        |
| Paul McMillan (Tina Peabody)      | Kathy Gordon (Judy Warden)     |
| Diane Stinaker (Richard Peterson) | Mike Jorde (Donna Matz)        |

## Illness/Recovery

|                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Patricia Tuck (Pat Tuck)         | Bill & Janet Doyle (Emily LaFlam) |
| Joe Carter (Donna Matz)          | Yolanda Hyde (Linda Warden)       |
| Aldyn Frenkiewich (Linda Warden) | Jeremy Doyle (Emily LaFlam)       |
| Alan Williams (Judy Warden)      | Carol Detrick (Wilma Weddington)  |
| Don Bliss (Glenda Iles)          | Jake Baker (Alice Muh)            |

## Loss/Grieving

Family of Alan Astle (Linda Warden)  
Family of Rodney Collins (Tim Gould)

## Family Celebration

Kalin Sara McClary (Tina Peabody)

## 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.***

