

CHURCH STAFF

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

OFFICERS:

Moderator: Tim Gould
Vice-Moderator: Alice Muh, Acting
Treasurer: Joyce Krill, Acting

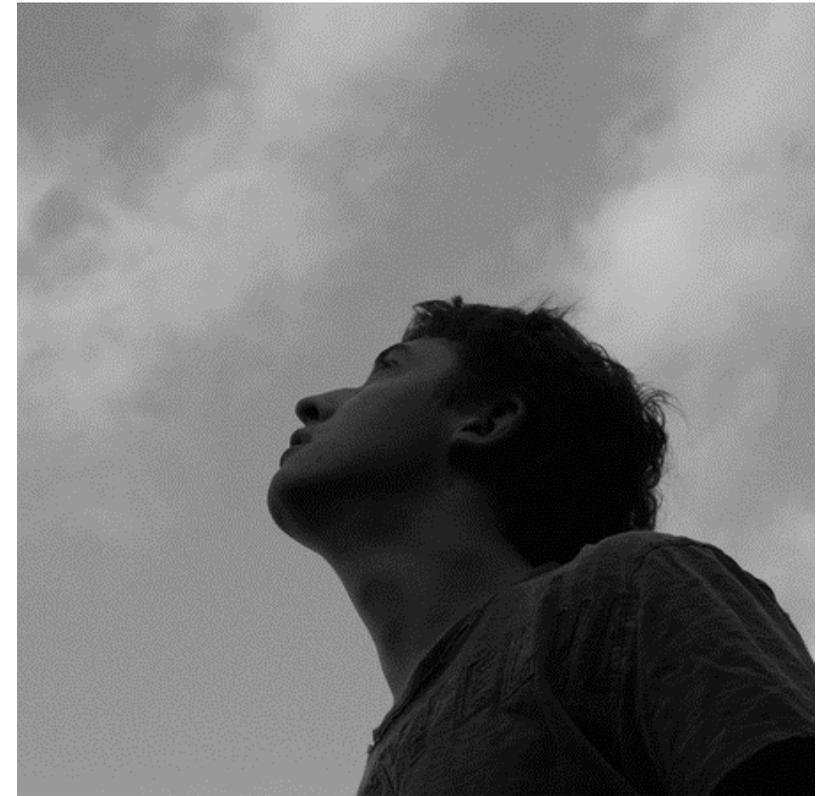
COMMITTEES

Christian Education: Kim Smith, Chair
Deacons: Mary Menzies, Chair
Finance: Phil Krill, Chair
Mission: Linda Warden, Chair
Music: Tina Peabody, Chair
Personnel Relations: Tina Peabody, Chair
Property Management: Dan Kiefer
Stewardship: Mary Menzies
Trustee of Trust Funds: Dudley Bailey
Steeple Talk: Pam Nute

Shining Lights Learning Center:

Director: Ms. Melissa Kam
Board President: Suzanne Schott

*First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Littleton, New Hampshire
May 16, 2021*



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.

*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.*

Pastor:
Rev. W. David Weddington
E-mail: pastordavidfcc@gmail.com

Music Director & Organist
Dorothy Morton

189 Main Street
Littleton, NH 03561
603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589
E-mail: fstcong189@gmail.com
www.1stconglittleton.org

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ

May 16, 2021
Ascension Sunday

Gathering Music: "Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome"
*(For the sake of those who may be vulnerable to the Covid virus,
we won't be singing out loud; but we hope you'll enjoy reading
and singing in your heart as Dottie plays this morning's music.)*

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Prayer *Ross Fairweather*

Prelude

Responsive Reading: Psalm 1

One: Happy are those who walk away from wickedness,
those who will not stand for the ways of the sinful,
or sit still while others are shamed.

**All: Happy are those who delight in God's Law,
those who meditate day and night on God's good ways.**

One: Like trees that are planted by streams of water,
season by season they yield their fruit.

**All: Their leaf never withers;
whatever they do comes to good.**

One: Not so the wicked! They have no root;
they blow away like chaff in the wind.

**All: Therefore the wicked will not withstand
the judgment that is to come.**

One: Neither will sinners be able to stay
in the company of the righteous.

**All: For God watches over the ways of the righteous;
the ways of the wicked will perish.**

Hymn "Footsteps of Jesus"

We Remember our Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer
The Savior's Prayer

We Remember the Gifts We Have Given

Doxology
Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Acts 1:1-11

Sermon "Witnesses"

Hymn "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"

Benediction

Response "Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart"

Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart;
Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart;
And whatever you do in word or deed
Do it all in the name of the Lord,
Giving thanks, giving thanks
To God through Christ the Lord;
Giving thanks giving thanks
To God through Christ the Lord.

*Lectionary Readings for Next Week: Acts 10:44-48;
Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17.*



May 16th

Donations will be accepted anytime during May!

Please make a notation on the memo line of your check or put in an envelope marked:

"Mission's/**Strengthen the Church**"

Thank you!

New Covenant

The Strengthen the Church Offering supports congregations making crucial adaptations. During the last year, several congregations sought help updating their technology to be able to connect with people when not worshipping in person.

Sarah Hugus of the Florida Conference struggled with the virtual services at her congregation. "In the beginning months of watching Facebook Live services, it was usually a big miss. Week after week, the quality was poor, which was not encouraging." Thanks to a grant from the Strengthen the Church Offering, Sarah's congregation invested in new technology to create an engaging virtual worship experience. The technology also worked for enhanced outdoor services with appropriate COVID protocols in place.

Outside of Chicago, Plainfield Congregational faced a similar problem. The church's high-risk members could not come to worship, but the congregation wasn't prepared to produce online worship. A grant made the difference. As church member Sharon explained, "2020 pushed everyone beyond their limits on so many different levels, but thanks to the push to learn and gift to purchase new technology, we have expanded our reach beyond the doors of our sanctuary to the greater local and world community. We have grown, and the financial boost has allowed us to minister to more than we had imagined."

New Covenant Community UCC in Baltimore used grants to support a meal program and technology improvements. The church reports that a couple living in two different cities nurtured their relationship in part through shared weekly worship and Bible Study. The online church gatherings helped their relationship, and now the couple plans to marry in the coming months. **Renewal happens because of these grants.**

**TO THE MEMBERS of the FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
LITTLETON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

YOU ARE HEREBY CALLED TO ATTEND

THE 218TH ANNUAL MEETING

of the FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, U.C.C.

SUNDAY, June 13, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.

Meeting in the Sanctuary immediately following the church service

In preparation for the meeting, please read the reports and make notations if there are questions or comments. Reports will be available in the sanctuary and email by May 30, 2021.

PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY TO THE MEETING FOR REFERENCE.

A quorum of 20 members is needed to conduct this meeting. Please be sure to save the date. Thank you.

“Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome”

Holy Spirit, Thou art welcome in this place;
Holy Spirit, Thou art welcome in this place;
Omnipotent Father of Mercy and Grace,
Thou art welcome in this place.

“Footsteps of Jesus”

Sweetly, Lord, have we heard Thee calling,
“Come, follow Me!”
And we see where Thy footprints falling,
Lead us to Thee.

Refrain:

Footprints of Jesus
That make the pathway glow;
We will follow the steps of Jesus
Where'er they go.

Tho' they lead o'er the cold, dark mountains,
Seeking His sheep,
Or along by Siloam's fountains,
Helping the weak.

(Refrain)

If they lead thro' the temple holy,
Preaching the Word,
Or in homes of the poor and lowly,
Serving the Lord.

(Refrain)

Then at last, when on high He sees us,
Our journey done,
We will rest where the steps of Jesus
End at His throne.

(Refrain)

Song Sheet for May 16, 2021

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

We've a story to tell to the nations,
that shall turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy,
a story of peace and light,
a story of peace and light.

Refrain:

For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
and the dawning to noonday bright,
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,
the kingdom of love and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations,
that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,
a song that shall conquer evil,
and shatter the spear and sword,
and shatter the spear and sword. *(Refrain)*

We've a message to give to the nations,
that the Lord who reigneth above
has sent us His Son to save us,
and show us that God is love,
and show us that God is love. *(Refrain)*

We've a Savior to show to the nations,
who the path of sorrow has trod,
that all of the world's great peoples
may come to the truth of God,
may come to the truth of God! *(Refrain)*