

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
August 23, 2026

*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.*

Living Questions: A Summer Worship Series:

“What is food insecurity and how does it affect us?”

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Prayer

Prelude

* Hymn “Christ, You Walked Among the Grain Fields”
BEACH SPRING (“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”)

*Christ, you walked among the grain fields, Finding lessons all
around:*

*“Like the harvest that the earth yields, So God’s kingdom will
abound.”*

*“See! A sower goes out planting; Some seed grows a hundredfold.”
Here on earth you gave us heaven In the stories that you told.*

*Lord, you shared God’s kingdom-bounty, Yet you know our pain
and need.*

*Some are poor in lands of plenty, Often hurt by others’ greed.
Some, possessed by their possessions, Look for more to buy and
keep;
Others long for simpler blessings: “Let my hungry children eat.”*

*Lord, you send us out to labor, To pass on the love you give;
City friend and country neighbor Work as one so all may live.*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily
bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass
against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For
thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*As followers of Jesus Christ, we believe in celebrating the rich diversity of
human experiences and creating a place where everyone feels valued,
respected, and fully included. Accordingly, our community of faith
wholeheartedly welcomes all people regardless of their race, gender, age,
nationality, economic circumstances, physical or mental ability, or sexual
orientation. The welcome and affirmation we extend reflects God’s grace and
love made known in Jesus Christ.*



Online giving: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR4H/home>

Calendar:

Monday, August 24: Discussion on Aging – 11:00 am – Ladies Parlor

Wednesday, August 26: Bible Study and Prayer – 8:30 am – Zoom

Worship next Sunday will be held at the Franconia Community Church of Christ at 10:30 am!

Peter will be away from Tuesday, August 25 to September 2nd

Choir rehearsals start Wednesday, September 9th!

Pizza at 5:30 pm (upstairs), rehearsal following.



August Prayer Requests

Linda and Bob Warden	Roberta Lavoie	Ed O'Brien
Arianna English	Marianne Langdoc	Cutter Flynn
Patty Ritzo	Michael Edney	Sam Johnk
Patrick Kezerian	Mike Boswell	John Morton
Gus Fowle	Family of Clark Nelson Hobbie	Cindy Husselbee
Marion Schlosser	Shining Lights Learning Center	June & Gil Cole

After 4 weeks names will be removed unless requested to continue.

Please contact Elaine Pollak, Caring Tree chair, at (802) 633-3669 or laneylou@gmail.com

First Congregational Church

*United Church of Christ
Littleton, New Hampshire*

August 23, 2026



Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz
Pastor

206-484-9814 (cell)
peter@1stconglittleton.org

Music Director & Organist

Dorothy Morton

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

189 Main Street

Littleton, NH 03561

603-444-3376, Fax: 603-444-6589

E-mail: fstcong189@gmail.com

www.1stconglittleton.org

FCC Shining Lights Learning Center

444-7379

Our Mission Statement:

We unite to worship God and share Christ's love by caring for our wider community in a way that welcomes all and invites and inspires the gift of spiritual renewal.

*Lending land and tools and vision, Sharing costs and planting
seed—
Work we love becomes our mission As we serve your world in need.*

*May our harvest celebration Build new food security;
As we care for your creation, May we find community.
By your Holy Spirit bless us And may what we grow increase
Till the whole world sees new glimpses Of your joyful banquet feast.*

Biblical Text: Mark 4:1-9, 26-29

Tune: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844.

Text: Copyright © Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2005.

A Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Monthly Offering for the Little Free Pantry

***I am the church, You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, All around the world!
Yes, We're the church together!***

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**As you once multiplied the five small loaves and two fish,
multiply these gifts as well, so that, once again, the hungry
may receive all they need, and more.**

(Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies)

Greeting One Another

Special Music

Scripture Reading John 6:1-14

Sermon

* Hymn #349 "I Come with Joy"

New Century Hymnal

Prayers of the People

We pray for the church, that Christians may never dismiss the hungry but feed them as Jesus says, we pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

We pray for the governments of the world, that they enact laws and provide services to see that everyone has adequate nutrition, we pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

We pray for the hungry, that they may feel God's love through the generosity of their neighbors, we pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

(Catholic Charities USA)

The Lord's Prayer *(See opposite page for words)*

Offertory

* Doxology *(See opposite page for words)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Hymn #529 "Now Let Us All, in Hymns of Praise"

New Century Hymnal

Benediction

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

Thank you to our worship leader today, Kathy Searles

Thank you to Chris Sundman for the special music today!