

First Parish United Church of Christ  
(Congregational)

P.O. Box 228, 176 West High Street,  
Somersworth, NH 03878-0228  
Church Office: (603) 692-2057

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Thomas Hourihan

*An Open & Affirming Church*

[www.somersworthfirstparish.org](http://www.somersworthfirstparish.org)

[pastor@somersworthfirstparish.org](mailto:pastor@somersworthfirstparish.org)



*April, 2021*



**EASTER DAY**

“On Easter Day the lilies bloom,  
Triumphant, risen from their tomb;  
Their bulbs have undergone rebirth,  
Born from the silence of the earth  
Symbolically, to tell all men  
That Christ, the Saviour, lives again.  
The angels, pure and white as they,  
Have come and rolled the stone away  
And with the lifting of the stone,  
The shadow of the cross is gone!”

—June Masters Bacher





## Join us for Maundy Thursday & Easter Services



Maundy-Thursday service-will be observed on April 1st, 2021 at 4:30 pm

Easter Service- will be celebrated on Sunday, April 4th, 2021 at 10:00am

Both services will be in our church Sanctuary and on Facebook and YouTube. We will need to follow the CDC guidelines of wearing masks, and social distancing must be observed. **If you are interested in attending either service in the church, please contact Nancie Cameron at [bballmom824@yahoo.com](mailto:bballmom824@yahoo.com) or 603-781-5302 and let her know which ones you will be attending.**

This is what you can expect when you come to church:

- \* *All people entering the church MUST wear a mask. If you are sick, please stay home.*
- \* Upon entering the church, you will have your temperature taken with a no touch thermometer, you will be asked the typical Covid questions, extra masks will be available and you will be asked to use the hand sanitizer available.
- \* We ask that you not leave your seat to visit with others. Every other pew will be blocked off for spacing.
- \* A bulletin will be placed on your seat earlier in the week. Please take it home with you - no recycling available in the church.
- \* There will be no singing during the worship service.
- \* We will have to wait for a safer time to include "passing the peace".
- \* An offering plate will be placed in the back of the sanctuary. Please add your offering when you arrive.
- \* The upstairs bathrooms are available for use. Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in or near the bathrooms for your use. Please use the wipes to clean surfaces you touch before and after use (including door knobs).
- \* If, at any time, the state tells us we cannot worship in the church, we will contact you by email or phone and will resume services on Facebook and YouTube only.



### Easter Flowers

We will be decorating the alter for Easter again this year! The cost of the flowers is a donation of \$15.00 for each plant.

Please check off which plant you would like:

Tulip\_\_\_\_\_ Lily\_\_\_\_\_ Total\_\_\_\_\_

in memory of\_\_\_\_\_ celebrating\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks out to First Parish UCC

and send to before March 26th: First ParishUCC. PO Box 228. Somersworth, NH 03878 attn: Kathy Latchaw



## MINISTRY OF PRAYER & CONCERN

**Edith Bowen** *The Residence at Silver Square*, 100 Sterling Way, Dover, NH 03820

**Toddy Eastman**, *Wentworth Home*, 795 Central Ave, Dover, NH 03820

**Pat Hamel**, *The Manor at Canyon Lakes*, #210, 2802 West 35th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99337-2583

**Bob Philbrick**, *Berwick Estates*, 75 Portland St., So. Berwick, ME 03908

*--and all who are residents in long-term care and assisted living facilities in our area.*

*Please do send your cards and greetings.*



The Wednesday afternoon and Sunday morning "For The Children" posts will continue through the fall months. My hope is to encourage children, or anyone who reads these posts, to read their Bible and continue with their daily prayers. Our building may be closed but our faith is strong. God is still speaking to us, we only need to listen.



## Virtual Memorial Service Ginny Burgess

Ginny Burgess's family has invited all members of our church family to her virtual memorial service on April 3rd. We hope you'll join us!

<https://virtualmemorialgatherings.com/memorial-services/virginia-burgess/>



Kenneth Bouffard [health] *Linda Palmer's cousin*

Craig Breden [health]

Priscilla Brock [health] *Robin Hamel's mother*

John Cummings [health]

Sherie Dinger [healing]

Barbara Dudley [health]

Betty Foley [health]

Kathe Johnson [health] *Geoff Day's sister*

Ruth Lucey [healing] *Loved one of Mike & Sharon Sirois*

Gloria Martel [health] *Linda Farrell's mother*

Linda Palmer [healing]

Lindsay Richesin [healing] *Linda Palmer's daughter*

Steve Ricker [health] *Connie Ricker's son*

Mike Sirois [healing]

Allen Storms [health]

Mike Watman [health]

Those who walk with mental health concerns, those who walk the pathway of treatment and recover from addiction.

AND ongoing prayer focus during these days:

- *For our Carroll-Strafford Association Churches.*
- *That God will bless and guide our Bridge Pastor, Rev. Dr. Thomas Hourihan and his partner, Annette Jacques.*
- *That God will bless and guide our Conference Minister, Rev. Gordan Rankin, and Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Richard Slater*
- *Faith formation ministries for all ages - for building strong faith foundations, at all ages and stages of life.*
- *Working together in community - to build community - and to implement strategies for prevention, while providing resources for treatment and recovery from substance misuse and its stigma.*
- ***Jesus said: Love God. Love Neighbor. Love Self.***
- *Those serving in the Armed Services and in support capacities around the world.*
- *Peace in our world; harmony in our relationships, hope in our active response for transformational change.*
- *The UKAMA Partnership between the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe and the NH Conference UCC.*
- *Continued invitational ministry and mission here at First Parish United Church of Christ: invite, include, involve in the good news way of Christ!*
- *For our church family and community during the COVID 19 pandemic.*

## MISSIONS

Horton Center is planning for their summer activities. They need your help! They are looking for adult counselors and nurses. You do not have to attend the whole season, these can be week-long positions. If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested, you can reach out to Horton Center at <https://hortoncenter.org/>. Horton center also has a wish list of things they need for their sessions this summer. Check out their wish list at [hortoncenter.org/wish-list](https://hortoncenter.org/wish-list) to see if there is something on the list you could help with.

Winter is almost over and spring is just around the corner. Are you looking for a way to get outdoors and enjoy some companionship, sun, and fresh air? Perhaps you could help a friend or neighbor get their yard ready for the upcoming season. Offer to help with the raking or cleaning out the flower/vegetable beds. As always, a phone call or card is always appreciated. Remember, a kind word and a smile is always welcome. My granddaughter says, "a smile is not hidden behind a mask, a smile shows in the eyes!"



**Sympathy is extended to  
the families of**

**Esther (Toddy) Eastman** (3/22/21) *Sue Eastman  
is her daughter*

*May the blessing of hope and health surround her  
family.*

**Remember**, every church activity is an opportunity for **YOU** to invite, include and involve someone who you know into our shared life here at First Parish Church.

***You are the face of First Parish Church!***

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday Worship, 10AM (In church & on Facebook & You Tube)

"For The Children" virtual page is on the church's Facebook page every Sunday and Wednesday

Ministers: The People of the Church

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Dr. Thomas Hourihan

Faith Formation Coordinator:

Susan Vollkommer

Moderator:

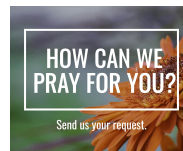
Clerk:

Contracted Treasurer: Linda Gauthier

Assistant Treasurer: Richard Shepherd

Organist/Choir Director: Bette Daley

Newsletter & Calendar Editor: Debbie Hall



*Do you know someone  
who needs some prayers?*

Please contact one of the Prayer  
Group members listed below:

Priscilla Chellis, (207) 698-5977,  
Email: [prchellis@comcast.net](mailto:prchellis@comcast.net)

Carol Cummings, (603) 842-5059,  
Email: [johnandcarol55@comcast.net](mailto:johnandcarol55@comcast.net)

Dottie Douglas, (603) 332-6113,  
Email: [dottiedouglas@metrocast.net](mailto:dottiedouglas@metrocast.net)

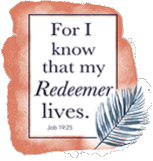
Fran Karlik, (603) 397-5674,  
Email: [kinross2@comcast.net](mailto:kinross2@comcast.net)



Congratulations to Patty and Marc Cote! They have moved to Georgia and will be finalizing the paperwork on their new home next month.

We wish them best wishes and will miss them! Their temporary address is listed below.

P.O Box 5801  
St. Mary's, GA 31558



## APRIL LECTIONARY READINGS

### Maundy Thursday - Purple

*April 1, 2021*

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

### Easter Sunday - White

*April 4, 2021*

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

### Second Sunday of Easter - White

*April 11, 2021*

Acts 4:32-35

Psalms 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

### Third Sunday of Easter - White

*April 18, 2021*

Acts 3:12-19

Psalms 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

*April 25, 2021*

Acts 4:5-12

Psalms 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

### MINISTER'S CONTACT information



#### Rev. Thomas Hourihan contact information.

603-433-2170 (home)

603-817-7312 (cell) (texting accessible)

[thomasfhourihan@gmail.com](mailto:thomasfhourihan@gmail.com)



Apr 1 Rachel Fournier, Andy Allen,  
Shawn Richer

Apr. 3 Eden-Faith Trussell

Apr. 4 Madeline Ashley

Apr. 8 Leah Stucker

Apr. 9 Clay Oelkuct

Apt. 10 Marc Cote

Apr. 14 Linda Burk

Apr. 19 Christina Giles

Apr. 23 Terry & Linda Burk

Apr. 24 Mark Rideout

Apr. 26 Barbara Pay

Apr. 29 Juliana Carolina



### NEW ARRIVAL

**Evan Thomas Hurley**, born 2/21/21,  
son of Will & Marie Hurley, grandson  
of Richard & Julie Hurley, great grandson of Ele  
Janetos. Such a joy to welcome into the world!

*May the blessing of hope and health surround this  
family.*

### DIACONATE

The deacons have been working hard to get ready for the Maundy Thursday and Easter services. They met on March 16th and brought friends and family to help polish the brass and clean the pews.

We will be meeting before Maundy Thursday to plan how to make our in-church worship services meaningful but safe. We plan to look at the guidelines listed on the second page and decide where we can make updates now that many of us have had our immunizations. A poster will be placed in the Narthex with the updates.

One of the changes will be with the offering. Offering plates will be placed in the back of the sanctuary. Please add your offering when you arrive.



# TRUSTEES

## 28 February 2021 Financial Update

	FEB 2021	YEAR TO DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>Income</b>	\$2,857	\$12,245	\$57,635*
<b>Expenses</b>	\$4,117	\$11,438	\$80,022
<b>Net</b>	\$1,260	\$807	

\*Note - \$22,387 will be available from Savings and Investments to balance budget

Savings and Checkbook balance: \$29,534.46

Mortgage balance: \$31,124.99

**Food Pantry** - gave the church \$1000 towards plowing this year

**Comcast** - our bill the last 2 months increased to \$160 - so Linda G called and got a deal qualifying us for a \$60 a month pandemic special offer

**Workmans Comp Insurance** - we reviewed our workman's comp insurance with Spence and Matthews and because our payroll has decreased we are getting a rebate of \$372 off our policy.

**Willett Trust fund**- trying to figure out what actions are necessary and if it makes sense to terminate this trust fund - Massachusetts Commonwealth Law for terminating a trust is \$200,000 or under - the Willett Trust Fund meets this requirement it's currently \$168,000. The trustees will keep you updated

**Wakefield Congregational Church** - we had a zoom meeting with them to see what ideas or practices we can use and share as we continue working on our profile and seek a settled pastor for our church. They were a great source of information

**Roof leak** - Ken and Gregg will look at and assess the situation before next winter.

**Amy Gowell** - Trustees decided to increase her pay by \$10 per week for the great work she's doing on videoing our church services and uploading on youtube

*The **Trustees** continue to address items that are identified in the monthly checklist*

*Submitted by Gregg Fournier*

