



First Parish United Church of Christ (Congregational)

P.O. Box 228, 176 West High Street,

Somersworth, NH 03878-0228

Church Office: (603) 692-2057

An Open & Affirming Church

www.somersworthfirstparish.org

pastor@somersworthfirstparish.org



November, 2018



**WOMEN'S
FELLOWSHIP**



Our HOLLY DAZE FAIR is November 3rd. Please make sure you come and bring your friends and family! We have many new and wonderful items for you to purchase. This year we will have a new layout and the ability to take credit cards!

I want to thank all of those who donated, made the beautiful items, and worked so hard to make this fair a success.

Bring your friends and family to see the **BJ Hickman MagicShow** on Saturday, November 17th. It is a Saturday at 2:00PM and is open to the public. There is no charge. It will be very entertaining for young and old!

The Women's Fellowship is open to all women. We are blessed to have such a dedicated group of women who come each week to share their talents and thoughts! So have you considered bringing a friend with you for a time of chatting and working on various projects?

We also have a Wednesday evening craft group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 6:30PM in the Chapel. Try it and see what kinds of activities are going on. If you are interested in going, please contact Nancy McDonough.

Most gratefully,

Kathy Latchaw



MISSIONS

Thank you to all who came to the Blessing of the Animals. Six dogs and a turtle came and brought their parents. All the pets were blessed and there was a moment of remembrance for those pets we have lost. There were many pet items and \$175 collected for a donation to Cocheco Valley Humane Society. Thank you for your generosity.

The Mission Committee will handle the Riverside Christmas Gift List for Residents this year. The list will be posted in the Narthex shortly. The Riverside Rest Home will provide us with the Christmas wishes of 20 residents. Each resident is allowed to wish for 3 items. The idea is for you to choose a resident and provide 1, 2, or all 3 of the items requested. The resident's names will be anonymous. You will then shop for the gifts you selected to purchase and return them to church. The gifts need to be returned to church by Sunday, December 9th, labeled and unwrapped. Thank you, in advance, for helping make Christmas wishes come true.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Our October Spaghetti Supper will happen the day before this newsletter is distributed. Many of us are looking forward to wearing our Halloween costumes!

Thank you so much for all the yummy desserts and for helping with the different jobs required to make the supper successful.

Our next supper will be held on November 24th. If you are tired of eating Thanksgiving leftovers, come and enjoy a delicious meal of our delicious spaghetti with meat sauce, cole slaw or 3 bean salad, 3 types of homemade bread and a wide choice of desserts. The entire meal is made by many members of our church. For \$7 (\$3.50 for children ages 3-12 and free for children under 3) you can get a complete meal including drinks and dessert. You can also get seconds on the spaghetti, bread and salad and as many refills of drinks as needed.

Please join us and bring your friends and family.



Nov. 4	Niketa Benner, Leo Hurley <i>Paul & Sherry Cazeault</i>
Nov. 6	Robin Hamel
Nov. 10	Helene Courier
Nov. 12	Dennis Carignan, Jeremy Day
Nov. 14	Nancy Anderson
Nov. 16	Pat Hamel
Nov. 17	Christopher Drake Cox
Nov. 25	<i>Charles & Adelia Drake</i>
Nov. 27	Linda Farrell, Betty Foley
Nov. 29	Dottie Douglas



A sincere thank you to the following people who lead us in worship during the months of October.

Our October worship leaders were:

- * Rev.'s John & Faye Buttrick
- * Geoff Day
- * Sharon Sirois
- * Susan Walker



Rev. Doc. Norma Brettell preaches for the first time on Dec. 2nd, the First Sunday of Advent. The following is the list of Worship Leaders for November:

- * Nov 4 – Rev Dale Hempen
(Communion Sunday)
- * Nov 11 – Rich Whitten
- * Nov 18 – Marc Cote
- * Nov 25 – Allen Storms



FAITH FORMATION

It's time for Operation Christmas Child Shoebbox Greetings. The boxes are available both upstairs in the Narthex and downstairs in the hall. Please take a box home, on the inside of the box is a pamphlet explaining what kinds of small toys and items that can be placed in the box. You may want to purchase a selection of small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, etc. Please do not include food, liquids, and medicines. Do include \$9 to help cover shipping and other charges. You may include the \$9 in your box, or pay online. If you pay online you will be able to Follow Your Box and see where it's destination is. Bring your shoebox back to church and give it to any member of the Faith Formation Committee, or leave it on a designated table in the Narthex or Church Hall. The shoeboxes are due back on Sunday, November 11th.

On Sunday, November 11th, following worship, the Faith Formation committee will be hosting a taco luncheon. As this is Veteran's Day and the turn in date for the Men's Group Sock Drive for Homeless Veterans. We ask that you invite a Veteran to attend with you.

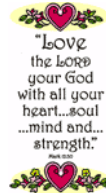
On Sunday, December 2nd, from 2-4pm we will be providing an Advent Craft Event in the Church Hall. This is a family friendly event, fun for the young and the young at heart. We will have tables set up with a variety of different Christmas crafts. You will have an opportunity to make any or all of the crafts. This is an event we did last year, and those who attended had a great time. Please come and check us out, and tell your family and friends about it.



*Sympathy is extended to the
families of*

Dorianne Nippert (Oct. 1) Sister of Sue Boucher

*Please remember these families in your prayers, as we
ask the Lord to surround them with love and light.*



NOVEMBER LECTIONARIES

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost - Green

November 4, 2018

Ruth 1:1-18 & Psalm 146

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 & Psalm 119:1-8

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost - Green

November 11, 2018

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 & Psalm 127

1 Kings 17:8-16 & Psalm 146

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - Green

November 18, 2018

1 Samuel 1:4-20 & 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Daniel 12:1-3 & Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18), 19-25

Mark 13:1-8

Thanksgiving Day

November 22, 2018

Joel 2:21-27 & Psalm 126

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Matthew 6:25-33

Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - Green

November 25, 2018

2 Samuel 23:1-7 & Psalm 132:1-12, (13-18)

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 & Psalm 93

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

Our Monthly Newsletter

can be accessed entirely online! Check it out: www.somersworthfirstparish.org.

Paper copies are available in the Narthex.

If you prefer to have the newsletter sent to

you in the mail, please send \$20 with

your name and address to: First Parish Church, P.O.

Box 228, Somersworth, NH 03878, Attn: Newsletter

Editor.



LETTER FROM RIVERSIDE REST HOME

Dear Connie Ricker: We would like to thank you and your church from the bottom of our hearts for all the wonderful things you continue to do for our facility. Our residents truly enjoy all the cards they receive through the Pen Pal program. We appreciate all of the wonderful donations, like the beautiful quilts and Christmas gifts, that you have given to us. Your generosity throughout the year is cherished more than you know. On behalf of Riverside Rest Home, we would like to give you our heartfelt thanks.

June McLaughlin
Activities Director
Riverside Rest Home

RIVERSIDE REST HOME PEN PAL PROGRAM

Are you part of the Pen Pal project at First Parish UCC? If you aren't a Pen Pal, why not sign up! Thanksgiving and Christmas are right around the corner and how special it would be to share it with someone who would appreciate a card or visit. Whenever the spirit moves, cards or notes are sent to your special friend(s). You can sign your name on your correspondence or you can do it anonymously; you may visit with your Pen Pal or you may just wish to contact by mail. It's up to you how often you correspond, or how you correspond. It doesn't matter how often you get in touch since each note or card is a treasured piece of mail to the Riverside resident. You don't even need an excuse to write! Speak with Connie Ricker (335-1242) if you'd like to help out or have questions. She is our long time dedicated organizer who oversees this important outreach.



PRAYER MINISTRY

Do you know someone who needs some prayers? Please contact one of the Prayer Group members listed below.

Prayer Group Members:

Sue Boucher, P. O. Box 7193, Gonic, NH 03839
Dec-May: 7556 Moriah Ave, Brookridge Community,
Brooksville, FL 34613
Cell: 603-617-6949
Email: sznnboucher@yahoo.com

Carol Cummings, 6 Bennett St., Somersworth, NH 03878 (603) 692-2450
Email: johnandcarol55@comcast.net

Dottie Douglas, 20 Columbus Ave., #213, Rochester, NH 03867
(603) 332-6113
Email: dottiedouglas@metrocast.net

Fran Karlik, 15 Church Hill Road, Durham, NH 03824
(603) 397-5674
Email: kinross2@comcast.net

A Gentle Reminder:

* Sunday Bulletin announcements/information needs to be in writing to the Church Office by TUESDAY, or you may e-mail it directly to Debbie Hall at kenanddebhall@comcast.net

* Monthly Newsletter items MUST be submitted by the 3rd Friday [OR as noted in the monthly newsletter calendar]. Earlier is better! Email directly to Debbie Hall at kenanddebhall@comcast.net Written items may be left in the pocket on the copy room door as well (just let Deb know!).

* Monthly calendar dates and times are submitted directly to Debbie Hall at kenanddebhall@comcast.net

* Updates on birthdays, anniversaries may be sent to Luise Watman at lwatman@comcast.net

Note: If you serve on a committee, please communicate directly with your Committee Chair if you are unable to attend a scheduled meeting or event.

Our Friends in Nursing Homes



MINISTRY OF PRAYER & CONCERN

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

Gail Day, *Langdon Place of Dover; 60 Middle Rd, Dover, NH 03820*

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

Audrey Loika, *1 Huntington Common Dr., Apt. 208, Kennebunk, ME 04043*

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

Janet Giffin, *Wentworth Home, 795 Central Ave., Dover, NH 03820*

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

Please do send your cards and greetings.

Be the Church

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.

Forgive often. Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

God is still speaking

The **Purpose Statement**, the UCC reason for being, is drawn from a passage in Matthew's Gospel: *To love God with all our heart, mind soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.*

The **Mission Statement**: *United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.*

The Vision: *United in Christ's love, a just world for all.*



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Wendy Alvez (St. Jean) [health]

Nancy Anderson [hospice]

Craig Breden [health]

Eric Burgess [health] *Jinny Burgess' son*

Jinny Burgess [healing]

Patty Cote [healing]

Gail Day [health]

Mark Dudley [healing] *son of Carroll & Barbara Dudley*

Dan Gaudreault [healing] *Sue Boucher's nephew*

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

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

Marie Pelloni [health] *Allen Storm's sister-in-law*

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 Rev. Mark Rideout and our new Interim Minister, Rev. Dr. Norma Brettell*
- *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!*

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.

DEACONS

- Worship continues seamlessly thanks to those who have stepped up to oversee a particular Sunday. We are so very grateful and blessed for all who have given of their time and talent in stepping up to the pulpit to lead a Sunday service. We thank the October crew of Geoff Day, Sharon Sirois and Susan Walker for being our worship leaders. We also thank the Revs. John and Faye Buttrick for coming over from Concord and leading us on World Communion Sunday.
- The Diaconate is sponsoring the B.J. Hickman Magic Show on Saturday, Nov. 17th at 2pm. Make a day of it! The show is free and open to the community but donations are welcome. Please bring your family and friends for an afternoon of fun.
- Pastor Mark Rideout has been nominated to receive the 2018 Bob Ervin Spiritual Care Award on Oct. 23, 2018 at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital. A few people from First Parish attended the presentation and cheered him on.
- We have opted not to pursue an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service this year due to lack of leadership but we intend to plan one for 2019.
- We are thrilled to hear that our Interim, Rev. Dr. Norma Brettell will begin her ministry with us a bit earlier than expected. Please join us on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, as we share communion and welcome her to First Parish on the First Sunday of Advent.
- For November, our Worship Leaders will be: Nov. 4, Rev. Dale Hempen; Nov. 11, Rich Whitten; Nov. 18, Marc Cote; Nov. 25, Allen Storms.
- Remember: In the meantime, should you have an emergency and need the presence of a minister, contact Laurel Curtis at 603-969-1815 and she will contact the minister on call.

Your Deacons - Priscilla Chellis, Laurel Curtis, Geoff Day, Debbie Hall, Kathy Latchaw, Bill Voyer

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship & Sunday School- 10:00AM

Fellowship Time Follows Worship

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month.

Ministers: The People of the Church

Interim Pastor: Rev. Norma Brettell

Christian Education Coordinator:

Susan Vollkommer

Moderator: Richard Whitten

Co-Clerks: Patty Cote & Debbie Hall

Treasurer: Linda Farrell

Assistant Treasurer: Richard Shepherd

Organist/Choir Director: Bette Daley

Newsletter Team: Debbie Hall-Editor, Luise Watman-Birthdays/Anniversaries



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be in our community on Friday, November 30, 2018 at First Parish UCC. Ultrasound screenings to identify risk factors for Cardiovascular disease include; **Carotid Artery** (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke), **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm** (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body), **Peripheral Arterial Disease** (hardening of the arteries in the legs), a **Heart Rhythm Screening** (an EKG to detect Atrial Fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an **Osteoporosis Risk Assessment** for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early.

Register online TODAY at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle and receive your Community Circle discount and your Preferred Appointment!



After over four years of being First Parish's newsletter editor, I am handing it over to Cecilia Rich though I will continue working with the calendar. I have enjoyed being responsible for the newsletter and will miss it, but it is time for me to focus on other things.

I am grateful to Cecilia for offering to do this and know it is in good hands.

Thank you to everyone who has helped me putting the newsletter together, especially Priscilla Chellis and Luise Watman for their excellent help with editing! I couldn't have done it without your help!

Debbie Hall

TRUSTEES

The Trustees have been working behind the scenes to ensure that the church runs as smoothly as possible during this time of transition - speaking of which the PPRC announced that Rev. Dr. Norma Brettell will be here at the end of Nov with her first service as interim pastor on 2 Dec - Thanks again for all the hard work and time the PPRC put into this process to make it happen.

Stewardship Drive - dates for stewardship inserts have been set for (21 Oct, 28 Oct, 4 Nov and 11 Nov) and dedication of financial commitments has been set for 18 Nov - this year's theme is What Shall We Bring? We anticipate the stewardship drive mailing in early November and request committees to submit their budgets as soon as possible, a draft budget for 2019 is in the works.

The Parsonage - work has begun at the parsonage - we hired John Labreck as our contractor - repairs totaling over \$27K - both bathrooms are being completely renovated - electrical updated - sump pump installed - cleaning and painting entire house plus some outside work - subfloors installed where needed - new hard wired smoke and carbon monoxide detectors installed - the mold in basement stairwell removed and new wall board installed - Insurcom has already cleaned the mold in the attic and basement and Turgeon Construction plans on completing some excavation around the chimney to eliminate water intrusion. The Trustees will keep the church apprised of all work as it's completed - estimate early December for a completion date - a lawnmower was also purchased for the parsonage.

Leola Pepler Trust Fund - we continue to work with lawyer Susan Thibreau from Maine to see if we can terminate the trust or some other form of action - the Trustees will keep you posted on any developments.

Building and Grounds

- Furnace cleanings and septic system pumping have been scheduled for both the church and parsonage
- Snowplowing contract has been renewed
- Since there is no good time for Fall Clean-Up, Bruce Robbins did the most important jobs. Thank you Bruce!

There will be 4 open spots on our committee starting in Jan 2019 - please speak with a Trustee if you are interested in joining the Board of Trustees.

Finance Update as of 30 Sep 2018:

Income/Expense	Sep 2018	YTD 2018	Checkbook Balance
Income	\$7,715	\$97,957	\$9,418
Expense	\$6,048	\$114,329	
Net	\$1,667	-\$16,372	

* Note - Income YTD for 2018 does not include \$25,000 from Investment Funds

The Trustees continue to manage all the different aspects of our shared journey together here at First Parish and if you ever have any questions please feel free to contact any of us.

Gregg Fournier, Ken Latchaw, Gerri Cannon and Bruce Robbins