

***The First Congregational Church  
of Essex Junction***  
*United Church of Christ*



***A Welcoming Community, Accepting and  
Serving All in the Spirit of Christ***

*The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction, United Church of Christ, is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, because we are all created by a loving God. We seek to live Christ's call for compassion, justice, healing and wholeness in life. Therefore, we welcome into our community persons of every race, gender, age, sexual orientation, faith background, nationality, ethnicity, marital status, mental and physical ability, economic and social position, gender identity and expression, level of education and family structure. We invite all to share in the life, leadership, ordained ministry, lay ministry, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, fellowship, blessings, and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love.*

**One Church Street  
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

**Phone: 802-878-5745**

**Fax: 802-872-8236**

**E-mail: [welcome@fcej.org](mailto:welcome@fcej.org)**

**Website: [www.fcej.org](http://www.fcej.org)**

**Facebook: First Congregational Church of Essex Junction UCC**



The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction  
United Church of Christ  
January 20, 2019  
*First Service ~ Second Sunday After Epiphany*

*A Welcoming Community,*

*Accepting and Serving All*

*In the Spirit of Christ*

Order of Worship

Prelude

An Extravagant Welcome

*No matter who you are  
or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome in this place.*

Welcome Greeting and Announcements

*Our Ministers will welcome everyone to church and then highlight some events in our shared life, then the Deacon on Duty will welcome everyone and invite people to raise significant celebrations to the congregation or introduce yourself or a friend as a guest. We encourage everyone to sign the Friendship Book.*

Introit

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Johnson

Call to Worship

Leader: God calls ordinary people to extraordinary live—lives lived with intention, with purpose, with a desire to be great. Jesus says: to be great, we need to serve. Through the miracles and teachings of Jesus, he calls us to be disciples, to advocate for peace, to heal our wounds and the wounds of those who are hurting, to build the kingdom of God here while we wait for the kingdom of God to come.

**Lectern side: We are here today to remember the life of Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr who was the most recognizable leader of Civil Rights movement for African Americans.**

**Pulpit side: We are also here today to remember that extraordinary public leaders depend on other ordinary but extraordinary faithful people like organizers and activist. Today we also honor them, especially Ella Baker and Bayard Rustin.**

Leader: The Creator calls us, the Word teaches us, and the Spirit leads us. Let us worship God together.

Prayer of Invocation [composed and led by the Deacon on Duty]

Children's Message

*During worship our staff person, Jennifer, is in the Nursery for children under 3 years. There is audio in there and the service is streamed to Fellowship Hall. Second Service after the Children's Message, children in preschool up through Senior High are welcome to join us for our Hands-On Mission Project. Adults are welcome to accompany the kids, help them get settled and stay or return to worship. All will return to worship during the final hymn.*

**God has made us all a rainbow.  
Colors dancing 'round and 'round.  
In our hair and skin and eyes, big and little, every size,  
God has made us all a rainbow dancing 'round.  
Jesus loves the little children,  
All God's children of the world.  
Whether young or old or new, Jesus loves us through and through  
Teaching us to love all creatures in the world.**

Anthem

*Hush! Somebody's Callin' My Name*

Dennard

Pastoral Prayer and **Unison Lord's Prayer**

Prayer Requests Offered within the Community

A Time of Silence for Personal Prayer

**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 forever, amen.**

Musical Response

*Gospel Amen*

Offering Our Gifts to God

Invitation, Offering, and Prayer of Dedication

Anthem

*Amazing Grace/Pachelbel's Canon*

Shafferman

**\*Doxology #778**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

New Testament Scripture Readings

Hebrew Testament: Isaiah 62: 1-5 [pg. 536]

Paul's Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11 [pg. 133]

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-11 [pg. 3]

**\*Hymn of Preparation**                      *Lift Every Voice and Sing [vs 1]*                      **#593**

Sermon    *Many Voices*    Rev. Simon

**\*Closing Hymn**                              *We Shall Overcome [vs 1-4]*                              **#570**

Benediction

Pastoral Benediction

**\*Sung Community Benediction**

**Go Now In Peace**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, holding you in love.  
Go now in peace, in faith and in love**

\*Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able.

Deacon: Lori Giannuzzi

Ushers: 1st : Bart & Paulette Frisbie ; 2nd : Betty & Bill Adams

Greeters: 1st Service: Steve & Sue Wood ; 2nd Service: Erna Deutsch & Julie Leach

*The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of  
Patricia Shearer by the Shearer Family*

*Additional flowers in memory of Joan Baynham from her family*

First Church's Prayer Ministry

Elizabeth Turner  
Gabrielle  
Carol Janwich  
Bruce Giannuzzi  
Mike K  
Karla

Linda Dudley  
Judy Janwich  
Richard Ansell  
Mark McKenzie & Family  
Frank Polanshek  
Mary Weltzin

Holton Family  
Eric & Shannon  
Joe Phenix  
Jenna  
Carolyn

*Please let the office know if you would like a name added to our Prayer Ministry, you can write it on the Friendship Pad, call or email the office or send us a note, welcome@fccej.org*

\* \* \* **TODAY** \* \* \*



**TODAY ~ 2019 Budget Information Sessions**

Come ask any and all questions you have about the 2019 FCCEJ Budget that can be found in the Annual Reports in the Narthex. After 1st Service we will be in the Marvin Lounge and after 2nd we will remain in the Sanctuary. Join Us!

**Looking To Show Off Your Baker's Hat?**

Hospitality is looking for some help in showing off your mad baking skills! If you would like to help provide a goodie for any Sunday Fellowship Time, contact Jim Glatz

802-503-5076 glatzjim@gmail.com



**If You Asked For Pledge Envelopes, Please Pick Them Up TODAY in the Narthex**

\* \* \* **THIS WEEK** \* \* \*

**Yoga @ First !**

Jonah is now offering class on **Tuesdays** at 5:30-6:45pm in the Fellowship Hall. All levels from beginner to experienced welcome. You can bring your own mat or borrow one of Jonah's. Classes are free but donations are gratefully accepted for FCCEJ.



## Tuesday Morning Sermon Talkback

Join us on Tuesdays even through the Summer from 8:30-10am for coffee, baked goods and a lively discussion of the sermon (and other topics!) that was delivered on Sunday. Join us for the conversation, the goodies, the camaraderie, or all of the above!



## Wednesday Night Searchers



Each week, a group of folks get together to explore the faith. We do so through books, movies, discussions with members from other religious traditions, TED Talks and anything else we want to do. We are reading our next focus of Study: Simply Jesus by N.T. Wright. Whether you love Jesus and call him Lord and Savior or struggle with his divinity, you will be welcome to come and discuss those issues with a supportive and loving group of people. Books are available in Jen's office or on a Sunday morning.

## Coffee Clatter Fridays 8am

Pastors Mark & Josh are still meeting people for discussion and breakfast on Fridays @ Martone's. Join them for fellowship & great discussion!



\* \* \* **Children, Youth & Family Announcements** \* \* \*



## Faith Formation Sunday School Calendar

**Preschool – 8th grade**

**January 20<sup>th</sup>** ~ Hands On Mission Sunday

Celebrating your 2018 Offering

**January 27<sup>th</sup>** ~ Music & Peer Group time

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>** ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Spiritual Friends with Preschool & Kindergarteners

*World Communion Sunday ~ Intergenerational Worship*

**February 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>** ~ Music & Peer Group time

## Faith Formation Sunday School Offering 2019

*Total for 2019 \$5.75*

*Total for 2018 \$778.67*

**TODAY~** *Vote for your choice of where your 2019 Offering will go.*



Remember to bring your offering each week, \$1 a week can go a long way! Please use the envelopes in the pew holders so your \$ goes to the right place.

## High School Youth @ FCCEJ

Sign up to help usher & greet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month during 10:15am service

**TODAY, Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> ~ 11:30am-1:30pm**

Join Pastor Josh to brainstorm service project ideas we can do locally this spring. Please, bring your ideas for a service project that you want to do with others.

Our time together includes brainstorming and socializing. Meet in the Marvin Lounge. We'll have food!

## Junior Youth @ FCCEJ

**TODAY, Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> ~ 3pm – 4:30pm**

Join Pastor Josh for watching clips of Harry Potter and talking about how HP relates to our faith and lives. Meet in the Marvin Lounge.

**February 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ 11:30am – 1:30pm ~ provide a meal**

**3<sup>rd</sup> ~ 10:15am Help Greet/Usher/Read Scripture**

**\* \* \* Opportunities To Volunteer & Donate \* \* \***



## Still In Need of Faith Formation Volunteers

**There are many ways to support First Church kids and youth:**

**Nursery** – join our staff person and be a friendly face during 1st & 2nd.

**Spiritual Friends** – First Sundays of the month - great conversations, read a story, have snack, playdoh time & return for communion.

**Peer Group Leaders & Helpers** – support a group from preK - 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Hands On Mission Helpers** – all ages together for a time of fellowship on these days with a mission focus and group building activities.

**Youth Group Helpers** – Every time youth gather we are always looking for adult help.

Contact Laurie or Josh for more information and to volunteer!

*Laurie will be away visiting churches in CT 1/19-1/29. She will be answering emails*

## Dismas House Meal Volunteers

FCCEJ has volunteered to provide dinners for residents of Dismas House Winooski for the fourth Wednesdays of each month. A big "Thanks" to all who supported the Church's Dismas House mission in 2018. Signups for 2019 are on the bulletin board going out of Fellowship Hall. If you want more information about the program, please contact Ed Steele (802) 871-5897 or [edwardmsteele@msn.com](mailto:edwardmsteele@msn.com).



## Bottle/Can Drive

Thank you for all your donations! The NEW container is on the Church Street side under the overhang. Thank you to the Boy Scouts for constructing it!

**Please make sure that you only put in the cans & bottles that are redeemable, not just recyclable** - thank you!





**Next Food Pantry days are Thursday, January 24th, 2-6pm and Monday, February 11th, 5:30 - 7:30pm**

We are in need of fruit juice, mac n' cheese and sample size toothpaste tubes. They are perfect to give out with a toothbrush. Please ask your dentist the next time you have your teeth cleaned if they could donate a case!



**Got Donations? Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop**

Regular Hours: 10am-3pm Tues & Wed, 4-8pm Thurs

Open Saturdays Jan 19<sup>th</sup> & Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 am to 1 pm

Donations needed: women & men's winter jackets, winter boots, women's shirts, winter gloves & hats Donations gratefully accepted anytime in our bin!



**Usher/Greeter Volunteers Needed**

Winter dates are all up on the Sign Up Genius-please volunteer!  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4facae2daafe3-ushergreeter>

**\* \* \* SAVE THE DATES \* \* \***

**Annual Report**



**Pick Up Your Annual Report in The Narthex TODAY!**

**January 13th & 20th ~ 2019 Budget Information Sessions**

After 1st Service (Marvin Lounge) & After 2nd Service (Sanctuary) Members of the Finance Committee will be on hand to answer your questions.

**Available NOW in Fellowship Hall ~ Calcutta Tickets**



The 5th annual Cabin Fever Calcutta will be held at the Catamount Country Club in Williston on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Cocktails will begin at 5:00 PM with dinner at 6:00 PM. Jamie Polli, our MC, will begin the Calcutta at 7:00 PM. This is a fun night out with lots of great prizes in addition to the grand prize of \$1000! We will also be holding the popular wine pull, a raffle for an overnight stay/dinner at three great area hotels; Courtyard Marriott/Bleu Restaurant, Hotel Vermont/Juniper and The Essex/Junction and also a raffle for a tablet or similar electronic device. Please make checks payable to FCCEJ with "Jamaica" on the memo line. Team members at the Jamaica table in Fellowship Hall will be happy to assist you. We hope you will join us on March 9<sup>th</sup> for an evening of fun and fellowship.



### January 25th ~ Young Adult Gathering

Young adult gathering is Friday, January 25th, 7-9pm. Hannah Tracy and John Wermer are hosting at their place, 14 Sugartree Lane, F6, EJ



### January 27th ~ Annual Meeting (11:30 am) / Ask the Pastor Sunday (10am)

The heart of our congregational tradition is meeting once a year for our Annual Meeting. Those gathered at the meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am become the governing body of our church. What they vote upon stands as policy with neither a committee nor staff member being able to rescind or disregard their vote. To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to get to the meeting, we will only have ONE SERVICE on January 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am and in light of our congregational ways and tradition, Mark & Josh will answer any questions the congregation has during the sermon time.



### February 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Praise-A-Palooza

Praise-a-Palooza is coming! Please join us for a great evening of soup, fellowship and music! Because this overlaps with the FCCEJ Saturday evening service, we are going to combine the two! We'll start at 5:00 with a fellowship service and soup dinner in Fellowship Hall, and then proceed upstairs to the Sanctuary for some great praise music by Got Grace! (Grace Methodist Church), Malletts Bay Congregational Church UCC, Smokey Newfield Project, and Finally@First (FCCEJ). Come join the fun with soup, song and praise! Admission is free, although there will be a good will offering at the door.

### February 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Second Thursday of the Month ~ Bereavement Support Group

Many if not all of us have been touched by the loss of someone we hold near and dear. Sharon Dettenrieder has led Bereavement Support Groups for decades and will be working with our ordained



staff to create a support group where people can share their grief journey and draw support from others who are travelling down the same road. Meetings in Marvin Lounge, 7-8:30 p.m. Everyone, church & community members are welcome, bring a friend!



### March 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Pretzel Sunday

### April 21<sup>st</sup> ~ Easter



**THIS WEEK: January 20th - 26th**

- SUNDAY:** 8:30 am **Worship Service / Sanctuary**  
9:30 - 10:15am **2019 Proposed Budget Question Session / Marvin Lounge**  
10:15 am **Worship Service / Sanctuary**  
11:30 am **2019 Proposed Budget Question Session / Sanctuary**  
11:30 - 1:30 pm **High School Youth Group / Youth Lounge**  
1:00 - 2:00 pm **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
3:00 - 4:30 pm **Junior Youth / Fellowship Hall & Youth Lounge**
- MONDAY:** 9:30 - 10:30 am **Tai Chi / Fellowship Hall**  
12:00 noon **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
1:30 - 4:00 pm **Food Pantry Stocking / FH & Gym**  
5:30 - 6:30 pm **Group Victory / Youth Lounge**  
5:30 - 7:30 pm **Girl Scout Troop / Third Floor**
- TUESDAY:** 8:30 - 10:00 am **Sermon Talk Back / Marvin Lounge**  
10:00 - 3:00 pm **Heavenly Cents Thrift Store Open**  
12:00 noon **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
5:30 - 6:45 pm **Yoga w/Jonah / Fellowship Hall**  
7:00 - 9:00 pm **Stewardship / Fellowship Hall**  
7:00 - 9:00 pm **Trustees / Marvin Lounge**
- WEDNESDAY:** 9:30 - 10:30 am **Tai Chi / Fellowship Hall**  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm **Heavenly Cents Thrift Store Open**  
12:00 noon **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
2:00 - 4:00 pm **Ladies Night Out / Marvin Lounge**  
5:30 - 7:00 pm **Finally @ First / Sanctuary**  
7:00 - 8:30 pm **Boy Scouts / Fellowship Hall**  
7:00 - 9:00 pm **Wednesday Night Searchers / Marvin Lounge**
- THURSDAY:** 8:30 - 6:30 pm **Food Pantry [open 2-6pm] / Fellowship Hall & Kitchen**  
9:00 am **Newsletter Volunteers / Marvin Lounge**  
12:00 - 1:30 pm **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
3:00 - 4:00 pm **Easterseals Clinician Meeting / Third Floor**  
4:00 - 8:00 pm **Heavenly Cents Thrift Store Open**  
6:45 - 8:15 pm **Sanctuary Choir / Sanctuary**  
8:15 - 9:00 pm **Heavenly Harmony / Sanctuary**
- FRIDAY:** 12:00 noon **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
7:30 - 10:30 pm **Grange / Fellowship Hall**
- SATURDAY:** 9:00 - 11:00 am **Nepali Comm Worship & Meal / Sanctuary & FH**  
1:00 - 2:00 pm **Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall**  
2:30 - 4:00 pm **Cub Scout Meeting / Fellowship Hall**

## MINISTRY AT FIRST CHURCH

Church Administrator: *Jen Dooley* [welcome@fccej.org]  
Music & Choir Director: *Carol Spradling* [cspradling@fccej.org]  
Christian Education Director: *Laurie Chipman* [lchipman@fccej.org]  
Associate Pastor: *Rev. Josh Simon* [jsimon@fccej.org]  
Senior Pastor: *Rev. Mark Mendes* [mmendes@fccej.org]

### Music Ministry

Cherub Music: *Jenny Bourn* [jennybourn4@gmail.com]  
Currier Bell Choir Director: *Carolyn Harris* [899-6759]  
Finally @ First Director: *Rick Dooley* [rickdooley5@gmail.com]  
Joyful Noise: *Jessica Moos* [jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com]  
Men At First Director: *Bill Bickford, Jr.* [bill.bickford@aol.com]  
Sanctuary Choir/Heavenly Harmony Director: *Carol Spradling*[cspradling@fccej.org]

### Committee / Church Officer Contacts

President, Chair Human Resources Committee: *Carl Wermer* [879-7650]  
Vice President, Chair Finance & Pastoral Relations: *Maureen Evans* [879-7517]  
Treasurer & Historian: *Ann Gray* [878-4088]  
Asst. Treasurer: *Dan Petherbridge* [879-0261]  
Financial Secretary: *Pat Seaver* [879-4445]  
Clerk: *Alison Wermer* [879-7650]  
Christian Education: *Jenny Bourn* [802-309-7441]  
Communications: *Kevin Dorn* [777-9446]  
Deacons: *Betsy Weischedel* [922-2094], *Peter Schmalz* [202-297-3625]  
Hospitality: *Jim Glatz* [503-5076]  
Missions: *Sandy Tallman* [879-0665]  
Music: *Judy Larrabee* [236-0604]  
Nominating: *Barb Smith* [878-6866]  
Stewardship: *Kathy Finnie* [734-9688]  
Trustees: *Kevin Meilleur* [238-4041]  
Ushering:

### Recognized Groups at First Church

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop [879-6552] *Sue Wood* [suewood@myfairpoint.net](mailto:suewood@myfairpoint.net)  
Heavenly Food Pantry Contact: *Valerie Gabert* [879-0109]  
Called To Care Contact: *Beth Volker* [879-4708]  
Nepali Christian Community Contact: *Dan Raut* [310-4371]  
Craft Fest Committee Contact: *Linda Bogardus* [lbogardus@myfairpoint.net]

**WARNING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ESSEX JUNCTION, UCC  
January 27, 2019  
11:15 a.m.**

**To the members of the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction,  
GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:**

**The Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction will be held in the sanctuary of the Church on Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 11:15 a.m. to act upon the following business:**

**ARTICLE I: To hear and act upon the reports of the Church Officers, Committees and Recognized Groups of the Church.**

**ARTICLE II: To act and vote upon the proposed budget for 2019.**

**ARTICLE III: To elect all church officers and committees required by the by-laws of the Church and others as may be necessary.**

**ARTICLE IV: To see if the Church will authorize the Finance Committee to borrow money and sign notes pledging the credit of the Church, if needed, to meet the current expenses of the Church.**

**ARTICLE V: To transact any other business which may properly be brought before this Annual Meeting.**

**On behalf of the Church,  
Alison Wermer, Church Clerk**