

***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**

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The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction
United Church of Christ
April 21, 2019
Easter Sunday

A Welcoming Community,

Accepting and Serving All

In the Spirit of Christ

Order of Worship

Prelude

Prince of Denmark's March

Clarke

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.

Musical Introit by the Sanctuary Choir

Psalm 118

Haugen

The Easter Morning Story.....Luke 24:1-12 [page 68]

Leader: Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is Risen indeed!

Deacon's Prayer of Invocation

Children's Message

Returning the Alleluia's

As our children go back to their seats, let us all sing.....

**Halle, Halle, Halle..lujah [x3]
Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

***Opening Hymn**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

#233

Call to Worship

Leader: Today, we celebrate the anniversary of Jesus rising from the dead.
From the throes of defeat and despair, Jesus rose to claim victory and start a
movement that is strong and vital to the health of our world.

People: From a small band of fearful followers to a movement with faith families in every corner of the known world, Christ's message is faring favorably.....thank you very much!

Leader: We gather to celebrate Christ's victory over death, his success in founding a movement, his influence in the values embedded in our laws, and his call for all of us to follow in his ways of love.

People: Come, let us all praise our Lord as we sing a song of victory!

Pastoral Prayer and **Unison Lord's Prayer ("trespasses")**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: Let us pray.....

A Time of Silence for Personal Prayer

Sharing Our Prayers with God and Each Other

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 by the Sanctuary Choir

Amen

Dufford

The Easter Story on the Road to Emmaus.....Luke 24:13-35 [page 68]

Children's Message

Looking for the Christ Among Us

***Hymn**

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

#351

The Evening of EasterLuke 24:36-49 [page 69]

Sanctuary Choir Anthem

Ain'a That Good News

Dawson

Easter Meditation

Gotta Love Those Primitive Peoples

Rev. Mendes

Offering Our Gifts to God

Invitation, Offering, and Prayer of Dedication

Anthem

Ride On, Jesus, Ride

Spiritual

***Doxology #778**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Praise God, all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One;

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

***Closing Hymn**

For All the Saints

#299

The Last Word from Easter.....Luke 24:50-53

Children's Message

Final Blessings

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**

Trumpet Voluntary

Stanley

***Please stand if you are able.**

Deacons: Clint Russell/Pete Schmalz

The flowers on the altar are given by:

The Bero/Higgins Family in loving memory of Diana Higgins

Myrna Doney in honor of her family

The Dooley Family in loving memory of Dot & Joe Pine and Harry Dooley

Rose Drost in loving memory of Ernie Drost

*First Church in loving memory of our members we lost last year: George Dunbar,
 Carol Mauer, Alice Williams, Norman Faunce, Joyce Daniels, Gerald Nadeau,
 William Harris, Marion Ferris, Diana Higgins and Frances Christensen
 Cathie Goodheart & Tim Carney in memory of loved ones
 Kevin & Sena Meilleur in loving memory of Ed & Althea Meilleur
 Mark Mendes in loving memory of Margaret & George Mendes
 Ellen Polanshek in memory of John Polanshek, Frank & Marie Lemieux
 Carolyn Rushford in loving memory of her grandparents, Arthur & Daisy Forsythe
 Paula & Rusty Sargent in loving memory of Aunt Beth
 The Shearer Family in loving memory of Pat & Steve Shearer
 Gorden & Lauren Starkey in loving memory of Mr & Mrs Gorden Starkey Sr.
 Carolyn Toof in honor of loved ones*

First Church's Prayer Ministry

Mary Weltzin
 John A
 Carol Janwich
 Rob Fredricksen
 Mike K
 Tib T

Linda Dudley
 Judy Janwich
 Richard Ansell
 Serena & Chris Baker
 Frank Polanshek
 Judy

Karla
 Eric & Shannon
 Joe Phenix
 Meredith
 Carolyn
 family of Katherine Scott

*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, welcom@fccej.org*

*** * * TODAY * * ***



Hannaford Cards & Reloads on Sale TODAY!

**Please Join Us For Easter Breakfast
 in the Fellowship Hall until 10AM**



TODAY ~ Claussen's Cards



Claussen's gift cards make the perfect Mother's Day gift. Everyone enjoys a burst of color to celebrate this special day and the coming of warmer weather. Memorial Day is also around the corner marking the start of the planting season! Claussen's Florist and Greenhouse in Colchester is open 7 days a week and offers top quality flowering plants and perennials. Sign up in Fellowship Hall to purchase a \$30 gift card during the month of April. Cards will be available to pick up after Church services on Sun May 5th and Sun May 12th or during the week in between at the Church office.

* * * **THIS WEEK** * * *



Yoga @ First This Week

Jonah offers 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. Classes are free & 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 we get together to explore the faith. We do so through books, movies, discussions with members from other religious traditions & TED Talks. We are currently reading, Love Your Enemies: How Decent People Can Save America from the Culture of Contempt by Arthur C. Brooks. This offers a clear strategy on how to engage with those who you disagree. And most of all, it is a roadmap to arrive at the happiness that comes when we choose to love one another, despite our differences. Books are available in the office or from Josh/Mark.

Coffee Clatter Fridays 8am

This may seem like a foolish question, but if you like to talk and drink coffee, then come down to Martone's every Friday morning from 8-9 for an open conversation. Rev. Mark and/or Josh are there every week and we talk about everything from camping to politics, from deep theological questions to silly jokes, from village life to great vacation spots, from business deals to the best restaurants in town. We laugh, get serious and support each other. Everyone is invited!



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



Faith Formation Sunday School Calendar

Preschool – 8th grade

TODAY, April 21st ~ Easter Sunday ~ Intergenerational Worship

April 28th ~ Hands On Mission Sunday ~ CWS Hygiene Kits ~ Donations Needed in FH

May 5th ~ 1st Sunday Spiritual Friends with Preschool & Kindergarteners

Communion Sunday ~ Intergenerational Worship

Faith Formation Sunday School Offering 2019

Total for 2019 \$147.65

Spectrum Youth & Family Services

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



High School Youth @ FCCEJ

*Sign up to help usher & greet on the 1st Sunday of the month during 10:15am service
April 14th, 5-7pm Arcade Games & Food @ Spare Time in Colchester*

Junior Youth @ FCCEJ

5th - 8th graders gather TWICE a month Faith & Mission Focus with Fellowship/Games
Parents please stop by and sign up to help provide a meal or snack.

May 5th; 11:30-1:30 & May 19th; 3-4:30

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



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!

Jamaica Mission Trip – Collecting School Supplies

The Jamaica team is now gathering donations of school supplies to bring with us. The following items are needed at the school. Donating an item is a great way to support the school from afar! We will have a collection bin in Fellowship Hall beginning May 5th.

#2 pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, white board/dry erase markers & erasers, math manipulatives (e.g. fraction towers, base 10 magnetic cubes, time sets), children's toothbrushes

If you would like to help but prefer to make a financial contribution, please see Sharon Dettenrieder or Carolyn Rushford, or a check could be given and made payable to the church with "Jamaica school supplies" in the memo line. If you have questions about items, please contact Carolyn Rushford at cjrushford@comcast.net or 878-9593. Thank -you so much for your support!





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.

Next Food Pantry days are Thursday, April 25th, 2-6pm and Monday, May 13th, 5:30-7:30pm

We are in need of fruit juice, tomato soup, spaghetti sauce 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 April 20th & May 4th, 9 am to 1 pm
Donation Needs: All Men's Clothes

Usher/Greeter Volunteers Needed

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



Vacation Bible Camp ~ Black Table, FH for Info & Signups

TO MARS and BEYOND

Exploring Where God's Power Can Take You!

August 5-9th from 9am to 11:45am

Recruiting NOW for station leaders: Games and for Youth Helpers and Adult Group Leaders.

VB Camp Wish List ~ Donations Are Greatly Appreciated!

Bible Drama: 5 battery operated LED String Lights (clear or white); 1 Tan Paper Table Cloth, 10 rolls of Black Landscape Fabric Discover/Science: 1 box of Baking Soda; 1 box of Alka-Seltzer antacid tablets; 1 large 32oz bottle of White Vinegar; 12 oz container of Gold Glitter; 12 empty 35mm Film Canisters; 4 Children's size Safety

Goggles or Glasses Snacks: 300 Paper plates (luncheon size); 1 box of Cheerios (plain - large); 1 box of Graham Crackers; 2 bags Pirate Bootie; 1 box Hannaford Magic Star cereal; 3 bags of Pretzel sticks (small ones); 2 bags of Pretzel Twists (small ones); 1 container of Cheese Balls (Costco); 1 box of Raisins; 1 small container of Craisins; 500 white plastic small recyclable cups (Costco)

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

April 28th ~ Joe's Big Band Concert, 3pm



May 7th ~ Documentary, "Downstream", VT Children on Parent Incarceration, 6:30pm

At the Essex Cinema, the Essex Community Justice Center (ECJC) hosts Downstream, a one hour documentary featuring the compelling stories of those left behind when a parent goes to prison. Vermont children and caregivers share their experiences, revealing the complex and

emotional terrain they navigate in the wake of a parent's incarceration. ECJC serves our community through restorative justice and providing support for those who transitioning out from prison.

May 16th ~ Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be here at FCCEJ.



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



June 2nd ~ Jazz Sunday/Ice Cream Social/One Service, 9am

Be a Counselor! Share your love of God & the Outdoors!

Counsel youth on the shores of Lake Champlain for @ THE LAKE July 28th ~ Aug 2nd for Campers going into 5th – 8th. Join Laurie at Horton Center in NH and counsel youth for GOD's CO-STARs, July 14th ~ 20th for campers going into 6th – 8th grade. See Laurie for more details on both.



THIS WEEK: April 21st-27th

- SUNDAY:** **6:30 - 10:00 am** Easter Breakfast / Fellowship Hall
 8:30 am Worship Service / Sanctuary
 10:15 am Worship Service / Sanctuar
 1:00 - 2:00 pm Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
- MONDAY:** ***Office Closed***
 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
 6:30 - 9:30 pm Joe's Big Band / Fellowship Hall
 7:00 - 8:30 pm Venture Crew / Marvin Lounge
- TUESDAY:** ***Office Closed***
 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
 6:30 - 9:00 pm Sanctuary Choir / Sanctuary
 7:00 - 9:00 pm Stewardship / Fellowship Hall
 7:00 - 9:00 pm Trustees / Marvin Lounge
- WEDNESDAY:** **10:00 am - 3:00 pm** Heavenly Cents Thrift Store Open
 12:00 noon Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
 2:00 - 4:0 pm Crafty Time 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:** ***Newsletter Volunteers***
 9:00 am - 6:30 pm Heavenly Food Pantry [open2-6pm] / FH & Kitchen
 12:00 - 1:30 pm Brown Bag / Marvin Lounge
 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

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: Andrea Sharp [879-0580] or Judy McCullen [878-9794]

Deacons: Betsy Weischedel [922-2094], Peter Schmalz [202-297-3625]

Hospitality: Jim Glatz [503-5076]

Missions: Joanne Irwin [878-2528], Ed Steele [871-5897]

Music: Denise Keating [345-8900]

Nominating: Barb Smith [878-6866]

Stewardship: Jessica Moos [399-8068]

Trustees: Kevin Meilleur [238-4041]

Ushering: Jessica Moos [399-8068]

Recognized Groups at First Church

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop [879-6552] Sue Wood 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]

mission
M O M E N T S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 21, 2019

Easter

Resurrection Joy

John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

Scripture Reading

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. □□ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her. John 20:1-18

Facing the “Tombs” of our Lives

When we face life's losses, disappointments, heartbreaks, and failures, Jesus shares those with us. He also shares new life and new hope with us - resurrection. It isn't a one-time thing, but the dawning of a new day, and new life. Jesus is risen!

No matter what things look like now, this Easter morning says, “Wait. We are part of something greater than ourselves, and our lives are lived in a new age of hope.”

□ "Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of Christ risen."

--Mother Teresa