

***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
June 16, 2019**

Dedicating our Jamaican Mission Team and Trip

*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 invite people to raise celebrations to the congregation or introduce yourself or a friend as a guest. We encourage everyone to sign the Friendship Book.

Special Welcome to Laura and Eva Firkey-Cunningham as they lead music today

Musical Introit.....Lord Be Glorified

Call to Worship

Leader: This morning the sunrise was just beautiful; with the birds singing, it drew my attention toward God and the beauty our Creator brings into life.

Pulpit Side: This morning as I was eating a good and healthy breakfast, I was reminded that God's good earth offers us sustenance in abundance.

Lectern Side: This morning I observed how mature my child has become and how grateful I am to God for the wonder of intellect, wisdom and growth.

Pulpit Side: This morning my dog joyfully greeted me with wagging tail and willing heart and I recognized in those actions God's unearned grace.

Lectern Side: This morning as I read the paper, the interconnectedness of my life with all others came to me afresh knowing that the very spirit of the Divine makes us one.

Leader: This morning the Spirit of God called upon me to step into its reality and reflect on the blessings in my life. God’s lessons and blessings were all around me, thanks be to our God.

Opening Hymn

Guide My Feet

[handout]

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

Children’s Message

During service, Jennifer will be in the Nursery for three and under. There is audio to hear the worship service and the service is streamed to Fellowship Hall. Today is Intergenerational Worship. There are items in the Narthex for busy hands.

**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.**

Pastoral Prayer and **Unison Lord’s Prayer (“trespasses”)**

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.....Lord Be Glorified

* *Hymn*

Cry of My Heart

[insert]

Commissioning our Jamaican Mission Trip Participants [insert]

Nolan Boerger
Christine Dewey
Rick Dooley
Caitlin McGeary
Mark Mendes
Emma Parker
Pete Schmalz
Aliyah Watt

Sharon Dettenrieder
David Dewey
Sam Dooley
Kaki McGeary
Nicholas Mendes
Carolyn Rushford
Zach Schmalz

Scripture Reading.....Old Testament Wisdom Proverbs 8:1-36 [page 458]

Musical Anthem *When I Look at You* Cyrus

Summer Meditation *The Spirit of God, Again* Rev. Mendes

Offering Our Gifts to God

Invitation, Offering, and Prayer of Dedication

Anthem Grateful 13 Crowns

*The 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.

*Hymn **We Are Called** [insert]

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 is 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.
God now in peace, in faith and in love**

*Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.
Deacons: Jonah Moos & Clint Russel

*The flowers on the altar are given by
Judy Allen in honor of her grandchildren Ethan, Rachel and Eloise.*

First Church's Prayer Ministry

John A
Carol Janwich
Mary Weltzin
Mike K
Judy
Nancy Hunt's Family

Judy Janwich
Richard Ansell
Serena & Chris Baker
Frank Polanshek
Mark McKenzie & family
Tom McKenzie & family

Eric & Shannon
Joe Phenix
Linda Dudley
Carolyn
Tib T

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@fceej.org

Hannaford Cards & Reloads on Sale Today!

Former Bell Ringers

Please make an effort to return your maroon vest to the Church Office or to Carol Spradling. Thank you.

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!

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 FCEJ.

Wednesday Night Searchers

We'll meet for two more weeks before taking a summer hiatus. We'll wrap up with watching "When They See Us," a new dramatization of what happened to the Central Park Five. There are four episodes that we'll watch over the course of June 19 and 26. We'll discuss racism, criminal justice and other topics that present themselves as we watch.

Please join us!

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!

Faith Formation Sunday School Calendar

Preschool – 8th grade

June 9th – September 1st ~ Intergenerational 9am Worship

Kids may bring a parent to FH and watch the service while you spend time being creative.

Colored bin of activities - crafts, puzzle, etc. will be by the Nursery door.

September 8th ~ Welcome Back Sunday ~ Picnic & Bouncy House on the Lawn

2019-20 Faith Formation Family Calendar will be available by September ~ more news in August.

* * * **TODAY** * * *



Faith Formation Sunday School Offering 2019

Total for 2019 \$213.28

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.

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 have a collection bin in Fellowship Hall.

#2 pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, dry erase markers & erasers,

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

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!

Your Jamaican Mission Trip Team Members

Nolan Boerger, Sharon Dettenrieder, Christine Dewey, Dave Dewey, Rick Dooley, Sam Dooley, Caitlin McGeary, Kaki McGeary, Mark Mendes, Nicholas Mendes, Emma Parker, Carolyn Rushford, Pete Schmalz, Zach Schmalz, Aliyah Watt

Dismas House Meal Volunteers

Folks have signed up to prepare a salad and a dessert for the June 26th meal at Dismas House, but we need a person to prepare the entrée. If you would like to do this, please sign the sign-up sheet on the wall as you pass through on your way from the Sanctuary to FH. Your help will be much appreciated. For more information, call Ed Steele at (802) 871-5897 or email at edwardmsteele@msn.com.

Next Food Pantry day is Thursday, June 27th, 2-6pm

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



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

Also Open: Saturday June 15th 9 am to 1 pm

Donation Needs: All Men's Clothes



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



Usher/Greeter Volunteers Needed

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

Recruitment has begun for 2019-20 Faith Formation Volunteers

Many ways to support First Church kids and youth:

Nursery Volunteers
Sunday Spiritual Friends
Peer Class Leaders & Helpers
Hands-On Mission Helpers

- I am willing to help our children and youth at church to continue to grow in their faith
- I know it's OK to not have all the answers, but a willingness to learn and grow in the faith
- I feel that the FCCEJ Faith Formation programs are a vital part of this church and I am willing to support it with my time and talents

If these statements hold true for YOU, please connect with Laurie
for more information...we need YOU!

Vacation Bible Camp

TO MARS and BEYOND:
Exploring Where God's Power Can Take You!
August 5th to 9th from 9:00 to 11:45 am

Registration forms are here! Pick yours up today & mark your calendars for this really fun week!

All are Welcome!

You & Me Toddlers (attend with parent/adult)
Pre K—5th grade (grade you are entering in the fall);
Youth Helpers (6th grade & up) & Adult helpers.

We use many of the rooms throughout the church, welcome in and form a community of children, youth and parents who all have a great time learning, growing and celebrating our faith each morning of camp week. Any questions about our program or volunteering, please connect with Laurie.



Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

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

Your Jamaican Mission Trip Team Members

Nolan Boerger, Sharon Dettenrieder, Christine Dewey, Dave Dewey, Rick Dooley, Sam Dooley, Caitlin McGeary, Kaki McGeary, Mark Mendes, Nicholas Mendes, Emma Parker, Carolyn Rushford, Pete Schmalz, Zach Schmalz, Aliyah Watt



August 5-9 ~ Vacation Bible Camp 2019

To Mars and Beyond: Explore Where God's Power Can Take You!

Continue to Support JUMP

Part of our church's mission to JUMP (Joint Urban Ministry Project) is to provide feminine hygiene products. Our Red Tent Project has been very successful, but we need to be sure to keep the tent full, especially in summer when we may not be in church as often. The need continues no matter the season. The population that JUMP serves seems to prefer pads. These are people on the margins of society...single mothers, New Americans, singled Dads with teen age daughters, etc. The gifts can make a huge difference for a woman being able to keep a job or a girl staying in school. The Red Tent is usually in the Marvin Lounge, but may also be in Fellowship Hall on Sundays. Thanks for your generosity in keeping it full!



THIS WEEK: June 16th - June 22nd

- SUNDAY:** **9:00 am Worship Service /Sanctuary**
10:15 - 1:15pm By-Laws meeting / Marvin Lounge
1:00 - 2:00 pm Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
- MONDAY:** 12:00 - 1:30 pm Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
1:30 - 4:00 pm Food Pantry Stocking / Fellowship Hall & Gym
4:00 - 8:00 pm Food Pantry / Fellowship Hall & Kitchen
5:30 - 6:30 pm Group Victory / Third Floor
6:00 - 7:30pm Boy Scout Alumni / Marvin Lounge
6:30 - 9:30 pm Joe's Big Band / Fellowship Hall
- TUESDAY:** **8:30 - 10:00 am Sermon Talk Back / Marvin Lounge**
10:00 am-3:00 pm Heavenly Cents Thrift Store
12:00 - 1:30 Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
5:30 - 6:45 pm Yoga w/Jonah / Fellowship Hall
7:00—8:30 pm Mission Committee
6:30 - 8:30pm Eagle Scout Board Review / Third Floor
- WEDNESDAY:** **8:00 - 11:30am Food Shelf Delivery / Fellowship Hall**
10:00 am-3:00 pm Heavenly Cents Thrift Store
12:00 - 1:30 pm Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
6:30 - 7:30pm Pack 630 Lion Den / Third Floor
7:00 - 9:00pm Wednesday Night Searchers / Marvin Lounge
7:00 - 8:30pm Boy Scouts / Fellowship Hall
7:00 - 8:30pm Jamaica Team Packing / Second Floor Gathering Room
- THURSDAY:** 12:00 - 1:30 pm Brown Bag / Marvin Lounge
3:00 - 4:00 pm Easter Seals Clinician Meeting / Third Floor
4:00 - 8:00 pm Heavenly Cents Thrift Store
- FRIDAY:** 12:00 - 1:30 pm Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall
- SATURDAY:** 9:00 - 11:00 am Nepali Community Worship & Meal / Sanctuary & FH
1:00 - 2:00 pm Brown Bag / Fellowship Hall

MINISTRY AT FIRST CHURCH

Church Administrator: [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 [238-2713]
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
U N I T E D C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

June 16, 2019.....Trinity Sunday

Wisdom Calls

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Father's Day

School is out and, in the northern hemisphere at least, summer stretches ahead, full of the promise of rest and warmth, rejuvenation and wonder. Maybe you are youthful, and the promise of summer break is so new and fresh for you that you are practically bursting with the excitement of it. Or maybe you are in the middle of life, balancing care for children and elders with work and hobbies, even in the summer. Or maybe you are later in life, and the time for both school and work is past and summer is a season like the others.

Wherever you are on life's journey, listen! Lady Wisdom is calling you. She is calling out in the places you are most likely to be, she is trying to get your attention. What does she want to tell you? "I was there in the beginning," she sings, "delighting and rejoicing in creation."

Wisdom blows into our lives in a rush of joy and pleasure. On this Trinity Sunday, she reminds us that the magnificent labor of the Creator and the redeeming love of the Savior are only two parts of the divine purpose. Wisdom's part – enjoying creation as it unfolds and wandering, without direction but with confidence in the beauty of the divinity – is just as potent.

Wisdom is at the creator's side when all the sweaty-browed work of creation is being done, and Wisdom knows her place is at the Creator's side. She delights in creation but doesn't feel a need to do anything. And you know what? The Creator doesn't demand it of her. Maybe Wisdom is showing us that the Creator doesn't demand action all the time from us either. Even if school isn't out for you, you can still take a summer break. Soak in the wisdom of Wisdom, just be in and with creation. Find a moment or a month where there is nothing to do but rejoice in the Creator.

"Life is this simple. We are living in a world that is absolutely transparent, and God is shining through it all the time," writes the mystic Thomas Merton. Take Wisdom's lesson today. See God's shining and delight in it.

Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Sustainer, Redeemer, Creator. Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver.*
Lover, Beloved, Love. Holy Three in One, immerse us this day in mystery and wonder, and send us forth into your beautiful creation, ready to delight in it. Amen.

*From the New Zealand Prayer Book, published by Harper Collins, 1997.

