



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH *of Essex Junction*

Love. Serve. Grow.

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.

1 Church Street Essex Junction, VT 05452

Phone: 802-878-5745

Fax: 802-872-8236

Website: www.fccej.org

E-mail: welcome@fccej.org

Facebook Messenger: m.me/firstcongregationalej



Teleworship & Fellowship Services

We recommend that you review our worship bulletins ahead of time. They serve as primers for your participation; and all are welcome to participate! To access our worship bulletins, visit this link: <https://www.fccej.org/v5/category/bulletins/>

- ⊕ **Sunday Worship** at 9:00am *through the summer months* @ YouTube via <https://bit.ly/3eIhV9P>
- ⊕ **Fellowship Hour**, after Sunday Service at 10:30am @ <https://zoom.us/j/980588369>
- ⊕ **Saturday Worship**, 1st Saturday of Each Month at 4:30pm (*recess in July and August*) @ <http://zoom.us/j/403773331>
- ⊕ **Daily Devotionals**, Weekdays 8am and 8pm @ <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>
- ⊕ **Sermon Talk Back**, Tuesday at 8:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>
- ⊕ **Outdoor Pastoral Visits**, Wednesdays at 10am @ Church Grounds (Parking Lot and Thrift Shop.)
- ⊕ **Prayer Circle**, Wednesdays at 7:30pm @ <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731198775>
- ⊕ **Coffee Clatter**, Thursdays at 8am @ <https://zoom.us/j/97659276694>

Church Committees utilize Zoom as-needed. Please, contact the relevant committee chair for details. *Don't have a webcam?* No problem! Visit our Facebook Events page and click your desired event for a list of phone numbers that you can call to join by telephone/cellphone. (There are numbers for people living nationally and internationally): <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/events/>

Ways to Donate to Our Church

- ✓ **Shop at Amazon.com** using *Amazon Smile*. We receive 0.5% of your purchases! <http://smile.amazon.com> Search “First Congregational Church of Essex Junction” in the “Charities” section.
 - ✓ **Send a Check or BillPay-ment!** Your donation will support the many ministries of the church including music, youth programming, missions, adult enrichment opportunities such as Sermon Talkback and JOY, the Jamaica Mission Trip, Essex Eats Out, and more. We are also a United Church of Christ “5 for 5” participant in these fundraisers: *Per Capita* (\$14/member is our goal), *One Great Hour of Sharing*, *Strengthen The Church*, *Neighbors In Need* and *The Christmas Fund*. You simply add “FCCEJ” as a payee, and then you can schedule a one-time payment or recurring payments.
 - Check payments are secure and should be sent to our Financial Secretary, Pat Seaver. Please, note your reason for donating in the memo line of your check (e.g. “food pantry”, “memorial fund”, etc.) Mail checks to:
 - *Attn: Financial Secretary*, FCCEJ, 1 Church Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452
 - BillPay is a service provided by most banks. They will send either a one-time or recurring check payment at whatever amount you desire. Please contact your banking institution to set up Bill Pay.
 - ✓ **Use PayPal!** General donations can be made by credit card through PayPal. Follow this link: paypal.me/fccej. A PayPal account is not required to donate money. *Questions about your payment? Do you wish to increase your pledge?* Contact Pat by emailing her at vttri2@aol.com
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June 28th, 2020
Live Streaming
Order of Worship

Introductory Music

Begins at 9:00 a.m. with music and pre-worship notes

Announcements will be shown on screen

As worship begins:

Light a candle at home,

Sit in a comfortable spot,

Center yourself w/ breathing.

Lighting the Candle

Service Input Preparation: Text NOW to make the service run more smoothly.

- 1 Thankfulness:** *Text Rev. Mark one thought of gratitude [802 922-1773]*
- 2 Kid's Names:** *Text Rev. Mark your child's name for Children's Message*
- 3 Prayer Requests:** *Text Rev. Mark one thought of gratitude [802 922-1773]*

Welcome

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

An Opening Reading on Gratitude [w/ congregation sharing – text in]

A Few Key Announcements

**Pleased to have Doug Olufsen and Judy Larrabee
Leading music today**

Rev. Mark will be on vacation in July; Josh on call

Musical Introit.....Blessed are the Pure in Heart by Doug Olufsen

Meeting and Greetings Along the Road...

John and Donna Burnett

Joyce Jacobs

Prayer of Invocation by Deacon Gary Hartman

Opening Hymn.....I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

**I sing a song of the saint of God, faithful their whole lives through,
Who bravely labored, lived and died for the God they loved and knew
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and another a shepherd in pastures green,
They were saints of God, if you know what I mean
God, help me to be one too.**

(Song continues on next page...)

**The loved their God and they lived that love.
It was loving that made them strong.
They did what was right for Jesus' sake, lived justly their whole lives long.
And one was a prophet, and one was a priest,
and another was slain by a fierce wild beast.
There is no earthly reason, none in the least,
why I shouldn't be one too.**

**They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands strong.
The world is filled with living saints who choose to do God's will.
You can meet them in school, on the road, or at seas,
in a church, in a train, in a shop or at tea;
For the saints are folk like you and like me,
and I mean to be one too.**

Children's Message

Meeting and Greetings Along the Road..... Sue and Steve Wood

Offering our Gifts to God

Invitation

Anthem.....In Joyful Song by Doug Olufsen and Judy Larrabee

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

**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.**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Text the prayers you want the minister to include during the prelude: Rev. Mark @ 802 922-1773

Sacred Readings: I Samuel 3.....*The Call of Samuel the Prophet of God*

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

(Reading continues on next page...)

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your servant is listening.’ Then the Lord said to Samuel, ‘See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.’

Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, ‘Samuel, my son.’ He said, ‘Here I am.’ Eli said, ‘What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.’ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, ‘It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him.’

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the Lord.

Anthem.....Faith to Carry On by Judy and Doug

Sermon

Listening for the Call

Rev. Mark Mendes

*If you have any questions about the scripture or the sermon,
feel free to text them at any time during the sermon at 802 922-1773.*

Video on Finding God [email from Mark via Pat Boyden]

Closing Hymn.....Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us

**Like a mother who has borne us, help us close in her delight
Fed us freely from her body, God has called us into life.**

**Like a father who has taught us, grasped our hand and been our guide,
Lifted us and healed our sorrows, God has walked with us in life.**

**Though as children we have wandered, placed our trust in power and might
Left behind our brothers, sisters, God still calls us into life.**

**When we offer food and comfort, grasp our neighbor’s hand in love.
Tread the path of peace and justice, God still walks with us in life.**

Benediction and blowing out our candles

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.**

**Announcements and Zoom Fellowship Hour: meeting ID # 980 588 369
OR click this link: <https://bit.ly/31dXQ76>**

Our Prayer Ministry

Richard Ansell	Nancy Allen & Family	Graham Sicalowski (Lauren Starkey's son)
Susan Flynn	Regina (Steve Gorniak)	Christine Sinkewicz
Diane & Sara (Cathie Goodheart)	Muriel Dandurand (Doug Ovitt's grandmother)	Kristin (Wayne & Nancy Hall's daughter)
Eric Lindholm	<i>Those defending us from or harmed by the Coronavirus</i>	Leo Martel's Family

Prayer Requests may be emailed to welcome@fccej.org. If you wish for the prayer recipient's name to be acknowledged during worship services, please, send your request many days in advance so that we may accommodate you.

The altar flowers are given by
Amy Trimble McIntyre
In memory of Robert Trimble

Flowers may be retrieved by their respective buyers. Please, contact the church by calling 1 (802) 878-5745 ext. 100; or email welcome@fccej.org.

Announcements

Have something important to share with the congregation? Contact the church office by emailing your announcement to welcome@fccej.org. If you want an announcement televised during worship, then please, send a photographic representation of your announcement in either .jpg or .png file formats to jsimon@fccej.org.

We distribute a **weekly** eNewsletter! Visit this link to read this week's important announcements: <https://mailchi.mp/fccej/2020-weekly-update-26>

We also distribute a **monthly** eNewsletter called SPIRIT@FIRST. Visit this link to read the latest issue: <https://www.fccej.org/v5/category/newsletters/>

Visit this link to subscribe to our newsletters!

<https://bit.ly/2Yxi7TF>

Ministry Directory

Church Staff

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

Music Ministry

Cherub Music: Jenny Bourn [jennybourn4@gmail.com] & Laura Marthaler [Laura.marthaler@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: Maureen Evans [233-6127]
Vice President, Chair Finance & Pastoral Relations: Cathy Shearer [878-6023]
Treasurer & Historian: Ann Gray [878-4088]
Asst. Treasurer: Dan Petherbridge [879-0261]
Financial Secretary: Pat Seaver [879-4445]
Clerk: Christine Sinkewicz [878-4470]
Christian Education: Lisa Clark [872-5849]
Communications: Andrea Sharp [879-0580], Judy McCullen [878-9794]
Deacons: Judy Larrabee-Pomainville [802-236-0604]
Hospitality: Jim Glatz [503-5076]
Missions: Joanne Irwin [878-2528], Ed Steele [871-5897]
Music: Denise Keating [345-8900]
Nominating: Barb Smith [310-2491]
Stewardship: Jessica Moos [399-8068], Shannon McCullen [922-8792]
Trustees: Kaki McGeary [879-2062]
Ushering: Justin King [238-6273], Jessica Moos [399-8068]

Recognized Groups at First Church

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop Sue Wood [879-6552] OR woodsusanjane@gmail.com
Heavenly Food Pantry Contact: Valerie Gabert [879-0109]