



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.

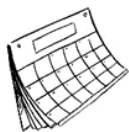
**1 Church Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

Phone: 802-878-5745 **Fax:** 802-872-8236 **E-mail:** welcome@fccej.org

Website: www.fccej.org



Worship Services & Intergenerational Activities



Visit this link to view our official calendar of events: <http://fcej.org/v5/calendar>

You may also visit our Facebook events page: <http://facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/events/>

We offer regular worship and fellowship opportunities, too! These include:

- ⊕ **Worship, Sundays at 9am (10am starting September 13th) @ <http://youtube.com/c/fcej>**
- ⊕ **Fellowship Hour, after Worship at 10:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/980588369>**
- ⊕ **Faith Formation, Monthly on 2nd Sunday at 9am @ Church**
- ⊕ **Daily Devotionals, Weekdays 8am and 8pm @ <http://facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>**
- ⊕ **Sermon Talk Back, Tuesday at 8:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>**
- ⊕ **Outdoor Pastoral Visits, Wednesdays at 1pm @ Church Grounds**
- ⊕ **Coffee Clatter, Thursdays at 8am @ <http://zoom.us/j/97659276694>**

Ways to Donate to Our Church

Your donation could support our music, youth programming (e.g. Vacation Bible Camp), missions (e.g. Jamaica Missions), adult enrichment (e.g. Sermon Talkback, JOY), Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, and more! We are also a United Church of Christ “5 for 5” participant in these fundraisers: Per Capita (\$14.10/member is our goal), One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen The Church, Neighbors In Need and The Christmas Fund. We appreciate this fundraising now more than ever! Here are some ways that you may help our ministry:

- ⊕ **Shop at Amazon.com** using Amazon Smile. We receive 0.5% of your purchases! Visit <http://smile.amazon.com> ... navigate to the “Charities” section and search for “First Congregational Church of Essex Junction”
- ⊕ **Send a Check or use BillPay!** Your bank might offer Billpay, a remote service that issues one-time or recurring check payments by mail. Please, contact your banking institution for more details. All checks should be made payable to “FCCEJ.” Be sure to note the reason for your donation in the check’s memo line (e.g. “food pantry”).
- ⊕ **Use PayPal!** We accept electronic donations through PayPal. Visit our donation page: paypal.me/fcej. A PayPal account is not required to donate money!
- ⊕ **Hannaford Gift Cards are still available!** The church receives \$5 for each \$100 Gift Card we sell or reload. Want to get started? Email Doug, our Church Administrator, for details: welcome@fcej.org.

*Questions about your payment?
Do you wish to increase your pledge?*
Contact our Financial Secretary, Pat Seaver,
by email vtri2@aol.com

Please, mail payments to:
Attn: Financial Secretary
FCCEJ
1 Church Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Order of Worship

August 30th, 2020: Live Streaming

Introductory Music

Begins at 8:45 a.m.

Announcements will be shown on screen

Pre-worship music begins approx. 5 minutes before 9am

As worship begins:

Light a candle at home,

Sit in a comfortable spot,

Center yourself w/ breathing.

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

Thankfulness: *Text Rev. Mark one thought of gratitude [802 922-1773]*

Prayer Requests: *Text Rev. Mark one thought of gratitude [802 922-1773]*

Prelude

Welcome

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

Welcoming God’s Light into Worship

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

A Few Key Announcements

Wednesday afternoons @ 1pm pastoral visits in Parking Lot
or scheduled walks
or talks under the shade of a tree
or simply call us up

Morning/Evening Devotions [webpage]

Fall Schedule Starting September 13th

Faith Formation from 9 – 9:30 a.m.

2nd Sunday of Month On Site in Parking Lot

Sept. 13th: Fall Kick Off & Bible Sunday

Oct. 11th Blessings of the Animals

Nov. 8th Communion

The other Sundays of the Month will be on webpage

With activities, videos and stories [Like VBCamp]

(Key Announcements continued on next page...)

Worship will continue to be streamed but at 10 a.m.

Music: Carol, F@F and Sanctuary Choir

As always great to have Jonah Moos, Gary Hartman, Ed Guild, Francis Gravel
and Josh Simon orchestrating the technology today.

Musical Introit

Meeting and Greetings Along the Road

Joanne Irwin
Brian & Laurie Chipman

Prayer of Invocation by Deacon Lauren Starkey

Opening Hymn by Finally@First Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

**Lord, I lift Your name on high
Lord, I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us**

**You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord, I lift Your name on high**

Children's Message by Laurie Chipman, *CE Director*

Meeting and Greetings Along the Road

Maryann Carlson & Jeff Nowell
Tessa Nowell

Offering our Gifts to God

Invitation

Anthem

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: Exodus 3:1-15

Moses' Call at the Burning Bush

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, 'I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.' But Moses said to God, 'Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?' He said, 'I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain.'

The Divine Name Revealed

But Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your ancestors has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I am who I am.' He said further, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "I am has sent me to you."' God also said to Moses, 'Thus you shall say to the Israelites, "The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you":

This is my name for ever,
and this my title for all generations.

Anthem by Finally @ First

We Are Called

David Haas

Sermon

"What's Your Calling?"

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.*

**I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.**

**He speaks, and the sound of his voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing.
And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.**

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: bit.ly/31dXQ76

Our Prayer Ministry

Richard Ansell	Nancy Allen & Family	Kristin (Wayne & Nancy Hall's daughter)
Eric Lindholm	Judy Allen's Niece	Leo Martel's Family
Shera (Andrea Goedken's friend)	Jane Schneider & Family	Muriel Dandurand (Doug Ovitt's grandmother)
Jane (Myrna Doney's friend)	Colonel John Dyke	Sharon & Her Mother (Pat Seaver's Family)
Ines Eley & Family	All persons affected by the Coronavirus	

Please, email your prayer requests to welcome@fccej.org or call 1 (802) 878-5745 ext. 100. If you need a compassionate ear, you may call Pastor Mendes (802-922-1773) or Pastor Simon (920-858-6601) directly. As a courtesy to the pastors, please reserve calls during the late night or early morning hours for emergencies only.



The altar flowers are given by
Joanne Irwin
In loving memory of Alan Irwin

Flowers may be retrieved by their respective buyers. Please, contact our staff: 1(802)878-5745 ext. 100 or email welcome@fccej.org.

Announcements

Our “Updates” weekly eNewsletter contains important weekly announcements about Food Pantry, Thrift Shop, Capital Campaign Updates, and more! Hard copies will be available when in-person worship returns to our Sanctuary: <https://mailchi.mp/fccej/2020-weekly-update-5815744>

Our “SPIRIT@FIRST” monthly newsletter is available by “snail mail” and email. Hard copies are available at church, too. Visit this link to read our latest issue: fccej.org/v5/category/newsletters/

Visit Us Online! —>

Have something important to share?
Please, email your announcement to Doug Ovitt, Church Administrator: 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 format to jsimon@fccej.org.



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FCCEJ.ORG

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Mark Mendes [mmendes@fccej.org]

Associate Pastor: Rev. Josh Simon [jsimon@fccej.org]

Christian Education Director: Laurie Chipman [lchipman@fccej.org]

Music Director: Carol Spradling [cspradling@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 [878-3068] OR woodsusanjane@gmail.com

Heavenly Food Pantry Contact: Valerie Gabert [879-0109]