



# 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.*

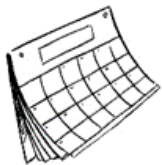
**1 Church Street  
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

**Phone:** 802-878-5745 **Fax:** 802-872-8236 **Website:** [www.fccej.org](http://www.fccej.org)

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



# Worship Services & Intergenerational Activities



Visit this link to view our official calendar of events: <http://fccej.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:

- ⊕ **Sunday Worship** at 9:00am via Teleworship @ <http://youtube.com/c/fccej>
- ⊕ **Fellowship Hour**, after Sunday Service at 10:30am @ <http://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 @ <http://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 @ <http://us02web.zoom.us/j/84731198775>
- ⊕ **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/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”). Payments should be mailed to:  
**Attn: Financial Secretary, FCCEJ, 1 Church Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452**
- ⊕ **Use PayPal!** We accept electronic donations through PayPal. Visit our donation page: [paypal.me/fccej](http://paypal.me/fccej). 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@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org).

*Questions about your payment? Do you wish to increase your pledge? Contact our Financial Secretary, Pat Seaver, by email at [vtri2@aol.com](mailto:vtri2@aol.com)*

# Order of Worship

## August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020: Live Streaming

### Communion Sunday

#### Introductory Music

*Begins at 8:45 a.m. with music and pre-worship notes  
Announcements will be shown on screen*

#### Prepare for Worship

*Find 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]

**Kid's Names:** Text Rev. Mark your child's name for Children's Message

**Prayer Requests:** Text Rev. Josh one thought of gratitude [920 858-6601]

#### Prelude

Open our Eyes/Be Thou My Vision/Savior Like a Shepard Lead Us

#### Welcome

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

#### Lighting the Candles: Welcoming God's Light into Worship

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

#### A Few Key Announcements

Wednesday morning @ 10 am pastoral visits  
or scheduled walks  
or talks under the shade of a tree

Wednesday Evening Prayer [Zoom]  
Morning/Evening Devotions [webpage]

Ed Steele and Dismas House help

Now, perhaps more than ever, the residents of Dismas House need our help. The Church's support of this program has become complicated by the fact that we can no longer pass around a sign-up sheet at a Church service for volunteers to sign. To overcome that complication, we are using this means to ask for three volunteers to prepare food for the fourth Wednesday of this month, June 24. One volunteer will need to prepare an entrée, a second a salad, and a third a dessert.

Whereas we volunteers used to sit down and enjoy a meal with residents of Dismas House when we brought food, that is no longer the case. To protect residents of Dismas House, as well as ourselves, from

*(Key Announcements continue on next page...)*

acquiring the coronavirus, one of us simply collects the food and drops it off at Dismas House without entering the house.

We welcome as participants new volunteers, as well as experienced ones. We will give new volunteers all the help they need to participate in the program. Please feel free to contact me by phone or email for details. Ed Steele, the Church's facilitator for the program. P: (802) 871-5897 E: [edwardmsteele@msn.com](mailto:edwardmsteele@msn.com)

Church Tours / Nearly New Sale / Thrift Shop Porch Sale  
Saturday August 22nd [drop off at 7:30 a.m. that day]  
Tours with reservations

Pleased to have Denise Keating leading music today

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

Church's social media: YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Website, Newsletters

**Musical Introit**

Care Chorus

Kelly Willard  
Perf. by Denise Keating

**Meeting and Greetings Along the Road.....**Ed and Anita Guild

**Prayer of Invocation** by Deacon Amy McIntyre

**Opening Hymn**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

**Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew  
That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
Until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, stir in me one desire,  
That every earthly part of me may glow with holy fire.**

**Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die,  
But live with you the perfect life of your eternity.**

**Children's Message** [taped by Laurie Chipman]

**Meeting and Greetings Along the Road.....**Art and Mary Winslow

**Offering our Gifts to God**

**Invitation**

**Anthem**

You Are Mine

David Haas

Perf. by Denise Keating

**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. Josh @ 920 858-6601

**Sacred Readings:** Genesis 37-47 "Joseph's Narrative"

**Anthem by Denise Keating**

**Sermon**

"Familial Reconciliation"

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.*

**Closing Hymn**

There is a Balm in Gilead

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul**

**Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.  
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul**

**Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
Who if you ask for knowledge, will never fail to lend.  
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul**

**If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus who died to save us all.  
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul"**

## **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](https://bit.ly/31dXQ76)

# Our Prayer Ministry

Richard Ansell

Nancy Allen & Family

Kristin (Wayne & Nancy Hall's daughter)

Eric Lindholm

Regina (Steve Gorniak)

Leo Martel's Family

Shera (Andrea Goedken's friend)

Judy Allen's Niece

Muriel Dandurand (Doug Ovitt's grandmother)

Jane (Myrna Doney's friend)

Jane Schneider & Family

Sharon & Her Mother (Pat Seaver's Family)

Ines Eley & Family

## **Those defending us or harmed by the Coronavirus**

**Prayer Requests** may be emailed to [welcome@fccej.org](mailto: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



## Altar Flowers

*The altar flowers are given*

*Anonymously*

*In loving memory of Max Elliott.*



**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](mailto:welcome@fccej.org).

## Announcements

- ⊕ Our "FCCEJ Weekly Updates" eNewsletter now contains important weekly announcements about our Heavenly Food Pantry, Heavenly Cents 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-32>
- ⊕ Our monthly "SPIRIT@FIRST" 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/](https://fccej.org/v5/category/newsletters/)
- ⊕ **Find us on social media!**



**FCCEJ**

[youtube.com/c/fccej](https://www.youtube.com/c/fccej)



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**@1STCHURCHEJ**

[twitter.com/1stChurchEJ](https://twitter.com/1stChurchEJ)



**FCCEJ.ORG**

*Have something important to share?*

Please, email your announcement to Doug Ovitt, Church Administrator: [welcome@fccej.org](mailto: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](mailto:jsimon@fccej.org).

# MINISTRY DIRECTORY

## Church Staff

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Mark Mendes [[mmendes@fccej.org](mailto:mmendes@fccej.org)]

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Josh Simon [[jsimon@fccej.org](mailto:jsimon@fccej.org)]

**Christian Education Director:** Laurie Chipman [[lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org)]

**Music Director:** Carol Spradling [[cspradling@fccej.org](mailto:cspradling@fccej.org)]

**Church Administrator:** Doug Ovitt [[welcome@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org)]

## Music Ministry

**Cherub Music:** Jenny Bourn [[jennybourn4@gmail.com](mailto:jennybourn4@gmail.com)] & Laura Marthaler [[Laura.marthaler@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.marthaler@gmail.com)]

**Currier Bell Choir Director:** Carolyn Harris [899-6759]

**Finally @ First Director:** Rick Dooley [[rickdooley5@gmail.com](mailto:rickdooley5@gmail.com)]

**Joyful Noise:** Jessica Moos [[jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com](mailto:jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com)]

**Men At First Director:** Bill Bickford, Jr. [[bill.bickford@aol.com](mailto:bill.bickford@aol.com)]

**Sanctuary Choir/Heavenly Harmony Director:** Carol Spradling [[cspradling@fccej.org](mailto: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](mailto:woodsusanjane@gmail.com)

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