



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.

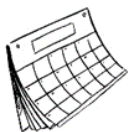
**1 Church Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

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

Website: www.fccej.org



WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Visit this link to view our official calendar of events: <http://fccej.org/v5/calendar>
...and our Facebook events page: <http://facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/events/>
We offer regular worship and fellowship opportunities, too! These include:

- ⊕ **Worship**, Sundays at 10am (Communion: Monthly, 1st Sundays) @ <http://youtube.com/c/fcej>
- ⊕ **Fellowship Hour**, after Worship @ <http://zoom.us/j/980588369>
- ⊕ **Faith Formation**, Monthly on 2nd Sunday at 9am @ Church Grounds
- ⊕ **Daily Devotionals**, Weekdays 8am and 8pm @ <http://facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>
- ⊕ **Sermon Talk Back**, Tuesday at 8:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>
- ⊕ **Coffee Clatter**, Thursdays at 8am @ <http://zoom.us/j/97659276694>
- ⊕ **Noontime Book Group**, 3rd Monday at 11:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/626841083>

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 smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0212216
- ⊕ **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@fccej.org or call 1(802)878-5745 ext. 100.
- ⊕ **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”).

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



2021 Stewardship Campaign:
Welcome to the Journey
Part 2

Visit this link to read more:
<https://bit.ly/3k77SO1>

Order of Worship

October 18th, 2020: Live Streaming

Introductory Music

Begins at 9:45 a.m.

Announcements will be shown on screen

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. Josh your Prayer Request [920 858-6601]*

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

Pastoral visits w/ Revs. Mark or Josh [Call and set up]

Morning/Evening Devotions [webpage]

Executive Committee postponed in person worship to Nov 29th

First Sunday of Advent

Re-evaluate in mid Nov w/ new information

Faith Formation from 9 – 9:30 a.m. EVERY WEEK

2nd Sunday of Month On Site in Parking Lot

Nov. 8th Communion

CROP Walk TODAY: walk here or on own

Cider and donuts the day of

Music: Carol, F@F and Sanctuary Choir

As always great to have Jonah Moos, Gary Hartman, Ed Guild,

Francis Gravel and Rev. Josh Simon orchestrating the technology today.

Musical Introit

Meeting & Greetings Along the Road..... The Dooley Family
The Frisbie Family

Prayer of Invocation by Deacon Pete Schmalz

Opening Hymn

Here I am to Worship

by Finally @ First

**Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You**

**Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God**

**You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me**

**King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor**

**Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God**

**You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me**

**Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me
Here I am...**

Meetings and Greetings Along the Way.....The Ehler Family

Stewardship Week Two: Laurie Chipman

Stewardship Video and Invitation by Laurie Chipman
Theme: Singing God's Song in a Foreign Land
Scripture: Psalm 137:1-4
Sharing Why We Give Video: Ginny Coe
Closing Comments and Prayer by Laurie Chipman
Doxology

**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..... Rev. Mark Mendes

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

Anthem

Hymn of Promise

by the Sanctuary Choir

Sacred Readings: Gal 3:19-29; 4:18-19; 5:13-15

Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one.

Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law. But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

It is good to be made much of for a good purpose at all times, and not only when I am present with you. My little children, for whom I am again in the pain of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Sermon

“Becoming One with Christ”

Rev. Josh Simon

Closing Hymn

In Christ There is No East or West

Organ Solo, #394
by Carol Spradling

**In Christ there is no East or West,
in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
God's service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.**

**In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek,
and neither slave nor free;
For men and women live in God,
and all are kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both East and West,
in Christ meet South and North;
One joyous, true community
throughout the whole wide earth.**

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 bit.ly/31dXQ76

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

Please, email your prayer requests to welcome@fcej.org or call 1 (802) 878-5745 ext. 100.

Richard Ansell

Pat Seaver's Family

Jane (Myrna Doney's friend)

Illya (Cathie Goodheart's friend)

Colonel John Dyke (Paula Sargent's Son)

Roger & Sandy Daly

Malcolm Forbes (Cathy Shearer's Father)

Shera (Andrea Goedken's friend)

Ines Eley & Family

Jane Schneider & Family

Barb Blanchette's Family

All persons affected by the Coronavirus



**The altar flowers are given by
Ginny Coe
In memory of her mother, Phyllis Bateman**

2020-2021 Flower Chart is online! Visit this link to reserve a date: <https://bit.ly/33JWlxj>

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

Have something important to share?

Please, email your announcement to Doug Ovitt, Church Administrator: welcome@fcej.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@fcej.org.

Click an icon below to visit our page!



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTERS

SIGNUP HERE: <https://bit.ly/3dwsHji>

Our 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/fcej/2020-weekly-update-5831208>

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:

<http://fcej.org/v5/category/newsletters/>

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]

Asst. Financial Secretary: Rob Sinkewicz [878-4470]

Asst. Financial Secretary: Pam Blake [872-8204]

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]