



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.

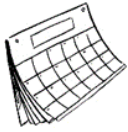
**1 Church Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452**

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://fcej.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; Monthly Communion, 1st Sundays @ <http://youtube.com/c/fcej>**
 - ⊕ **Christmas Eve Services: 5pm & 9pm @ <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>**

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!
- ⊕ **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 3

Visit this link to read more:
<https://bit.ly/2HrWpKN>



Order of Worship

November 22nd, 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 one thought of gratitude [920-858-6601]*

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]

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

2nd Sunday of Month On Site in Parking Lot

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.

Meeting & Greetings Along the Road.....The Mannarino Family

Gabe, Holly, Molly, and Mindy

Prayer of Invocation by Deacon Lauren Starkey

**We gather together
to ask the Lord's blessing,
to live in community,
seeking God's will.
We come now, as sisters
and brother, confessing
the sins that divide
and the wrong in us still.**

**Beside us, forgiving
enabling, sustaining,
you call us, O Savior,
to life that is new.
You draw us away
from self-centered complaining.
You lead us and guide us
in ways that are true.**

**All praise to the Spirit,
provider, defender.
You offer us freedom,
to follow or stray,
Empowering all by
the hope you engender.
Grant wisdom and courage
to follow your way**

Meetings & Greetings Along the Road.....The Bartlett Family
Megan, Travis, and Lincoln

Children's Message by Laurie Chipman

Stewardship by Rev. Mark Mendes

Invitation

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.**

Prayer of Gratitude

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer..... Rev. Mark Mendes

Sacred Readings: Ruth 2: 1-17

Now Naomi had a kinsman on her husband's side, a prominent rich man, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, 'Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain, behind someone in whose sight I may find favor.' She said to her, 'Go, my daughter.' So she went. She came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. As it happened, she came to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. Just then Boaz came from Bethlehem. He said to the reapers, 'The Lord be with you.' They answered, 'The Lord bless you.' Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, 'To whom does this young woman belong?' The servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, 'She is the Moabite who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. She said, "Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the reapers." So she came, and she has been on her feet from early this morning until now, without resting even for a moment.'

Then Boaz said to Ruth, 'Now listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. Keep your eyes on the field that is being reaped, and follow behind them. I have ordered the young men not to bother you. If you get thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from what the young men have drawn.' Then she fell prostrate, with her face to the ground, and said to him, 'Why have I found favor in your sight, that you should take notice of me, when I am a foreigner?' But Boaz answered her, 'All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. May the Lord reward you for your deeds, and may you have a full reward from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge!' Then she said, 'May I continue to find favor in your sight, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, even though I am not one of your servants.'

At mealtime Boaz said to her, 'Come here, and eat some of this bread, and dip your morsel in the sour wine.' So she sat beside the reapers, and he heaped up for her some parched grain. She ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. When she got up to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, 'Let her glean even among the standing sheaves, and do not reproach her. You must also pull out some handfuls for her from the bundles, and leave them for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.'

So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.

Closing Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God Organ Solo by Carol Spradling

Author: Martin Rinkart; trans: Catherine Winkworth; Composer: Johann Crüger.
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**Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms,
has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**All praise and thanks to God
our Maker now be given,
To Christ, and Spirit, too,
our help in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore.
For thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

Benediction and blowing out of the 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

PRAYER MINISTRY

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

Richard Ansell

Illya
(Cathie Goodheart's friend)

Colonel John Dyke
(Paula Sargent's Son)

Roger & Sandy Daly

Malcolm Forbes
(Cathy Shearer's Father)

Cait
(Cathie Goodheart's friend's daughter)

Grandma Culley
(Dorothy Kress's Grandma)

Stacy Gaudette-Hall
(Doug Ovitt's cousin)

Damaris (New resident of Essex Junction)

All persons affected by the Coronavirus



The altar flowers are given by
Sharon D. Dettenrieder
in loving memory of
Douglas J. Dettenrieder



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.

Find us online! Click the icon or link:



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



[facebook.com/
firstcongregationalej](https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej)



[instagram.com/fcej_802](https://www.instagram.com/fcej_802)



FCCEJ.ORG

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. To arrange for a pickup, please contact our staff:
1 (802) 878-5745 ext. 100
or email welcome@fcej.org.

NEWSLETTERS

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

Our weekly update newsletter contains important weekly announcements about Food Pantry, Thrift Shop, Capital Campaign Updates, and more! Here is a link to this week's issue:

<https://mailchi.mp/fcej/2020-weekly-update-5840868>

Our "SPIRIT@FIRST" monthly newsletter is available by snail-mail and email. Hard copies are available at church, too. Visit this link to read through our archives:

<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]

Asst. Financial Secretary: Linda Bogardus [872-8972]

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]