



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



Sunday Worship @ 10am
Communion on 1st Sundays
Teleworship: [youtube.com/c/fccej](https://www.youtube.com/c/fccej)



Sermon Talk Back
Tuesdays @ 8:30am
via Zoom: <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>



Coffee Clatter
Thursdays @ 8am
via Zoom: <http://zoom.us/j/97659276694>



Daily Devotionals
Weekdays @ 8am
[facebook.com/firstcongregationalej](https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej)



Life Story/Memoir Club
3rd Wednesdays @ 1pm
Contact Pete Schmalz for Zoom Link
pnschmalz@comcast.net



Noontime Book Group
3rd Mondays @ 11:30am
On-site! (Marvin Lounge)

Our Journey of the Spirit continues.....



FACEBOOK

bit.ly/39O39ht



INSTAGRAM

bit.ly/3rlfgZf



INTERNET

[fccej.org](https://www.fccej.org)



YOUTUBE

bit.ly/3oPpBv9

NEWSLETTERS

Signup Online! <https://bit.ly/3dwsHji>

Our weekly newsletter contains important announcements! View current and past issues here: <https://bit.ly/3rlsIsV>

Our "SPIRIT@FIRST" monthly newsletter is available by snail-mail and email. Hard copies are available at church, too. If you wish to contribute content, it is due by the 3rd Friday of each month (except in November and December when it is due on the 2nd Friday.) Visit our archive:

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

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. Reject racism.
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction
June 20, 2021: Live Streaming
Journey of the Spirit

Order of Worship

*Live Stream begins at 9:45 a.m. with announcements and introductory music
beginning approx. five minutes before 10am.*

Prelude

Prelude & Fugue in C Major
J.S. Bach, Public Domain

Marie Johnson, *Estey Organ*

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.

1 Prayer Requests: Text Rev. Josh your prayer requests [(920) 858-6601]

Welcome.....Rev. Josh Simon, *Associate Pastor*

*“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
A Few Key Announcements

Hybrid Service: Every other pew, soft singing, just come, masks/social distancing
Morning Devotions: Rev. Mark [webpage]
Faith Formation items are in the Narthex
for children and youth during worship

Music: Carol Spradling: Music Dir. on medical leave of absence,
Filling in Marie Johnson and Denise Keating
Sanctuary Choir: Our Traditional Choral Group
Finally at First: Our Praise Band

As always great to have Jonah Moos, Ed Guild,
Gary Hartmann and Francis Gravel operating the live stream tech.

Musical Introit

The Trees of the Field
Stuart Dauermann & Steffi Geiser Rubin © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Company
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Marie Johnson, *Estey Organ*
Judy Larrabee, *Vocalist*
Doug Olufsen, *Vocalist*

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing praises to God, clap your hands, welcome to worship.

People: The spirit of God calls us to worship

Leader: Be not afraid of some change. Be not afraid to learn something new. Hear the good news.

People: The spirit of God calls us to transformation.

Leader: Welcome to worship let us begin our transformation hour.

People: Holy Spirit come, join us in worship, animate our prayers, open our hearts to new life.

Opening Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth (NCH #28)

Marie Johnson, *Estey Organ*

People are invited to sing softly while keeping their masks on.

**For the beauty of the earth,
For the beauty of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,**

[Chorus] **Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
Sun and moon, and stars of light,**

**For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild.**

Prayer of Invocation.....Maureen McKenzie, *Deacon*

Children's Message..... Rev. Mark Mendes, *Senior Pastor*
Laurie Chipman, *CE Director*

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer..... Rev. Ron Faux, *Minister of Visitation*

Text prayers to Rev. Josh @ 920 858-6601

Please note two small changes.

Loving God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Anthem

In Joyful Song

Joel Raney © 2013 Hope Publishing
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Marie Johnson, *Estey Organ*

Judy Larrabee, *Vocalist*
Doug Olufsen, *Vocalist*

Sermon

“All Things are New

Rev. Josh Simon

Offering Our Gifts to God.....Rev. Ron Faux, *Minister of Visitation*

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 Thanksgiving

Pastoral Benediction

Let There Be Peace on Earth

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, family all are we,
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.**


**Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

OUR PRAYER MINISTRY

If you require prayers for yourself or a loved one; or if you wish for a call from a pastor, please contact welcome@fccej.org or call 1(802) 878-5745.

Richard Ansell (Carol Spradling's father)
Bruce Giannuzzi
David (David Irwin's friend)
Nancy Hayes
Russ & Alma Wilson
Gary Knapp (Jackie Knapp's Son)
Steve Mitchell

Bill Barrett (Nancy Hayes son-in-law)
Jessica Moos & Family
Andrea & Tom Sramek (Maureen McKenzie's niece
and husband)
Patty Garvey
Dave Johnson
Joe and Ann Wells
Carolyn Toof's Niece
Carol Spradling
Friends & Family of Barb Auch (Donna Burnett's
friend)
The Family of Luisa Chernyshov
The Family of Stephen Hayes
John Mauer
Robert Howe
Matt McGeary & Family
The Family of Mary Gellatly
Warren Vanslette (Doug Ovitt's brother)



**The flowers on the altar are given by
Lori & Bruce Giannuzzi
In memory of our parents
Norm & Judy Janwich
And Robert and Frances Giannuzzi**

ALTAR FLOWERS REQUESTS

Visit this link to reserve yours: bit.ly/33JWlxj

If you wish to retrieve your flowers, please email welcome@fccej.org or call 1(802) 878-5745.

MISSION MOMENTS

June 20, 2021
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Mark 4:35-41
Pushing the Boat Out
Father's Day

What names for God did you learn as a child? Many Christians were raised to call God by the name Father. Today, on this Father's Day, give some thought to that name for God. Is it nurturing for you? Or is it difficult for you to picture a loving Father God?

If calling God "Father" is hard for you, don't worry. The Bible contains many names and images for God, and the United Church of Christ encourages expansive language in naming and praising the Holy. Turning to scripture as a way to expand our images of God is a gift to everyone. Those who call God by the name "Father" are welcomed and encouraged to continue doing so. And those who call God by other names are welcomed and encouraged, too. Worshipping side by side using many names instead of one enriches worship for all of us.

If you regularly use the same name for God in your prayer or worship life, how can you expand and enrich your relationship with God? How might using some new names for God make something new happen for you, too? If you are looking for ideas, consider instead some of these, from the UCC brochure "Expansive Language with Reference to God, Inclusive Language with Reference to God's People."

Midwife Ps 22:9-10

Mother Num 11:12-13, Deut 32:18, Job 38:28-29, Ps 131:2, Isa 42:14, Isa 46:3-4, Isa 49:15, Isa 66:9, Hos 11:3-4, Jn 16:21, Rom 8:22, I Pet 2:2-3

Mother bear Hos 13:8

Shepherd Jn 10:11,14; Ps 23

Woman Lk 15:8-10, Ps 123:2

Baker Mt 13:33, Lk 13:20-21

Eagle Deut 32:11-12, Ex 19:4

Hen Mt 23:37, Ruth 2:12, Ps 57:1, Ps 61:4, Lk 13:34, Ps 17:8

Fire Deut 4:24, Acts 2:3

Wind Acts 2:2, Jn 3:8

Rock Is 17:10, Deut. 32.18

Water Jer 17:13

Light Jn 8:12, Isa 60:2-3

Bread Jn 6:33-35

Vine Jn 15:1

Word Jn 1:1

Wisdom Lk 11:49, I Cor 1:24

I Am Ex 3:14

Potter Jer 18: 1-11, Job 10:8-9



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

God is still speaking,

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Staff

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

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

Minister of Visitation: Rev. Ron Faux [revronfaux@gmail.com]

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

Music Director: Carol Spradling [cspradling@fccej.org]

Church Administrator: Doug Ovitt [welcome@fccej.org]

Music

Director, **Sanctuary Choir & Heavenly Harmony:** Carol Spradling [cspradling@fccej.org]

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

Finally @ First Director: Rick Dooley [rickdooley5@gmail.com]

Men @ First Director: Bill Bickford, Jr. [bill.bickford@aol.com]

Officers

President: Maureen Evans [233-6127]

Vice President: Cathy Shearer [878-6023]

Financial Secretary: Rob Sinkewicz [878-4470]

Treasurer: Dan Petherbridge [879-0261]

Clerk: Christine Sinkewicz [878-4470]

Historian: Ann Gray [878-4088]

Auditors: Betsy Weischedel [922-2094] & Steve Wood [878-3068]

Committee Chairs

Christian Education: Lisa Clark [872-5849]

Communications: Francis Gravel [802-318-6235]

Deacons: Judy Larrabee [236-0604]

Finance & Pastoral Relations: Cathy Shearer [878-6023]

Hospitality: Jim Glatz [503-5076]

Human Resources: Maureen Evans [233-6127]

Missions: Paula Sargent [879-3598]

Music: Denise Keating [345-8900]

Nominating: Dick Harris [644-6488]

Stewardship: Kathryn Brennan [878-9509]

Trustees: Kaki McGeary [879-2062]

Ushering: Marlene Frank [872-9126]

Recognized Groups

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop: Sue Wood [878-3068] woodsusanjane@gmail.com

Heavenly Food Pantry: Valerie Gabert [879-0109]