



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 **E-mail:** welcome@fccej.org **Website:** www.fccej.org



The First Congregational Church of Essex Junction

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 17, 2022

During the summer, we worship at 9am with a hybrid service: both live in the sanctuary and streamed through our webpage @ www.fccej.org. You can watch that service any time thereafter.

During the rest of the year, we have two services every week: a more traditional service with organ and choir at 8:30am and a less traditional service with a praise band at 10:15am.

Currently, mask wearing is determined by the individual.

*A Welcoming Community, Accepting and Serving All
In the Spirit of Christ*

Prelude *Sonata in A Major K. 208* Domenico Scarlatti**

An Extravagant Welcome

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

Greeting and Announcements

Our ministers will welcome everyone to church and then highlight some significant events and/or announcements in our shared life, and then encourage everyone to sign the Friendship Book.

Musical Introit *Thank You For The Music* Andersson / Ulvaeus**
Stephanie Field, soloist

Call to Worship, Inspired by Psalm 95 Deacon
Leader: Let us sing to the Eternal One; let us make a joyful sound to the rock of our liberation!

People: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

Leader: Let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Eternal One, our Creator!

People: For God is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

Leader: O that today we would listen to God's emanating voice.

*Opening Hymn

O Grant Us Light

#469**

Prayer of Invocation & Unison Lord's Prayer.....Deacon
***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.**

Children's Message..... Rev. Josh Simon

The Congregation Sings as the Children Come Forward

**Jesus loves the little children,
all God's children of the world.
Whether young or old or new,
Jesus loves us through and through,
Teaching us to love all creatures in the world.**

The Congregation Sings as the Children Return to Their Families

**God has made us all a rainbow.
Colors dancing 'round and 'round.
In our hair and skin and eyes,
big and little, every size,
God has made us all a rainbow dancing 'round.**

Pastoral Prayer

A Time of Silence for Personal Prayer

Sharing Our Prayers with God and Each Other

Prayer Response

First section of the Aria from the *Goldberg Variations*

Bach**

Congregational Hymn of Choice

For the middle hymn, the minister will ask the congregation to select a hymn.

Scripture Readings

Ecclesiastes 2: 18-26

Luke 12: 22-34

An Introduction to A Chorus Line

Anthem

"What I Did for Love"
Stephanie Field, soloist

Kleban / Hamlich**

Summer Meditation

Search for Meaning: Where Your Heart Is

Rev. Josh Simon

Offering Our Gifts to God Rev. Josh Simon

Invitation, Offering, and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

aus tiefer not schrei ich zu dir
(*From deep affliction, I cry out to you*), verse 1

Georg Boehm**

***Doxology**

#778**

**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.**

***Closing Hymn**

O Source of All That Is

#513**

Benediction

Benediction Rev. Josh Simon

***Sung Community Benediction**

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.**

*Postlude

Gloria, 9th Couplet "*Dialogue sur les Grands jeux*"
from Messe pour les Convents

Couperin**

*Please stand if you are able

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A Few Key Announcements:

- ◆ Sunday Morning Worship - 9am through June, July, and August
 - ⇒ In-person and streamed via [youtube.com/c/fccej](https://www.youtube.com/c/fccej)
 - ⇒ We are pleased to offer in-person worship—masks are optional
 - ⇒ Communion is served in the Sanctuary on the 1st Sunday of each month. The elements are sealed and passed out to the congregation.
- ◆ Sincere thanks to Jonah Moos, Ed Guild, Gary Hartmann, Francis Gravel, Linda Lou Parker, and Harsh Shah operating the live stream tech!
- ◆ Thank you to Bethany Blake and Stephanie Field for the beautiful music this morning!

Weekly Calendar - July 17 - July 24

Please contact the church office with any changes or corrections

Today, Sunday, July 17

9am: Intergenerational Worship, Sanctuary
10:30am: Music Library Clean-up
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 19

8:30am: Sermon Talkback, Marvin Lounge
10am-1pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
*6:30pm: Eagle Scout Board of Review,
2nd Floor Programming Room*
7pm: Communications Committee, Zoom
7pm: Missions, Marvin Lounge

Thursday, July 21

10am: Piano Lessons, Sanctuary
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
*6:30pm: Eagle Scout Board of Review,
2nd Floor Programming Room*

Saturday, July 23

7am-9am: Drop-off for Nearly New & Bake Sale
9am-1pm: Nearly New & Bake Sale,
Church Lawn
10am-1pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
12pm: Music Rehearsal, Sanctuary
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Monday, July 18

8:30am: Food Pantry Set-up, Fellowship Hall
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
11:30am: Noontime Book Group, Marvin Lounge
7:30pm: Group Victory, Marvin Lounge

Wednesday, July 20

8am: Heavenly Pantry Food Drop-off
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
4pm-7pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
7pm: BSA Troop 624, Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 22

8am: Coffee Clatter, Martone's Market
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 24

9am: Intergenerational Worship, Sanctuary
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Rev. Mark is on vacation till August 2.

Please contact Rev. Josh with any pastoral needs: 920-858-6601.

Events in italics = Local Community Groups

Nearly New Lawn Sale and Bake Sale - Saturday, July 23rd, 9am to 1pm

- Donations can be dropped at the Church from 7am to 9am on the day of the sale
- Nearly New donations:
 - Furniture is accepted and if not sold will be put out for free. If the furniture is still not taken by Sunday then we ask you to come back to pick-up.
 - Books: Cook books, fiction, non-fiction and children's books. Please no college textbooks or instruction manuals.
 - No stuffed animals please.
 - Please contact Linda Bogardus at lbogardus@myfairpoint.net for more information regarding the Nearly New Sale.
- Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop will be open to accept clothing donations.
- Bake Sale Offerings:
 - Please individually wrap baked goods for easy selling.
 - Contact Ann Marie Sullivan at ambs6155@comcast.net or 802-879-6044 to let her know what you'll be bringing or for more information regarding the Bake Sale.
 - Proceeds for the bake sale will go to COTS—Community on Temporary Shelter.

Thank you!

Vacation Bible Camp ~ Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God!

- ◆ August 8-12th from 9am to 11:45am - Outside on the lawn or inside on a rainy day.
- ◆ Visit our website: <https://www.fccej.org/v5/grow-in-faith/vacation-bible-camp/> to register for camp or volunteer. Join the fun!

Heavenly Food Pantry

The next food distribution is Thursday, July 28 from 2pm to 5pm.

Thank you to everyone who donated egg cartons—we are all set with those for the foreseeable future! We are in need of the following food items:

- Baked beans
- Canned pasta
- Chunky soups
- Jelly
- Canned fruit

The pantry needs help to fulfil the delivery part of its mission. If you have an hour or so available on a food pantry day and the means to deliver 8-10 bags of food, then the pantry could use your help. Please call the church office at 802-878-5745 or send an email to welcomed@fccej.org.

We appreciate all the support as we continue the pantry's mission of seeing that no one goes hungry! www.fccej.org/Serving-Others/Heavenly-Food-Pantry.

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.

Victims of gun violence and their families

Russ & Lilo Kinaman

Family and friends of Arlene Bickford

The McGeary Family

Cara and her son

Wayne

Laurie and Brian Chipman & Family

Jon & Karen Putnam

Bruce Giannuzzi

Joe and Ann Wells

The Family of Mary Gellatly

Sean McKenzie

All those suffering due to
the violence in Ukraine

...and all persons affected by COVID19



CONNECTIONS:

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

Our "Weekly Update" eConnection
[https://www.fccej.org/v5/serving-others/
get-involved](https://www.fccej.org/v5/serving-others/get-involved)

Our monthly
"SPIRIT@FIRST" eNewsletter*
<http://fccej.org/v5/category/newsletters/>

**also available in a printed, snail-mailed format*

ONGOING PROGRAMS

- ⊕ **Coffee Clatter**, 8am every Friday at Martone's
- ⊕ **Bridge Group**, Every 3rd Friday at 1:30pm
Marvin Lounge—next meeting is August 18



Summer Sunday Worship @ 9am
Communion on 1st Sundays
Teleworship: youtube.com/c/fccej



Sermon Talk Back
Tuesdays at 8:30am in the Marvin
Lounge and via Zoom: [http://zoom.us/
j/740803865](http://zoom.us/j/740803865)



Wednesday Night Searchers
7pm in Marvin Lounge and via Zoom:
[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/83272183334](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83272183334)
On hiatus till September



Noontime Book Group
3rd Mondays @ 11:30am, in the Marvin
Lounge and via Zoom.



FACEBOOK

bit.ly/39O39ht



INSTAGRAM

bit.ly/3rlfgZf



INTERNET

fccej.org



YOUTUBE

bit.ly/3oPpBv9

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: Bethany Blake [bblake@fccej.org]
Church Administrator: Jen Kelly [welcome@fccej.org]

Music

Chair of Music: Denise Keating
Finally @ First Director: Rick Dooley

Officers

President: Cathy Shearer
Vice President: Judy Larrabee Pomainville
Financial Secretary: Ann Gray [finances@fccej.org]
Treasurer: Dan Petherbridge [treasurer@fccej.org]
Clerk: Brenda Dawson
Historian: Ann Gray
Internal Auditors: Betsy Weischedel & Steve Wood

Committee Chairs

Christian Education: Lisa Clark, Derek Lyman
Communications: Francis Gravel
Deacons: Alison Wermer, Judy McCullen—Co-Chairs
Finance & Pastoral Relations: Judy Larrabee Pomainville
Hospitality: Jen Dooley
Human Resources: Cathy Shearer
Missions: Paula Sargent
Music: Denise Keating
Nominating: Dick Harris
Stewardship: Kathryn Brennan
Trustees: Kaki McGeary
Ushering: Marlene Frank

Recognized Groups

Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop: Sue Wood
Heavenly Food Pantry: Valerie Gabert