



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
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 24, 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

Nocturne in G Minor

Frederick Chopin**

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

*Nocturne in E flat Major
(excerpt)*

Frederick Chopin**

Call to Worship Deacon Betty Buscglio

Leader: In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;

People: But one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

Leader: Come from the East. Come from the West. Come from the South. Come from the North.

People: Find your community here where we are united in Love.

Leader: Let us worship and give glory to the One who has called us to be one.

***Opening Hymn**

Community of Christ

#314**

Deacon's Prayer of Invocation & Unison Lord's Prayer.....Deacon Betty Buscglio

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.

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

Courante from Partita No. 4 in D Major
 BWV 828

J.S. Bach**

*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 the FCC Rent Chorus (Mindy Bickford, Bill Bickford, Brenda Dawson, Carl Hoffman, Denise Keating, Albert Koch, John Mauer, Doug Olufsen, Gretchen Owens, Judy Pomainville, Andrea Sharp) for the beautiful music this morning!

Weekly Calendar - July 24 - July 31

Please contact the church office with any changes or corrections

Sunday, July 24

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

Tuesday, July 26

8:30am: Sermon Talkback, Marvin Lounge
10am-1pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
*11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship,
Fellowship Hall*
5:30pm: Finance Team, Marvin Lounge

Thursday, July 28

8:30am: Food Pantry Set-up, Fellowship Hall
*11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship,
Marvin Lounge*
2pm-6pm: Heavenly Pantry Food Distribution,
Fellowship Hall
7pm: Racial Justice Task Force, Zoom

Saturday, July 30

8am: Divine Nepali Congregation, Sanctuary
10am-1pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Monday, July 25

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

Wednesday, July 27

*11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship,
Fellowship Hall*
4pm-7pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
7pm: BSA Troop 624, Fellowship Hall

Friday, July 29

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

Sunday, July 31

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

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

- ◆ 9am to 11:45am - Program starts at 9am. Parents can drop off beginning at 8:45am or stay and join us. Outside on the church lawn or inside on a rainy day.
- ◆ Join the fun! Registration is open and ready! Register online: <https://www.fccej.org/v5/grow-in-faith/vacation-bible-camp/>. Same link to sign up and volunteer!
- ◆ You & Me Toddler (not potty-trained, attend with an adult) up thru current 5th graders
- ◆ Youth Assistants – 6th grade and up

VB Camp Team is Coming Together!

- ◆ All volunteers arrive by 8:30am for our morning team meeting and depart by noon. Not sure where or how to get involved? Contact Laurie—lchipman@fccej.org. There's a place for everyone at VB Camp!

Heavenly Food Pantry

The next food distribution is this Thursday, July 28, from 2pm to 6pm.

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.

Donate to FCCEJ

Your donations support music, youth, missions, adult enrichment, Thrift Shop, Food Pantry, and more! We are also a United Church of Christ "5 for 5" participant in these fundraisers: Per Capita, One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need and The Christmas Fund. Here are a few ways that you may help our ministry:

- ⇒ Send a Check or use BillPay. This is a remote service that issues one-time or recurring check payments by mail. Please contact your banking institution for details. Please note the reason for your donation in the check's memo line (e.g., "missions").
- ⇒ Shop using Amazon Smile. To get started, visit <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0212216>. We receive 0.5% of your purchases!
- ⇒ Send money via PayPal. Visit paypal.me/fccej. (A PayPal account is not required to donate.)

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

Bruce Giannuzzi
Joe and Ann Wells
Sean McKenzie
All those suffering due to
the violence in Ukraine
...and all persons affected by COVID19

**The flowers on the altar are given by Jane Schneider
in loving memory of Russ.**

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