



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



Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you came to the world and shared your message of power and love; many missed it and doubted. Sometimes we do too. Thank you for continuing to reach out to us and encouraging us to live better lives. Merciful God, when you lived among us you focused so much of your attention on lifting up the broken hearted, caring for the poor and oppressed, and healing those who were sick. We still need your presence to strengthen us and make us whole. Forgive us God when we ignore you and forget to care for our neighbors. Give us the courage to be better people in Christ's name.

The Assurance of Pardon

All Powerful God of the Old Testament, thank you for sticking with us generation after generation, even when we fell away from the faith and went in our own direction. Loving Christ, thank you for not letting hatred, poverty and fear be the guiding principles of life, but rather thank you for making love, forgiveness and kindness the rule. Forgive us and help us to live more authentically into your way. I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. Amen and Alleluia!

*Opening Hymn

Jesus Loves Me

#327**

Children's Message: Recognizing Our Faith Formation Volunteers PLUS

Gail Babinger, Megan Bartlett, Jenny Bourn, Donna Burnett, Lisa Clark, Sue Conti, Sharon Dettenrieder, Erna Deutsch, Janne & Howard Giles, Barbara Isham, Aimee Koch, Mel Gibson King, Justin King, Derek Lyman, Elizabeth Miller, Matt Noel, Amanda Palmer, Beth Poratti, Judy Roy, Barb Smith, Sarah Spaulding, Terry Stein

Pastoral Prayer & Unison Lord's Prayer ("trespasses")..... Rev. Ron Faux

A Time of Silence for Personal Prayer

Sharing Our Prayers with God and Each Other

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.

Musical Response

Contemplation [excerpt]

James Mansfield**

New Testament Scripture Acts 2:37-3:10 [page 91]
Anthem *Summertime* George Gershwin**
(From *Porgy & Bess*)
Sermon *The Movement Begins* Rev. Mark Mendes

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation and Words of Institution

Music *Musette in G Major* J.S. Bach**

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Today, we will partake of communion by passing the bread and cup out to each person. The Minister will direct everyone to dip your pieces of bread into the cup and partake. When each cup is received, everyone is welcome to partake when they choose. This symbolizes both the individual and corporate nature of our faith. Absolutely everyone is welcome at Christ's table.

Offering Our Gifts to God Rev. Ron Faux

Celebrating our Faith Formation Offering to Church World Service

Invitation, Offering, and Prayer of Dedication

Offertory *Skye Boat Song* Annie MacLeod**

***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. Amen.**

***Hymn** *Some Glad Morning* #595**

Lifting Up our V.B. Camp Volunteers:

Judy Allen, Bill & Mindy Bickford, Betty Busciglio, Jenny Bourn, Janne Giles, Laura Cunningham-Firkey, Mary McHugh, Ann Marie Sullivan, Catherine LaPierre, Eric Lindholm, Maureen McKenzie, Doug Olufsen, Teddy Owens, Amanda Palmer, Judy Roy, Mary Anne Warren, Jane Schneider, Barb Smith, Allison VanSteensburg

***Sung Community Benediction**

Go Now In Peace

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**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

Allemande from *Partita in B flat Major* BWV 825

J.S. Bach**

*Please stand as you are able

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A Few Key Announcements

- ◆ Summer Sunday Morning Worship -
 - ⇒ 9am — Streamed via youtube.com/c/fccej
 - ⇒ Communion is served in the Sanctuary on the 1st Sunday of each month.
- ◆ Sincere thanks to Jonah Moos, Ed Guild, Gary Hartmann, and Francis Gravel, operating the live stream tech!
- ◆ Thank you to Bethany Blake for the beautiful music during worship today!

Summer Schedule—June through Labor Day

- ◆ Sunday Morning Worship -
 - ⇒ One service at 9am. Streamed via youtube.com/c/fccej
 - ⇒ All Family Worship—Faith Formation on hiatus till September
 - ⇒ Communion is served in the Sanctuary on the 1st Sunday of each month
 - ⇒ Rev. Mark on vacation June 26 through August 2

Summer Music Sign-Ups

- ◆ We are looking to supplement our summer worship services with guest artists. If you are interested in sharing a gift of music one or more Sundays, please contact the church office or sign up on the clipboard. Thank you!

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 (802) 878-5745.

Victims of gun violence and their families
Peter Gray, Pam Blake and Don Gray
Father of Adam Hoy
Maureen Evens & Family
Dana Bills
Jacki Knapp
Bruce Parker
Russ & Alma Wilson

Kathy Galbraith
John Venner
Elizabeth Stone
Bernie Currier
Grace Goodwin
Dan Harmon

All those suffering due to violence in Ukraine
...and all persons affected by COVID19



*The flowers on the altar this morning
are given by Linda Lou Parker ~*

“Happy 52 birthday in heaven to Erica Ann (Parker) Eastham”.

CONNECTIONS:

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

Our “Weekly Update” eConnection: <http://bit.ly/3rlslSv>

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

*available in a printed, snail-mailed format

ONGOING PROGRAMS!

- ◆ **Sermon Talk Back**, Tuesdays at 8:30am in Marvin Lounge & Zoom:
<http://zoom.us/j/740803865>
- ◆ **Tai Chi Class**, Tuesdays at 10:15pm in the Fellowship Hall
- ◆ **Yoga @ First**, Tuesdays at 5pm in the Sanctuary
- ◆ **Coffee Clatter**, every Friday @ 8am at Martone’s
- ◆ **Lunchtime Book Group**, 3rd Mondays in Marvin Lounge
- ◆ **Bridge Group**, 1st and 3rd Fridays @ 1:30pm in Marvin Lounge



FACEBOOK

bit.ly/39039ht

INSTAGRAM

bit.ly/3rlfgZf



INTERNET

fccej.org



YOUTUBE

bit.ly/3oPpBv9

Vacation Bible Camp 2023 - Hero Hotline – Called Together to Serve God!

August 7-11

Bible Stories – Crafts – Science – Music – Snacks - Recreation

All day camp has arrived!

Drop off between 8:45-9am and pick up at 4pm (attend morning session only if you wish)

Ages = You & Me Toddler (with an adult) up to current 5th graders

Morning Volunteers = 6th grade youth and older & adults

Current 8th – 12th graders & college can apply to work the afternoon

Lunch – Movie – Group Project - Games

Afternoon cost is \$250 per camper. Scholarship available!



SCAN ME

Community Concerts @ First

On Sunday July 9 at 3pm, Community Concerts @ First will present singer/songwriter Jon Gailmor. Gailmor is passionately committed to the power of music, emotions and laughter, and boy do we need all of them, now! This family-friendly show is appropriate for folks of all ages.

Concert proceeds will support EDD Adaptive Sports and First Congregational Church of Essex Junction. Tickets are available online with the link below or by phone (please call the FCCEJ office 802-878-5745) \$20 suggested donation, free for 18 and under.

<https://sevendaystickets.com/events/jon-gailmor-7-9-2023>

Celebrating Graduates

Do you have a graduate in the family? Graduation Sunday is June 18!

Email Jen at the church office (welcome@fccej.org) the following info:

- ◆ Name of graduate
- ◆ Graduation/recent picture & baby/young picture
- ◆ School (high school, undergrad, graduate) & degree if applicable
- ◆ Their plans for the future

The deadline for submissions is noon, June 14. Contact the church office for more information.

FCCEJ Outdoor Ministry Camping Trips

(Friday afternoon to Sunday morning)

Whether you like to camp in a tent, lean-to or a camper we hope you will join us!

- ◆ Friday, June 23 to Sunday morning, Jun 25 at Button Bay State Park on Lake Champlain <https://www.vtstateparks.com/buttonbay.html> (6 tent/RV sites and 3 lean-tos)
- ◆ Friday, August 25 to Sunday morning, August 27 at Branbury State Park on Lake Dunmore <https://www.vtstateparks.com/branbury.html> (5 tent/RV sites, 1 tent only)

Weekly Calendar: June 4—June 11

Please contact the church office with any changes or corrections

Sunday, June 4

9am: Worship, Sanctuary & Streaming
All Family Worship, Communion Sunday
10:30am: Ice Cream Social, Fellowship Hall
Music Committee, Sanctuary
Social Justice Committee, Marvin Lounge
11:30am: Piano Lesson, Sanctuary
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, June 6

8:30am: Sermon Talkback, Marvin Lounge
10:15am: Tai Chi Class, Fellowship Hall
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
10am-1pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
5pm: Trustees, Marvin Lounge
Yoga @ FCCEJ, Sanctuary
5:30pm: Service Trip Partners, Marvin Lounge
6:30pm: BSA Troop 624 District Meeting, Fellowship Hall
7pm: Church Council, Marvin Lounge

Thursday, June 8

11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
7pm: Men @ First Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, June 10

8am: The Vine Nepali Congregation, Sanctuary
Give It A Go Fellowship, Marvin Lounge
9:30am: Weight Loss Support Group, Fellowship Hall
10am-1pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
1:30pm: Claire Black Studio Recital, Sanctuary

Monday, June 5

8:30am: Food Pantry Organizing, Fellowship Hall
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
7:30pm: Group Victory, Marvin Lounge

Wednesday, June 7

11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
4pm-7pm: Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop
5:30pm: Finally @ First Rehearsal, Sanctuary
5pm: BSA Troop 624 PLC, Marvin Lounge
6:30pm: Eagle Scout Board of Review, 2nd Floor Program Room
7pm: Searchers, Marvin Lounge
BSA Troop 624, Fellowship Hall

Friday, June 9

8am: Coffee Clatter, Martone's Market
11:30am: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
4pm: Blue Spruce Grange, Fellowship Hall
6pm: BSA Sea Base Planning Meeting, Marvin Lounge

Sunday, June 11

9am: Worship, Sanctuary & Streaming
All Family Worship - Scout Sunday
1pm: Brown Bag Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
5pm: Marie Johnson Recital, Sanctuary

Events in italics = Local Community Groups