

First Congregational Church of St. Albans (FCC) is a welcoming community of spiritual seekers, believers, and doubters.

Please know that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

To create an open and loving community that encourages a joyous exploration with God.

To work together to care for and nurture the wider community.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as a community resource church is to provide a safe place for spiritual exploration and personal growth. To affirm the value of each person and to meet them where they are.

To connect to the community through personal service, giving, and pastoral care.

Please feel free to contact us:

Administrative Office: 8 AM to 11 AM weekdays.

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: T-W-F, 9am-12pm

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

For urgent, pastoral matters outside of regular office hours, call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE IS BROADCAST OVER THE LOCAL PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 1079 ON SUNDAYS AT 4 PM.

SCRIPTURE READER: Mara Vijups



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

NOVEMBER 13, 2022

10AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

ERIN GRAINGER, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

SUE POWERS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

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WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS:

“Grace is one-way love. Grace doesn’t make demands. It just gives. — Preston Sprinkle

THE PREPARATION

The beginning of the prelude is a call to enter into the spirit of prayer and community.

Prelude Remembrance S. Conrady

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: TAIZÉ

Let all who are thirst - y come, Let
all who wish re - ceive the wa - ter of life
free - ly. A - men, come Lord Je - sus. A -
men, come Lord Je - sus. Let

Welcome to all visitors: We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today and are strengthened by your participation in our service!

If you are new to First Congregational Church of St. Albans, please sign the guest book in the narthex (main entrance of the church).

If you would like more information about our church and its programs or would like to receive our Morning Reflections, and weekly e-newsletter, “From the Manse,” please fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the Offering tray (be sure to include your email address).

After the service please join us for fellowship, conversation, coffee, and refreshments.

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

¹UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

MUSIC, COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS: CCLI #4799426 AND SJMP #14586

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

This morning we welcome the Deacon Roy V. Hill II.

Deacon Hill began his Faith journey on his Paternal Grandfather's farm in the segregated South, USA. Growing up in Tennessee, he engaged Ecumenical and Interfaith activities by worshiping with his Father in the historic Woodlawn Baptist Church (Brownsville); his Mother (an acclaimed singer and soloist) in Methodist Churches; and his Grandfather in Holiness/Pentecostal revivals. He is a Founding Member of the New Alpha Missionary Baptist Church [NAMBC] founded in 1989 on the Campus of the University of Vermont (UVM). He is a 35-year Vermont resident as of 2022.

His Vermont contributions include: being a Former President of the Vermont Ecumenical Council & Bible Society and a volunteer Devotional Leader for the Vermont House of Representatives; Hosting a weekly Faith-oriented TV Program for 25 years ("The Word"); serving as a College Street Congregational Church (UCC) Deacon for two terms; participating in the Community Bible Church Monthly Prayer Breakfast for 20-years; organizing the first VT "Juneteenth Conference" (Hosted on St. Michaels College Campus in 2002); working with elected Vermont Representatives to advance Vermont becoming the 29th State to have a "Juneteenth Holiday;" and being recognized by NAMBC for introducing "Juneteenth" to Vermont. As a freelance writer, his commentaries have appeared in the Burlington Free Press, South Bend Tribune, and Washington Post.

He was Baptized in Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church (South Bend, IN). He earned a Bachelor's Degree from Talladega College; a Master's from Washington University; and a Three-year Certification from the Vermont Academy for Spiritual Training (VAST). He did Journalism study at the Virginia Commonwealth University and Doctoral study at the University of Vermont. He is a BTLI Fellow per Princeton Theological Seminary's Black Theology and Leadership Institute. Roy V. Hill II and his Wife Shirley I. Boyd-Hill live in Vermont.

MORNING PRAYER¹

Unwavering One, we are thankful for the clarity found in you. You welcome us into your presence, even when we aren't sure of our approach to you. We delight in knowing that even when we come stumbling over ourselves, your love is sure to pick us up and steady us. Because you are love, you keep your promises to us. Help us walk unwavering in the love that helps us keep our promises too.

Amen.

HYMN*

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (1, 2, 4) NCH 439

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (Unison)

Source of Grace, we confess that at times we can be indecisive, wavering, and even suspicious concerning you. Yet, you are loving toward us even when we are not. We know that you are trustworthy, so we yield our doubts to you. You are persistent in extending grace toward us because your compassion is ever-expanding. Thank you for this moment of transformation. We give you thanks for wholeness. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM *Creator of Beauty and Giver of Light*
Mark Schweizer

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:1-9
2 THESSALONIANS 3:6-13

MORNING REFLECTION: “Don’t Lose Your Anointing”

HYMN*

“We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

NCH 500

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER:

HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD D. WELPTON

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE ~

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father 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 lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever, Amen

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

“THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE.” SCOTTISH PSALTER, 1615

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“Go Light Your World”

Insert

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Somewhere

L. Bernstein

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A Special Note of Gratitude From All of Us At FCC:

- Greg Beeman Thank You for organizing, the coffee house, *A Night of Peaceful Protest Music*, it was a huge success!
- Joel Magnuson Thank You for being the Grill Master for the coffee house and making your famous Michigan Sauce!
- Alice Drislane Thank You for thinking of and arranging the Donation Jars for the coffee house.

Prayers for Rev Alice O'Donovan, her wife, Cassie, and children Robert, Steven, Mary and their families. Among many accomplishments, she was an early leader in the UCC's Open and Affirming movement.

Music Notes: The third concert of the season will be DECEMBER 11th (not Nov 13).

Bible Study

Next meeting is Wednesday November 16th on Zoom – please let Pastor Jessica know if you’d like to join in!

Mitten Tree – We are currently collecting mittens and scarfs to be distributed to local organizations and schools, who will in turn distribute them to individuals for the upcoming cold weather. Knitting instruction are available on the bulletin tables in the sanctuary or by contacting the office. Purchased items are also being accepted.

Midday Meditation

Monday · Wednesday · Friday

12pm- 1pm

Please join us in the sanctuary for quiet reflection. We’ll have soothing music and meditation guides available.