

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: Monday: 2pm-4pm; Tuesday 9am-2pm; Wednesday 10am-Noon; Thursday 9am-2pm; Friday 10am-Noon.

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: By Appointment.

Please note: Pastor Jessica is off on Mondays.

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

For urgent pastoral matters call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

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



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

APRIL 28, 2024

10 AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

DR. KEVIN DIRTH, CHOIR DIRECTOR

MONICA NEWTON, OFFICE MANAGER

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS: "I wonder if fears ever really go away, or if they just lose their power over us." — Veronica Roth

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE *This is the Day of New Beginnings* C.R. Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**Call To Worship**

All: Within this community

One: We experience God's unconditional love

All: Within this community

One: We rejoice in the risen Christ

All: Within this community

One: We awaken to the Holy Spirit

All: Within this community

One: We join together in worship

Morning Prayer¹ (Unison)

Living God, we embrace your presence in our lives. Help us to grow stronger together in your garden of love. Plant us together in your peace. Root us together in your hope. Transform us together by your equal justice for all. In your loving presence, we pray. Amen.

HYMN*

"God Is Here! As We Your People" (1,2,4) NCH 70

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



**OFFERING A WARM WELCOME
CAN YOU HELP?**

The Capital Improvement Campaign for our Tower makes our church more visible to the community at large. Our participation in the Maple Festival Parade will bring more attention to our Tower. As a result of these events, people may visit our church out of curiosity.

This is a good opportunity to greet and welcome visitors as they enter the church - our church members are very good at welcoming people into church.

If you'd like to usher please send me your name, email and phone number. In a few weeks, I'll send out a schedule for ushers- for June, July and August.

For now- please sign up for the next few weeks:

There is a sign-up sheet at Coffee Hour

- April 21: Maria
- April 28:
- May 5:
- May 12: Maria
- May 19:
- May 26:

Thank you
Maria Barresi

Maria-mom.barr@gmail.com; 203-241-5731

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (UNISON)

Creating God, we are grateful for the hope that you offer to us and all creation. Prune us so that we may have a cleansed heart. Help us to grow your garden of love. Water our despair so it can be transformed into your hope. Feed our minds so that all may glean from your wisdom. Nurture our spirits so that we can become more fruitful in our lives. Give us new life, we pray. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 8:26-40 & John 15:1-8

MORNING REFLECTION

Pruned & Grafted

HYMN*

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” NCH 400

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

Hear Our Prayer, O lord

D. Welpton

PASTOR'S PRAYER~

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

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

***Praise God from whom all blessing flow
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, all heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN* ***"Let There Be Peace On Earth" BB 35***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE ANTHEM

A Choral Benediction

Don Besig

POSTLUDE

PIXLEY'S SONG

S. CONRADY

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ★ Thank You to Angus Newton for designing, sourcing, and building FCC's "Save the Clock Tower" DeLorean! What a beautiful marriage of artistry and engineering! Makes us want to go " Back In Time"

Martha's Kitchen Food Drive

We are collecting the following items for Martha's Kitchen to be delivered in May:

- Ground Coffee
- Iced Tea Mix
- Sugar
- Powdered Creamer

Music Notes:

Don Besig, the composer for today's anthem, currently directs the adult choir at Perinton Presbyterian in Fairport, NY. For over 30 years, he taught public school music at all levels in western New York. He is a prolific writer of sacred music.

Zoom Bible Study

Our next Bible Study will meet on May 1; 7-8PM

Text: John 15:9-17

Join us at any time, call Pastor Jessica.

Wi-Fi:

Sanctuary
sanctuary123

