

Words for meditation and preparation:

"Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content." - Helen Keller

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Judith Arnold

PRELUDE

CALL TO CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Tom Roche

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Kathleen Zagata

We are gathered in the presence of the risen Christ who remains with us forever through the Holy Spirit.

When we abide in the love of Christ love, joy, and peace, grow.

We are rooted in Christ's love that we may bear these fruits together with all God's people.

With the faithful of every nation we sing: blessing, glory, thanks, and honor be to God forever and ever, Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Black-covered New Century Hymnal 1

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. William Burhans

Prayer of Confession (adapted from Joseph Fort Newton)

O God, together we confess our personal and social sin, asking You to forgive our blindness, our indifference, and our hard-heartedness.

Show us that we are brothers and sisters in this human family, and that the hurt of one, even the humblest among us, is an injury to all and a sin against You.

Deliver us from every form of the spirit of oppression, and release us from greed which seeks comfort or gain at the expense of others.

Give us new eyes to see the injustices around us and to recognize what we might do to make this world a more just place.

Evoke in us a new spirit of generosity and unite us in one purpose to understand and to act, making our faith fruitful in the service of one another as each person struggles for a fuller life.

Fill us with the spirit of Jesus.

Illuminate our minds with light and anoint our hearts with love.

In Jesus' name, amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Kathleen

THE 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

*AN ACT OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

PH 513

(Please use words that are most meaningful to you)

Glory be to the Creator and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;

World without end, amen, amen.

*OFFER ONE ANOTHER A SIGN OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Kathleen

TIME FOR THE YOUNG

Rev. Judy

*HYMN

Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works

Black-covered New Century Hymnal 3

THE GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS

Rev. Judy

Call for Just Peace Offering

Deirdre Giblin

Offertory Anthem *How Can I Keep from Singing?* [arr. 1995]

Based on a hymn by Robert Lowry [1869]

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.

I hear the real though distant song that hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.

It sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it's living!

What though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it's giving!

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.

Since I believe that love abides, how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble when they hear the bells of freedom ringing.

When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?

In prison cell, in dungeon dark, our thoughts to them are winging.

When friends hold courage in their heart, how can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.

Since I believe that love abides, how can I keep from singing?

*Doxology

(Please use words that are most meaningful to you)

NCH 780

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below,

Praise God above you heavenly host,

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Judy

SUNG REFRAIN

Bless the Lord, My Soul

m.: J.Berthier, Taizé

Bless the LORD, O my soul.
 O LORD my God, you are very great.
 You are clothed with honor and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment.
 You stretch out the heavens like a tent,
 you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your
 chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind,
 you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

SUNG REFRAIN

You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.
 You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.
 At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.
 They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys to the place that you
 appointed for them.
 You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the
 earth.
 O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth
 is full of your creatures.

Praise the LORD!

SUNG REFRAIN

Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus

said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

SERMON

"What the Seeing See"

Rev. William Burhans

SERVICE OF PRAYER

Rev. Judy

Morning Prayers, silent and spoken

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Black-covered New Century Hymnal 551

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING (remain standing please)

Rev. Will

POSTLUDE

PH indicates Pilgrim Hymnal (red) NCH indicates New Century Hymnal (black)

*Those who are able please stand

Head-sets for the hearing impaired available from ushers

We encourage you to use Name Tags available in Vestibule

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Today's Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Caroline Sullivan Sheehy and Ruth Payne Marotta, by the Marotta family. The Narthex flowers are in loving memory of Lilian P. Smith, by her daughter Martha Wishart and family.

WE'RE IN FOR A TREAT THIS MONTH at the Purpose Forum: our new Pastor, Rev. Will Burhans, will be leading us in some creative thinking about how to be more outward-facing. We know that vibrant churches turn their gaze outward toward their neighbors. Come find out what Pastor Will recommends to live into our purpose of "welcoming all with joy." Check it out! **Oct 28, 7:30pm Palmer Room All Are Welcome!!**

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN WINCHESTER, UCC

21 Church Street

Winchester, MA 01890

781-729-9180

An Open and Affirming Congregation

The Congregation, Ministers To The World

Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor

Rev. Ms. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor

Ms. Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Cong'l Health & Wellness

Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Mr. Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth

Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist

Mr. Bradley Ross, Sexton

Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager

The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

Websites: FCCW www.fcc-winchester.org; MA Conference www.macucc.org; Nat'l UCC www.ucc.org

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**AN INVITATION TO THE LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING!
October 18th at 11:30 am in the Henry room.**

The Leadership Team, the group that has strategic decision-making responsibility in our church, is having monthly meetings. The inaugural meeting was held in May and we have been gradually learning to live into our new role.

The first part of the meeting is open to all-comers, so that there is opportunity for anyone within our congregation, including representatives of sustaining and living ministries, to bring items to the Leadership Team for presentation or discussion. Please feel invited to our October meeting and let me know if there is something that you would like to discuss or present. I will work with you to determine whether the topic is appropriate for LT strategic decision making and discernment.

Thank you.
Penny Sparrow, Moderator

pjsparrow2@gmail.com

Relief for Victims of



Hurricane Katrina

A 10TH YEAR RETROSPECTIVE LOOK: Faith and Resilience Post Katrina
Tuesday, October 27th 2015 – 7PM to 9 PM in the Palmer Room: Three groups of FCC members traveled to New Orleans and the surrounding areas post Katrina to participate in faith based recovery projects. In August, I attended a conference in New Orleans that spoke to the accumulative effects of these projects. On 10/27, join fellow church mission companions who participated in the recovery efforts for a look back at the lessons learned. The circle welcomes members with personal stories and those who supported family and friends. The event is open to members of the wider community who wish to give witness. Please bring a memory and/or photo to share. RSVP/Questions: Kathleen Zagata, 781 729-9180 ext 106 or Kathleenzag@gmail.com

THE DEACONS ARE SPONSORING A NEW THEMED MEDITATION/PRAYER SERIES TITLED, "Our Christian Toolkit: Learning Christian Spiritual Practices We Can Use Throughout Our Lives." The sessions will be designed and led by the Rev. Dr. Ken Orth, who has led our congregation in deep spiritual work for many years. There will be a guidebook for each session, consisting of prayers, structured meditations, poems, and suggested practices, so that participants may practice at home or form ongoing small groups. The first session, Gratitude and Forgiveness was on Sunday, September 20. Watch for news about follow-up to this exciting and very meaningful session. The second session, Mourning and Loss, will be held **TODAY, from 11:30-1 in the Palmer Room. Healthy snacks and childcare provided. Come join us!**

First Congregational Church
*"A Christ-centered, nurturing community:
Growing in faith, Serving in love,
Welcoming all with joy."*



Artwork by Kevin Dunn

*Just Peace Sunday
October 18, 2015*

STEWARDSHIP SEASON IS HERE!: It is Stewardship Season! We are all "stewards" of our church, and we together share the joy and responsibility of caring for it – through our attendance and participation; our gifts of time, talent and energy; and our financial support.

This time of year is when we consider and celebrate fiscal stewardship ... when we are each called upon to consider prayerfully, thoughtfully, and faithfully, what sort of pledge we wish to make to our church.

This year's stewardship theme "Trust in the Promise" is inspired by the words of Jeremiah (29:11): **For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.** Please keep a watch out for information and materials over the coming weeks as we together prepare for Stewardship Sunday on November 1 and Pledge Sunday on November 8.



HAVE YOU BEEN PART OF THE WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY at First Congregational Church in Winchester for a few months--or several years-- and wondered what taking the step to officially become a "member" might entail? If so, we invite you to attend an "Inquirers' Gathering" regarding church membership on Sunday, October 25, 11:30, upstairs in Will's Office. Rev. Will will lead the gathering, along with a few other members of the church and the ministry team. We'll meet for about an hour and delve into what difference church membership can make—in our lives and in the world. (If you would like to attend the Inquirers' Gathering, please fill out this sheet and drop it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Thanks!)

Name(s) _____

Email (s) _____

STEP OUT IN FAITH: Fall Visitation Sunday. Sunday, November 1, 2015 @ 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Join Rev Judy Arnold and Health Minister Kathleen Zagata for an afternoon visit with parishioners. Rev Judy will provide a reflection on prayer as we enjoy a light lunch in the Tucker Room. Visitation to members at home and/or local care facilities will be prearranged from 12:45 - 1:45 PM. We welcome Families, Individual Members, Deacons, Life Deacons, Flower Committee members to step out in faith for a time of fellowship. So visits can be prearranged, please *RSVP by Tuesday, 10/27* Contact: Rev Judy Arnold ext: 110 or Kathleen Zagata ext 106.

CHURCH EVENTS THIS WEEK (OCTOBER 18-25)

SUNDAY	10:00	AM	Worship: Just Peace Sunday
	10:00	AM	J2A Class 9th & 10th Grades
	10:00	AM	Rite 13 Class-7th & 8th Grades
	10:15	AM	Stepping Stones (Church School)
	11:30	AM	Leadership Team Meeting
	11:30	AM	Our Christian Toolkit: Learning Christian Spiritual Practices We Can Use Throughout Our Lives
	4:00	PM	Girl Scouts
	4:30	PM	NCNS Raindate Fall Social
	7:30	PM	FORUM (High School)
TUESDAY	7:30	PM	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	8:30	AM	Men's Coffee & Conversation
	10:00	AM	FAN Toddler Playgroup
	7:30	PM	Worship Committee
THURSDAY	7:30	PM	Choir Rehearsal
FRIDAY	Deacons & Ministry Team Retreat		
SATURDAY	Deacons & Ministry Team Retreat		
SUNDAY	Deacons & Ministry Team Retreat		
	10:00	AM	Worship
	10:00	AM	J2A Class 9th & 10th Grades
	10:00	AM	Rite 13 Class-7th & 8th Grades
	10:15	AM	Stepping Stones (Church School)
	11:30	AM	New Members Inquirer's Class
	4:00	PM	Sounds of Grace
	7:00	PM	Ruth Group
	7:30	PM	FORUM (High School)