

Check out our
NEW WEBSITE!

We are proud to announce a major upgrade to the First Congregational Church website!
Same address with a new look.
Please go to www.FCCManchesterNH.org.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING EVENT IN 2024!



Our first 2024 after-worship *Conversation* will be held on **Sunday, February 4th**. We will be joined by Jace Troie, DEI & Program Assistant of NAMI NH (National Alliance on Mental Illness). NAMI NH is a grassroots organization working to improve the lives of all people affected by mental illness and suicide through support, education, and advocacy. Jace will join us for a wide-ranging conversation. Several of his planned topics are listed below.

- Jace will give an overview about NAMI NH (who they are, what they do, why they are focused on

Livestreaming Worship

Going to be away on a Sunday?...
Access our Services online from Facebook on Sundays at 10AM by going to www.Facebook.com/FCCManchester

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, January 1st in observance of the New Year's Day Holiday.

DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion).

- He has offered to share his lived experience as a transgender man and as someone who has a mental health diagnosis. Jace has faced many challenges, among them being homeless and developing and recovering from a substance use disorder.
 - He will provide data and information on local youth mental health and LGBTQ+ community and will include information on risks and protective factors that are important for *all* youth, young and older adults.
 - Jace will talk with our faith community about what it means to be an ally.
- As with previous Conversations, time for questions and discussion will be provided and we will offer a light luncheon during our time of *Conversation*.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Senior Pastor — Rev. Christopher Stevens
Clerk—Karen Hawver **Moderator**—Selma Naccach-Hoff
Treasurer—Jeffrey Frye
Ministry of Spirituality—Coordinator—Nancy Simmons
Becki Krueger, JoAnn Ward, Susan Wilkes
Ministry of Mission and Outreach—Coord. John Rowe
Ruth Knowles, Kathy Rowe, Kate Parker
Ministry of Sustaining Our Church Home—Coordinator—Matt Lyons
Carol Soucy, Lucia Carlisle, Vicki Tinsley
At Large—Janie Shaklee, Martha Perich, Justin May

FCC CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

Senior Pastor — Rev. Christopher Stevens
Associate Pastor — Rev. Barbara Papagian
Director of Music Ministry—Adam Peithmann
Executive Assistant — Lauren Henderson
Children's Ministry Coordinator—Kelda York
Church Sexton—Sokhom Sar
Building Manager — Peter Perich
Interim Bookkeeper— Linda Bonetti
First Congregational Church • 508 Union Street •
Manchester, NH 03104 • Telephone: (603) 625-5093 •
FCCManchesterNH.org • Facebook.com/FCCManchester



December 31, 2023 We are pleased to welcome members, friends and guests. If you are a first time guest and would like to receive a **Welcome Bag**, please speak with an usher. We invite you to fill out a **Welcome Card** found next to the hymnals, and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

THIS WEEK AT FCC

Sunday, December 31st—New Year's Eve
10:00 AM Worship Service

Monday, January 1st
Church Office Closed for New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 2nd
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
10:00 AM Staff Meeting
6:30 PM Membership Committee Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, January 3rd
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook

Thursday, January 4th
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook

Friday, January 5th
No Church Activities Scheduled

Saturday, January 6th
No Church Activities Scheduled

Sunday, January 7th
10:00 AM Worship Service & Sacrament of Communion

Upcoming Worship

Sunday, December 31st 10:00 AM
Ushers: Ruth Knowles, Sam Knowles, Becki Krueger
Greeters: Pip Adams, Cecile Adams
First Sunday after Christmas/New Year's Eve

Sunday, January 7th 10:00 AM
Ushers: Kathy Payne, Steve Payne, Larry Dearborn
Greeters: Peggy Neveu, Terri Pattee
The Baptism of Christ/First Sunday after Epiphany
Sacrament of Communion

Sunday, January 14th 10:00 AM
Ushers: Kathy Nelson, Scott Thornton
Greeters: Carolyn Lane, Marsha Neubert
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 21st 10:00 AM
Ushers: Pam LeBlanc, Craig Finefrock
Greeters: Tracy Jung, Daniel Jung
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Happy New Year!



It is not too late to deliver an impactful gift this holiday season!

Your gift has a big impact on our ministries and those we serve. First Congregational Church makes holiday giving easier than ever with a simple QR code. Scan this QR code to learn more.



1. Place smart phone camera over the QR code and click the link that appears.

No need to "log in" for one time giving

2. Scroll the giving categories and make your offering.

The Kindness Team at FCC shares support, comfort, kindness and smiles with the members and friends of FCC.



They are currently in need of cookies!

Please consider supplying cookies for our outreach. *Your act of kindness shows the recipients how much we CARE!* If you have any questions please reach out to Peggy Neveu at frannys1@aol.com.

Inclement Weather Policy

FCC Church policy is that when Manchester schools are closed or open late due to inclement weather, the Church office follows the same schedule.

Worship Service cancellations are posted on WMUR.com!



HOME TEAM Volunteer Opportunities Announced!

Help serve the evening meal

at Families in Transition (FIT)/New

Horizons from 4 pm to 5:30 pm

Held at the Adult Emergency Shelter at 199 Manchester Street.

January 2024 dates: Tuesday, Jan.

9th, Wednesday, Jan. 17th & Friday, Jan. 26th.



On Monday, January 22nd volunteer with us at the FIT Food pantry and Donation Center from 9am

-noon! Sort donations, stock shelves or help in the store. Assist food insecure individuals with their shopping experience.

The next ENA Morning Conversation Café is Monday, February 5th at 10:45 am! Help our ENA students practice their new language skills!

There will be a special multicultural event in March 2024 involving the English for New Americans program at FCC. Please watch here and in upcoming publications for more details to be announced.

Please sign-up on the church office window to volunteer for any of these events!

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!

All Committee Chairs must submit their annual reports to Linda Bonetti.

Email your reports to:

LBonetti@FCCManchesterNH.org.

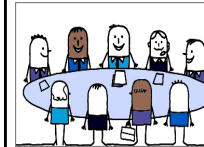


Sunday Friends Children and Youth Program at FCC

Stay informed on our Facebook *Sunday Friends* Page that you can like & follow! Please feel free to share this page with friends and family! The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/SundayFriendsFCC>. Reach out to Kelda York, Children's Ministry Coordinator: KYork@FCCManchesterNH.org.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Tuesday, January 2nd 6:30PM—Membership
- Tuesday, January 9th 6PM—Church Council
- Monday, January 15th 6:30PM—Trustees
- Sunday, January 21st 11:30AM—Open & Affirming
- Tuesday, January 23rd 6:30PM—Outreach



* Please note that the Deacons and the Stewardship Committee will not be meeting in January.

* If you do not see your meeting listed here, please reach out to Lauren in the church office.

* Remember to confirm location of your meetings with committee chairs (Zoom, in-person or hybrid).



Women's Connection Events Announced!

Mark your calendar for Monday, January 22nd, 2024 for our Zoom BINGO event!

It's always a lot of fun playing the game and catching up. Those of you who are already BINGO Queens, dust off your crowns to wear that night. *Who will be the first BINGO Queen of 2024?... Come*



and play, it might be you! Look for the BINGO sheet on the church office window coming soon or just email Pam LeBlanc (blanclp@comcast.net) or Denise Beaurivage (beau.de@comcast.net) to let us know you want to play, and you will receive the Zoom invite a few days before. If you need a BINGO playing card let us know that too.



Saturday, February 10th, 2024 is the Annual Valentine's Day Breakfast!

This will be an in-person event. Save the date and watch for the sign up sheet in January. If anyone has any ideas of an activity please send us an email. We are always open to new ideas.

Prayer Requests



Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request for Sunday mornings, there are boxes in the narthex and hallway for you to put your requests in. Please submit them by 9:30 am. If

you do come in after that you can hand your request to an usher who will get it to me. During the week you are welcome to email your request to me at BPapagian@FCCManchesterNH.org. I can take email requests up until 9:00 am on Sunday morning. I'm honored to have the privilege of raising your prayers during the service.

Rev. Barbara Papagian, Associate Pastor

PLEASE HELP US STOCK THE FCC FOOD PANTRY!

Items we need:

- quick bread mix
- pudding cups
- instant pancakes
- canned beans
- packaged snack items
- canned items with a "pop-top"
- hygiene items: feminine care, dental care, bath items such as soap, shampoo & conditioner
- boxed milk
- peanut butter
- cereal
- dry pasta
- pasta sauce
- canned pasta
- canned vegetables
- soup
- cereal/granola bars
- rice
- canned fruit cocktail
- mac & cheese
- canned meats: tuna, ham, or chicken
- Hormel Meals
- oatmeal
- juice boxes/bottles
- dry soup mix
- baked beans
- canned stew
- instant potatoes



Your donations mean so much to the community we serve. Thank you!