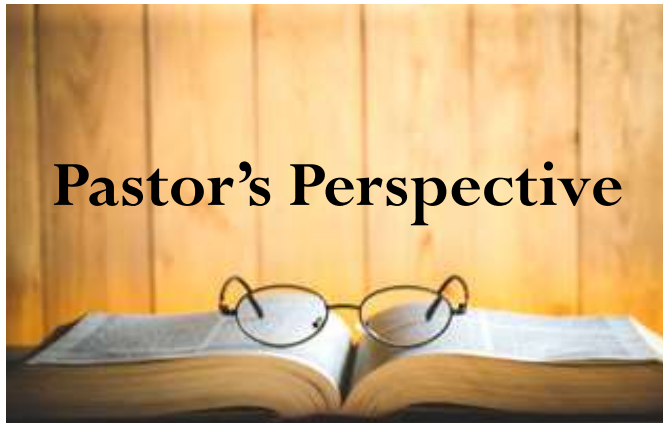




March 2024



## Pastor's Perspective

### We All Actually Do Like Change

I hear many people say that they do not like change. The conversation usually goes something like this, "I just don't do well with change! I wish everything would stay the same for just five minutes!!". I appreciate such sentiments as the changes in our lives can seem like rapid-fire these days. We all find ourselves longing for a consistent moment or two in our world, especially as we look at the political landscape across the globe.

If you really think about it, though, it becomes clear that we actually *do* like change. As a matter of fact, we love change! We love it when things around us change to fit *our* wishes, wants and needs. We don't like it when *we* have to change, but we are "tickled pink" when the world bends to our angle! And therein lies the problem. We live in a constantly changing society that rarely regards our course and speed when it sets its pace, yet we despise adjusting our trajectory to match that of the world around us. In reality, life rarely yields to us. It is we who must yield to life. Ask anyone who is dealing with a debilitating medical condition. We adjust to such conditions with medication and other such treatments, but we cannot just wish it away. We must change.

**Psalm 102:25-27** says, "In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."

This text makes one thing very clear: God doesn't change. We

are the ones that adjust ourselves to Him and to life. Lent leading up to Easter is the season that we can intentionally focus on such change. It is a time when we reflect on our lives in an attempt to take a good, hard, honest look at how we are living. Jesus is quoted many times as saying that he yielded to the will of his Father (God). We would do well to do the same.

Where is it that we need to change? In what ways can we do better? How can we be the best that we possibly can be? As we move through the season of Lent and into Holy Week, culminating on Easter Sunday, I ask you to take a look at your own life. In what ways are you resisting God? Are you digging your heels in, refusing to change? Are you stubbornly insisting that the world bend to your wishes? I love the saying that AA embraces, "Let go and let God."

Let go of your will. Let go of your way. Let go of your insistence that your world must conform to your will. Let go, and let God have his way in your life.

Easter is all about life changing anew. Let that positive change be a welcome part of your Easter celebration this year.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris

Join us Sunday, March 31st, 2024

Easter Sunday Worship

Joyous Celebration of the Resurrection at 10:00 AM



Special music - Chancel Choir, New England Brass and Timpani

# Senior Moments

## With Rev. Barbara Papagian

I have been a Patriots fan all my life. My friend Kathy's father owned the Patriots for several years. Of course this was around 70 years ago, so I don't even remember the players names, even though we hung out around them after the game until her father was ready to take us home. I went to a lot of their games, and I learned at a very young age the rules of the game.

Of course, rules have changed, and players have changed, and I haven't really thought back on those years until Taylor Swift came along. I wonder if she knows the rules of the game or is just concentrating on her handsome boyfriend when he catches the ball and sometimes makes a touchdown.

Back to the Patriots. They really disappointed me this year. I'm not quite sure what happened. It could have been poor choices, a team full of players who had not played together before and needed more practice time, or other problems, but their time of supremacy is up for a while and others are taking over.

What I do know about football players (my husband played for a few years) is that off the competitive field most of them are the nicest people you would want to meet. Most of them are family men who love their wives and children and take good care of them and most of them not only give a lot of money to charity but give of themselves...going to schools and telling the kids to stay in school and giving them advice on good sportsmanship when they are playing sports.

I know a lot of people watched the super bowl just to see Taylor Swift, which is fine, but you should have a lot of respect for most of the players. They must be in phenomenal shape, they have to be smart to remember lots of different plays and be able to read what the other team is doing. Yes, there are some bad apples in the bunch but most of them are nice people and work well as a team.

Football season is over and now I will see what I can do to help the Red Sox along. Are you with me God?

Rev. Barbara Papagian

## Upcoming Worship Schedule

**Sunday, March 3rd 10:00 AM**  
 Third Sunday in Lent  
 Sunday Friends  
 Annual Meeting following Worship  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, March 10th 10:00 AM**  
 Fourth Sunday in Lent  
 Sunday Friends  
 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, March 17th 10:00 AM**  
 Fifth Sunday in Lent  
 Sunday Friends  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, March 24th 10:00 AM**  
 Palm Sunday  
 Palm Sunday Breakfast at 8:30 AM  
 Rev. Barbara Papagian leads Worship  
 Sunday Friends (tentative)  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Thursday, March 28th 6:00 PM**  
 Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Soup Supper  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Friday, March 29th 9:00 AM—12:00PM**  
 Good Friday Open Prayer Hours in Chapel  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, March 31st 10:00 AM**  
 Easter Sunday Worship Service

## Upcoming Committee Meetings



- Sunday, March 3rd 11:15AM—Annual Meeting
  - Monday, March 4th 9:30AM—Sr. Fellowship Board
  - Monday, March 4th 6PM—Deacons
  - Tuesday, March 5th 6:30PM—Membership
  - Sunday, March 10th 11:15AM—Safety Committee
  - Monday, March 11th 6PM—Stewardship
  - Tuesday, March 12th 6PM—Church Council
  - Sunday, March 17th 11:30AM—Open & Affirming
  - Monday, March 18th 6:30PM—Church Trustees
  - Tuesday, March 26th 6PM—Outreach
- \* Please let Lauren in the office know if you have an upcoming meeting that is not listed here—thank you!
- \* Be sure to check with your committee chairs to confirm the location of your meetings (Zoom or in-person)

### PRAYER REQUESTS AT FCC

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](mailto:bpapagian@fccmanchesternh.org). I can take email requests up until 9:00 am on Sunday morning. I am honored to have the privilege of raising your prayers during the service.

- Rev. Barbara Papagian, Associate Pastor -



# NEWS FROM THE HOME TEAM!

Make a difference in someone's life! Volunteer with the H.O.M.E. Team (Hands On Mission for Everyone).

Contact Liz Verity for details at 603-623-7461. Text 603-494- 6785 or email at [liz-v@comcast.net](mailto:liz-v@comcast.net).



## A message for all our volunteers:

**T** - Totally grateful for the time and caring you put into volunteering!

**H** - Hearts that are giving (yours)!

**A** - Always showing amazing generosity!

**N** - Nothing more fulfilling than doing good for others!

**K** - Kindness and caring in action !

**Y** - You make a difference!

**O** - Our efforts appreciated by those we serve!

**U** - **U** are the best!

**THANK YOU Volunteers**, for all you do for our Church Community!

## Volunteers form the HOME Team continue to:

⇒ **Serve Dinner at the Adult Emergency Shelter 3 times a month!**

Our March dates are: Tuesday, March 12th, Wednesday, March 20th and Friday, March 22nd from 4 - 5:30pm.

⇒ **Sort donations and stock shelves at the FIT Food Pantry once a month!**

Our March date is Monday, March 25th from 9am -noon.

⇒ **Spend time with the ENA students, sharing conversation to help practice and build confidence in the student's new language skills.** Our March dates are still to be confirmed. (watch the Sunday News for updates)

- ◆ On March 14th we invite our church family to sign up for the **Multicultural Pot Luck Evening (see details below)!**
- ◆ Watch for upcoming spring dates for **Resilience Reins** opportunities at UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center, Inc. and **Family Night at the FIT Family Center.**

**JOIN US** to help out with your FCC friends, by signing up on the office window or call Lauren in the office at 603-625-5093, or by contacting Liz Verity, email [liz-v@comcast.net](mailto:liz-v@comcast.net), or by phone or text at 603-494-6785.



## Join us for a our exciting Multicultural Potluck! Thursday, March 14th 6:00 - 8:30 pm at FCC

Our connections with the English for New Americans program run by SNHS and housed here at First Church continue!

When Michelle Frank (one of the ENA teachers) was one of our Stewardship Moment speakers in the Fall, many people talked to her about how the annual dinner we had with the ENA students was something they had looked forward to. So we are giving it a new twist, a potluck dinner with students and Church family.

Both Church family and students are invited to bring either a main dish, a dessert, or simply attend and enjoy. This will be an

opportunity for you to sample some favorite foods from other countries as well as American Favorites.

After the dinner there will be 3 short presentations for the students and those from our church family who would like to listen, from informative speakers (including Pat Long) from the City of Manchester, SNHS Community Engagement, and a special presentation discussing food security and pantry resources. The evening will conclude with musical sing-along led by the students.

We encourage you to sign up, but bringing food or entering the contest are not required to attend. We hope to have a variety of dishes representing family favorites from all our countries of origin.

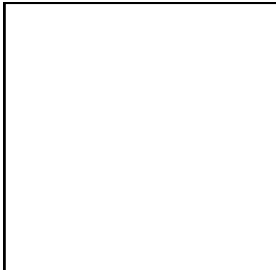
Look on the office window for a sign up sheet to register for this exciting event, or call Lauren in the office (603-625-5093) or Liz Verity [liz-v@comcast.net](mailto:liz-v@comcast.net) or 603-494 6785 to add your names to the list, or to find out how you can help.



**Open & Affirming Committee**  
**March 2024 News and Reflections**



**Are you looking for ways to learn, grow in faith, and enjoy fellowship? The ONA Committee is offering two such opportunities this spring.**



If you're a music lover, save the date of **Friday, April 5th**. The critically acclaimed **American Spiritual Ensemble will be performing at Concord's Capitol Center for the Arts that evening**. The Open and Affirming Committee invites you to attend the concert with us. Individual tickets are \$43.75, but a 10% discount is

available for groups of ten or more. We are offering free van transportation, sponsored by Outreach and ONA Committees. Look for a sign-up sheet on the office window. **The deadline for sign-up is Sunday, March 24th**. If you have questions, check in with a member of the ONA Committee.

**Covenant Partner Randy VanDeventer will join us for an after-worship *Conversation* on Sunday, April 14th at 11:30 am in the Recreation Room.**

Randy is an ordained UCC pastor and serves as Chaplain at NH Hospital, an acute psychiatric care facility. As with previous *Conversations*, Randy will offer a short presentation, followed by a time for Questions & Answers and discussion.



See the link for the sermon Randy preached at FCC in August 2023. The sermon was based on Matthew 15:21-28, in which we

encounter Jesus our Savior as "both fully God and fully human." In this season of Easter, his inspiring sermon has much to tell us about Jesus and his time, as well as the marginalized and outcasts in our world today.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJ6liNA7VDM>  
Listen to the scripture and Randy's sermon beginning at 32:32.

Once again, the Open and Affirming Committee **will offer a light luncheon during our time of *Conversation***. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the office window later this month. **Everyone will be invited to join us on April 14h, whether you've signed up or not**. We'll also post a Zoom link so, if you prefer, you can join us online.



**The committee will soon start planning for *Manchester Pride*, coming on June 15th and for observing *Pride* in worship on June 16th.**

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, March 17th at 11:30 am**. Please feel free to join us.

The Prayer of Dedication from February 18th is one that can call and guide us every day:

*Caring God, help us to share your love with our world. Help us to be aware of the opportunities to be angels in the lives of another. Help us to see the need of our community and to act in order to lessen the struggle of those around us. Amen.*

**Open and Affirming Committee**

Elizabeth Blood, Jeanine Finefrock, Jeffrey Frye, Michelle Harrington, Karen Hawver, Justin May, John and Kathy Rowe, and Carol Soucy, Chair

## Kindness Team

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

Please consider supplying cookies, soup or a casserole 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](mailto:frannys1@aol.com).

## Annual Reports and Written Committee Reports are ready!

Annual Reports were mailed to your homes on 2/20/24. Written reports are available on the hallway table outside the Sanctuary.

**The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3rd following the 10am Worship Service.**



## News From FCC Outreach March 2024



**SOUPER BOWL 2024!**  
This year we were able to collect and donate 646 food items to the Families in Transition food pantry. Many thanks to everyone for their generosity!



## One Great Hour OF SHARING

**Sunday, March 10th, 2024**

One Great Hour of Sharing is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ which supports disaster, refugee and development actions and so carries God's message of love and hope to people in 138 countries. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of

clean water and food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, emergency relief, and advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Please give your gifts generously on Sunday, March 10th. One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes are located in the pews. Please put them in the collection plate.

## Special Olympics Young Athletes! Winter Session 2024



**The Outreach Committee invites you to SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY MAY 19th for The Annual Walk for Hunger, run by Families in Transition.**

We welcome everyone to participate with us, wearing our Purple FCC t-shirts and enjoying fellowship along the way! The cost to our members is free.

The walk begins at 12 PM at Veteran's Park here in downtown Manchester. We will have a brief bite to eat at church before we head over to walk. More details to follow. There is a new walk route this year.

Watch the office window for a sign up sheet coming soon!

## QUILT MINISTRY NEWS!

We will have two initial gatherings on Thursday, February 29th and Thursday, March 14th from 9 am to Noon.



Our lap quilt inventory is starting to run low and plans are in the works to replenish the inventory. These quilts are distributed to members who are homebound and those in need of a homemade "hug". Please consider joining us in this worthwhile cause.

We seek volunteers to help wash and iron the quilt fabric in addition to looking for volunteers to help select fabric. The fabric will be available for pick up starting Friday, March 1st (during office hours and on Sunday). It needs to be returned back to church no later than Wednesday, March 13th since we will be cutting on March 14th. ALL are welcome (women/men, young/old) to participate in this project. You do not have to know how to sew... you can just come for moral support and fellowship. This is an opportunity to learn different aspects of quilt making. Do you like to work with color and patterns? Come join us on February 29th or March 14th from 9 am to noon, and help us select fabric. Could you bring some fabric home to launder and iron? We will need help cutting fabric on February 29th to create the quilting kits. We'll have plenty of rotary cutters on hand but if you don't want to cut—you could help with ironing and putting the kits together.

There will be more gathering dates announced when we are ready for the next stage in the quilt making. The beginning of the year is a time when a lot of us start decluttering our homes. We'd welcome any cotton fabric yardage donations.

## In March the First Congregational Church Food Pantry will benefit from the Hannaford Fight Hunger Bag Program!



Buy a reusable *Fight Hunger Bag* starting March 1st at the Hannaford's Supermarket at 859 Hanover Street in Manchester.

For every \$2.50 reusable *Fight Hunger Bag* purchased throughout March 2024 at the Hannaford's on Hanover Street, our community food pantry will receive \$1.



# Palm Sunday Breakfast

**Menu:**

**Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs, Coffee, Orange Juice**

Bring a  
friend!

All are  
welcome

\$5 per  
person



**Sunday, March 24**  
**8:30 am to 9:30 am**

## ***Sunday Friends*** **Children and Youth Program** **at FCC**

**Upcoming Sunday dates: March 3rd,  
March 10th, March 17th and March 24th (tentative).**



Stay informed on our Facebook *Sunday Friends* Page that you can like and 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](mailto:KYork@FCCManchesterNH.org).

Please note that the Cradle Roll Room is staffed throughout the church school year (Sept. thru May) for our youngest.

## **Tune into the *Morning Watch* Prayers on Facebook!**



Each Monday thru  
Thursday morning at 9:00 am.  
Hosted by Rev. Barbara  
Papagian and Peter Perich.  
This short time of prayer and  
reflection can be found on our  
Facebook page:

[www.Facebook.com/FCCManchester](http://www.Facebook.com/FCCManchester)

## **Holy Week Schedule 2024**

**Palm Sunday Breakfast—March 24th  
at 8:30 am**

**Palm Sunday Worship—March 24th at 10am**

**Maundy Thursday Worship & Soup  
Supper—March 28th at 6pm**

**Good Friday Open Prayer Hours in the Chapel  
—Friday, March 29th from 9 am—12 pm**

**Easter Sunday Worship—March 31st at 10am**

## Women's Connection News & Events—March 2024



### On Saturday, February 10th, fourteen ladies from Women's Connection celebrated our 12th Annual Valentine's Potluck Breakfast!

After a short business meeting and a discussion about possible plans for future months, it was time for a breakfast prayer by Barbara Papagian.



We each shared our delicious breakfast favorites with the group. As always there was a large bowl of fresh fruit salad and CHOCOLATES to enjoy. The conversations are always fun and interesting with this group of ladies.



**Air plant gifts to Linda & Lauren from WC!**

Our special guests for this event were our own Linda Bonetti and Lauren Henderson. We all wanted to take this special time to "thank" them both for all the many things they do to keep FCC running smoothly. They were each given a "gift" from the group.

We also worked on a "service project" to make and share with a "special person". Red or Pink doilies were passed out to the group. These doilies were folded several times to become small "pocket" that were quickly filled with chocolates and sealed with hearts. It looked like this "craft" was quick, easy and enjoyed by all.

This event (as all of our events) are open to all ladies that are members or attend our church. This February event is always held on the Saturday BEFORE Valentines Day. Put it on your calendar for next year.

### Our next event will be going to the movie "Cabrini".

**March 10th at 2:00 pm**

Based on a true story... After witnessing disease and poverty in the slums of New York, Italian immigrant Francesca Cabrini embarks on a daring journey to persuade the hostile mayor to provide housing and healthcare for hundreds of orphaned children.

Coming to theaters beginning March 8th, International Women's Day. We are planning on going Sunday, March 10th at 2:00 pm at the Londonderry Theater. We have 10 tickets for the cost of \$7.50 per person. If we have less than 10 the cost will be more. When we know how many ladies, you will be emailed the exact cost and the money will go to Pam LeBlanc. We can car pool from church, stop some place for a quick lunch and head to the theater. You will find the sign up sheet on the church office window.



**Stay tuned for the 2024 Mystery Ride date coming soon!**

### The Women's Connection Mission Statement:

The Women's Connection offers opportunities for the women and friends of First Congregational Church to experience social time together, to build connections, and to strengthen friendships. We seek to encourage and support one another as we journey through life together at every season of our lives. All adult women are welcome to join us for whatever event interests them. Our activities are varied and have included outings, crafts, spiritual reflections, hiking and volunteering in the local community...something for everyone.

**The Deadline for the April Church Window Newsletter is Friday, March 15th! Please submit your articles & pictures to Lauren at [LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org](mailto:LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org)**





# HOLLY BERRY FAIR NEWS!

The Holly Berry Fair crafting workshops are starting up again as we prepare for our third annual fair on October 19th, 2024!



Get ready to join in on the fun Thursday mornings starting March 7th from 9:00 to 12:00. Remember you don't have to have a lot of craft experience, just come willing to help in anyway possible. We will be meeting every other week on Thursday morning. Here is the schedule: March 7th & 21st and April 4th & 18th. Then beginning May 2nd we will begin meeting every Thursday morning until the fair!



*Just wait until you see what Peggy and Pam have done with the Holly Berry Fair Craft Room!*



**Maundy Thursday**  
**March 28th at 6PM**  
**Worship Service with light soup supper and Sacrament of Communion.**

Between the dual joys of Palm Sunday and Easter, we mark the betrayal, denial, and death of Jesus Christ with our Maundy Thursday service of worship. This is the day the Church traditionally remembers Jesus'

last supper with his disciples and so we will observe the sacrament of communion, followed by a service of Tenebrae, a tradition that dates back to the fourth century. The events marking the last days of Jesus' life on earth are shrouded in darkness and the word 'tenebrae' means 'darkness' or 'shadows.' As the story of Jesus' last hours are recalled, candles are extinguished to signify the gathering forces of evil and the approach of Jesus' death.



## HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY STOCKED

**Thank you for your continued support of our community food pantry!**

### Items we need regularly:

- boxed milk
- peanut butter
- dry pasta
- pasta sauce
- canned pasta
- canned vegetables
- soup
- cereal/granola bars
- Hormel "Compleat" Meals
- cereal
- pudding cups
- fruit cups/canned fruit
- mac & cheese
- crackers
- canned meats: tuna, ham or chicken
- rice
- juice boxes
- canned baked beans
- Toiletries: toothpaste, tooth-brushes, soap, etc.





# Church Scholarships for 2024

As we celebrate our 2024 high school graduates and recognize all members of our church community who are continuing their higher education, the Scholarship Committee announces the request for applications.

Over the years, many of our church members have given funds to provide scholarships for our seniors as they graduate from high school to help them with their upcoming higher education expenses. In recent years, First Congregational Church's Scholarship Fund has been blessed by substantial bequests from long time members, including Virginia Smith and more recently, Gordon P. Woolner in late 2016. Such bequests have enabled the Committee to not only increase the amount of scholarships awarded but to increase the outreach of its awards.

If you are a 2024 high school graduate, a church member starting out on a new career that requires further education, or in the process of attaining a postgraduate degree or certificate, we encourage you to apply.

## The First Congregational Scholarships are:

### **The Senior Scholarship**

This award may be given to deserving students and will depend upon the student's potential for new education, activity in the church, academic record, and future plans. Official school transcripts are required.



### **The Beth Jenkins Ernest Scholarship Award**

The Award may be given to a graduating high school senior young woman who shows high potential for new education, activity in the church, academic record, and future plans. Official school transcripts are required. An essay of 300 words is also required in response to the following question: *How do I intend to express the values of First Congregational Church in my future career?* The recipient will present her essay to the congregation in Scholarship Sunday.

### **The William P McGuiness Scholarship Award**

The Award may be given to a graduating high school senior young man who shows high potential for new education, activity in the church, academic record, and future plans. Official school transcripts are required. An essay of 300 words is also required in response to the following question: *How do I intend to express the values of First Congregational Church in my future career?* The recipient will present his essay to the congregation in Scholarship Sunday.

### **A New Chapter Award**

This award is reserved for active church members who may decide to take a new road in life, to enter a "new chapter." Perhaps this new pathway may be to pursue new schooling or enter a new career that requires further education.

### **The Higher Education Award**

This award may be given to students who have graduated from high school who are continuing their education, whether or not they have received a Church Scholarship in the past. The intent of this award is to support our church members as they continue to pursue their education either at college undergraduate or postgraduate level or in pursuit of certificate jobs training programs. Students will be asked to respond to an essay question about how their foundation from FCC has affected their college careers and why/what they are doing and planning to do as they move forward.

If you are interested in applying for any of the scholarships please let us know, and we will provide you with the appropriate Scholarship Application. Please be aware that First Congregational Church's Scholarship program is a merit-based program for members of the church as of the application deadline.

## **All Scholarship Applications should be submitted by May 15, 2024.**

**For further questions and to receive an application, email Ellie Stetson at [ebstetson@aol.com](mailto:ebstetson@aol.com) or please feel welcome to ask a committee member. Emailed applications are to be delivered to the attention of the Scholarship Committee chair no later than May 15, 2024. ([ebstetson@aol.com](mailto:ebstetson@aol.com))**

We will celebrate all of our 2024 high school graduates and recognize members of our Church community who are continuing their higher education in June.

Scholarships and Awards will be given on that Sunday.

Ellie Stetson, Chair  
Peter Perich  
Lucia Carlisle  
Dawn Gagnon



## THIS MONTH AT FCC

ACTIVITIES, DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE REFER TO THE PRINTED CALENDARS BY THE OFFICE OR GO TO  
[WWW.FCCMANCHESTERNH.ORG](http://WWW.FCCMANCHESTERNH.ORG)

# MARCH

## Friday, March 1st

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Saturday, March 2nd

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Sunday, March 3rd

10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends

11:15 AM Annual Meeting (snow date is 3/10)

## Monday, March 4th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

9:30 AM Sr. Fellowship Board Meeting

5:30 PM *Special Olympics Young Athletes*

6:00 PM Deacons' Meeting

## Tuesday, March 5th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Membership Committee Meeting

## Wednesday, March 6th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, March 7th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

9:00 AM Holly Berry Fair Craft Workshop

## Friday, March 8th

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Saturday, March 9th

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Sunday, March 10th

10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends

11:15 AM Safety Committee Meeting

2:00 PM *Women's Connection Movie Outing*

## Monday, March 11th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

5:30 PM *Special Olympics Young Athletes*

6:00 PM Stewardship Committee Meeting

## Tuesday, March 12th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

4:00 PM *FIT/New Horizons Kitchen Volunteer Evening*

6:00 PM Church Council Meeting

## Wednesday, March 13th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, March 14th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

9:00 AM Quilt Ministry Gathering

6:00 PM Multicultural Potluck Dinner at FCC

## Friday, March 15th

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Saturday, March 16th

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Sunday, March 17th

10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends

11:30 AM Open & Affirming Committee Meeting

## Monday, March 18th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

5:30 PM *Special Olympics Young Athlete*

6:30 PM Church Trustees' Meeting

## Tuesday, March 19th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

## Wednesday, March 20th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

4:00 PM *FIT/New Horizons Kitchen Volunteer Evening*

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, March 21st

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

9:00 AM Holly Berry Craft Fair Workshop

(Snow date for Multicultural Potluck on 3/14)

## Friday, March 22nd

4:00 PM *FIT/New Horizons Kitchen Volunteer Evening*

## Saturday, March 23rd

9:00 AM Palm Breakfast Set-up

## Sunday, March 24th—Palm Sunday

8:30 AM Palm Sunday Breakfast

10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends (tentative)

## Monday, March 25th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

9:00 AM *FIT Donation Center Volunteer Opportunity*

5:30 PM *Special Olympics Young Athletes*

## Tuesday, March 26th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

6:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting (Zoom)

## Wednesday, March 27th

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

7:00 PM Chancel Choir

## Thursday, March 28th—Maundy Thursday

9:00 AM "Morning Watch Prayers" on Facebook

6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Sacrament of Communion and Soup Supper

## Friday, March 29th—Good Friday

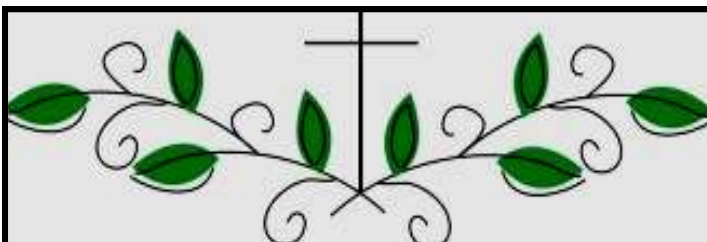
9:00 AM Good Friday Open Chapel Hours

## Saturday, March 30th

No Church Activities Scheduled

## Sunday, March 31st—Easter Sunday

10:00 AM Easter Worship Service





# Easter Flowers

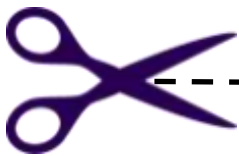
The congregation is invited to provide flowers for Easter, either as a memorial or in honor of someone special. We all know that a sunny array of flowers on Easter is an important part of our worship experience, reminding us of the love of God, the triumph of light and life over darkness and death, the return of verdant spring, and the glory of the Risen Christ.

Although less expensive flowers can be purchased elsewhere, we prefer to purchase high quality lasting plants which can be delivered to our door.

Please fill out the form below and return it to the church office. Please make checks out to First Congregational Church and **please write "Easter Flowers" on the Memo line.**



The deadline for ordering is **SUNDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2024.**



## Easter Flowers Order Form

Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR:

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred flower:  lily  tulip

- ⇒ Payment of \$17.00 per lily or \$15.00 per tulip must accompany this order. Please give form with payment to church office.
- ⇒ Plants may be picked up after the Easter service on Sunday, March 31st, 2024.
- ⇒ Final deadline for ordering plants is Sunday, March 17th, 2024.

First Congregational Church  
508 Union Street  
Manchester, NH 03104-4890

Non-Profit Organ.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Manchester, NH  
Permit No. 6230

*Time Dated Material -  
Please Deliver Immediately!*

Rev. Christopher Stevens  
*Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Barbara Papagian  
*Associate Pastor*

## The March 2024 Church Window

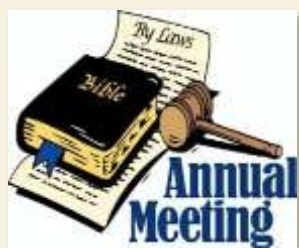
Our monthly newsletter  
(603) 625-5093 (with voice mail)  
(603) 622-1511  
[www.fccmanchesternh.org](http://www.fccmanchesternh.org)

**Sunday Worship**  
**10:00 AM**  
In-person & Livestream

## EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE



**SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST**  
**10 AM**



The Annual Meeting will be held  
on Sunday, March 3rd following  
Worship Service. Snow date is  
Sunday, March 10th.

**Spring Forward!**  
Daylight Savings Begins  
Sunday, March 10th, 2024  
Remember to set your clocks ahead  
on Saturday, March 9th before  
bedtime!

spring forward  
SUNDAY, MARCH 10



### Church Office Hours:

**M—F from 9AM to 3PM**  
The office number is 603-625-5093.  
Closed on major holidays.

Access our Livestream Services on  
Sundays at 10AM by going to  
[www.Facebook.com/FCCManchester](http://www.Facebook.com/FCCManchester)



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