

The Thursday Holly Berry Fair Craft Group

The Holly Berry Fair Crafters begin our regular weekly meets this coming Thursday, May 2nd at 9am!



Our May 2nd date will be a special kick off gathering with a light lunch. We will now continually meet every Thursday morning from 9am to noon from now until the fair. Come when you can, stay as long as you can, stop in to see what is happening, and take a peek at the Holly Berry Fair Craft Room. *Have any ideas you would like to see made for the fair?* Bring them along. Join in on the fun crafting, socializing and getting to know each other. Let the crafting begin! See you on Thursday mornings!



**The Annual Walk Against Hunger!
Sunday, May 19th**

The Outreach Committee at FCC welcomes everyone to

participate with us, wearing our purple FCC t-shirts and enjoying fellowship along the way! Please let us know if you need a t-shirt.

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. There is a new walk route this year! Visit www.fitnh.org/walk-against-hunger/ for more information or see Team Captain, Susan Wilkes. The sign-up sheet is now posted on the office window.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

- Senior Pastor** — Rev. Christopher Stevens
- Clerk**—Karen Hawver **Moderator**—Selma Naccach-Hoff
- Treasurer**—Jeffrey Frye
- Ministry of Spirituality—Coordinator**—Nancy Simmons
Ellie Stetson, JoAnn Ward, Susan Wilkes
- Ministry of Mission and Outreach—Coord.** Justin May
Ruth Knowles, Kathy Rowe, Pam DelPozo-Waldon
- Ministry of Sustaining Our Church Home—**
Coordinator—Matt Lyons Carol Soucy, Lucia Carlisle,
Vicki Tinsley **At Large**—Diane Clement, Martha Perich,
Jeanine Finefrock

**Interfaith Women of NH Spring Event Announced!
“Faith and Flowers: Enrich Your Soul” on Thursday, May 9th**



Temple Adath Yeshurun, 152 Prospect Street in Manchester

Program starts 6:30 pm (check-in begins at 6:00pm)

Our Presenters:

- Erica Jeanes:** owner of the Bee Joyful Flower Farm.
- Rabbi Beth D Davidson:** Temple Adath Yeshurun.
- Rev. Laura Biddle:** Brookside Congregational Church.
- Simone Ali:** a young Muslim student at Goffstown High School.



In person and streamed live on Interfaith Women of NH Facebook Page. Join us for social time and refreshments after the program.

Please RSVP to interfaithwomennh@gmail.com or call 603-233-7760.

Visit us online at: interfaithwomennh.org.

2024 Church Scholarships Open!



All of the available scholarships are explained in detail in the March and April Church Window Newsletters and are also available on the hallway information table outside the sanctuary. For further questions email Ellie Stetson at 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, Ellie Stetson, no later than Wednesday, May 15th.

FCC CHURCH STAFF MEMBERS

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



April 28, 2024 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, April 28th**
10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends
11:15 AM Safety Committee Meeting (in Chapel)
11:30 AM Open & Affirming Committee Meeting
- Monday, April 29th**
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
5:30 PM *Special Olympics Young Athletes*
- Tuesday, April 30th**
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
10:00 AM Staff Meeting
11:00 AM Funeral Service for Douglas McIninch
- Wednesday, May 1st**
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
7:00 PM Chancel Choir
- Thursday, May 2nd**
9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
9:00 AM Holly Berry Fair Craft Workshop & Luncheon
5:30 PM *FIT Family Center Activity Night*
- Friday, May 3rd**
No Church Activities Scheduled
- Saturday, May 4th**
No Church Activities Scheduled
- Sunday, May 5th**
10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends
11:15 AM Communion Service in the Chapel
11:15 AM Deacons’ Meeting
2:00 PM *Hillsborough Association Meeting at FCC in Milford, NH*

Upcoming Worship

- *****
- Sunday, April 28th 10:00 AM**
Ushers: Tom Irving, Mark Sowa
Greeters: Linda Sowa, Barbara Brawley
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Sunday Friends

- Sunday, May 5th 10:00 AM**
Ushers: Kathy Payne, Steve Payne, Larry Dearborn
Greeters: Peggy Neveu, Terri Pattee
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Chapel Communion Service

- Sunday, May 12th 10:00 AM**
Ushers: Kathy Nelson, Scott Thornton
Greeters: Carolyn Lane, Marsha Neubert
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sunday Friends
- Church World Service Mother’s Day Blanket Offering**

- Sunday, May 19th 10:00 AM**
Ushers: Pam LeBlanc, Craig Finefrock
Greeters: Tracy Jung, Daniel Jung
Pentecost Sunday
Sunday Friends Celebration

- Sunday, May 26th 10:00 AM**
First Sunday after Pentecost



2024 Mother's Day Blankets

Motherhood is a special undertaking. It's a labor of love, a never ending job with invaluable rewards. You try to provide the same feelings of comfort and peace you hopefully received from your own mother. Neighbors around the world deserve to feel that same sense of safety, warmth, love and comfort. You can share this hope with struggling neighbors and share your love --- just like a mother.

The Outreach Committee invites you share the warmth this Mother's Day, and throughout the year. Join the over 8,000 US congregations and groups donating funds to Church World Service.

We are sponsoring a Blankets Sunday on Mother's Day, May 12th, and a Tools of Hope Sunday on Father's Day, June 16th.

Honor your mother or special friend with a \$10 donation in her name and receive a gift card to send her on Mother's Day. The cards are available in the hall behind the Chancel after the service April 28th and May 5th or by calling JoAnn Ward at 603-668-3485. Donations in honor of and in memory of mothers will be printed in the Mother's Day Sunday News. Checks made payable to "FCC Outreach" is best for our accounting. Offering envelopes are in the pews through Mother's Day for donations of any amount if no card is desired. Please write whom you wish to honor or remember on the envelope as well.

Take Note! Although the Father's Day cards will be available the two Sundays before Father's Day, they are also available now, for those who want to shop once!

Memory Garden News!

Spring is here, and our Memory Garden will soon be waking from its winter sleep. **We will need help mulching and planting on Saturday, May 25th!** See the sign-up sheet on the office window or email Liz Verity at liz-v@comcast.net.



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.

Upcoming dates: Tues., May 14th;

Weds., May 15th & Fri., May 24th



On Tuesday, April 23rd volunteer with us at the FIT Food pantry and Donation Center from 1pm—3pm! Sort donations, stock shelves or help in the store. Assist food insecure individuals with their shopping experience.

New Opportunity! FIT Family Center starting on May 2nd from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Make crafts with children (ages 5 - 12 years) while parents are preparing their dinners in the kitchen.



ENA Conversation Café will return with dates to be announced soon!

Please consider adding your name to any of the sign up sheets on the office window. Call Lauren in the office (603-625-5093) or Liz Verity (liz-v@comcast.net or 603-494-6785), to add your name to the list or to find out how you can help.

PLEASE HELP US REFILL THE FCC FOOD PANTRY!

Items we need:

- 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: ham, tuna or chicken



Join Women's Connection on Saturday, May 18th for their 12th Annual Mystery Ride!

The cost of the ride will be \$12.00 for the day and bring extra money for lunch, and all women at FCC are invited to attend. Please see the sign-up sheet on the office window to join—You don't want to miss what the ladies have planned this year!

Sunday Friends Children and Youth Program at FCC Meets Today!

Our Upcoming Dates

Include:

April 28th, May 12th & May 19th!

Sunday Friends is for children grades 1—6, and includes lessons, crafts and games! We gather following the *Musical Offering*, inviting youth to join us in the downstairs rec room.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

The Senior Fellowship Spring Luncheon Tuesday, May 14th at Noon Manchester Country Club at 180 So. River Road in Bedford, NH

Deadline to RSVP to Lauren is 4/29! (603-625-5093).



Have you used the First Congregational Church Online Picture Directory?

It makes finding your church friends easy! You are welcome to access the Directory by going to: <https://www.members.InstantChurchDirectory.com> If you need any help signing up, please reach out to Lauren in the front office by email at LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org or by calling the office at 603-625-5093.

We are currently updating our church database! Please take a moment to confirm your contact information is correct in our church directories.

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 send *get well soon* messages to Gerda Cote as she recovers from a back injury.

Gerda Cote
12 Northbrook Drive
Unit 1207
Manchester, NH 03102



SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, June 1st, 2024

Special Olympics NH Summer Games will be held at UNH in Durham in June!



FCC will host the Mini-Javelin event again this year on Saturday, June 1st and 40 volunteers are needed to successfully run the event—so we need your help! Please look for the sign-up sheet on the office window.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Sunday, April 28th 11:15AM—Safety
- Sunday, April 28th 11:30AM—Open & Affirming
- Sunday, May 5th 11:15AM—Deacons
- Tuesday, May 7th 6:30PM—Membership
- Monday, May 13th 6PM—Stewardship
- Tuesday, May 14th 6PM—Church Council
- Open & Affirming May Meeting—TBA