



FCC Knitting Ministry

Relax at home as you knit or crochet a yarn craft to improve someone's life. Choose from:

- Prayer Scarves, Full-size Prayer Shawls and Pocket Prayer Shawls
- Child hat/mitten sets and Adult hats
- Balaclavas for the New England Seafarer's Mission
- Lap Blankets
- Items as you wish for the Holly Berry Fair

Please contact JoAnn Ward at jaward1010@comcast.net with questions, help with patterns or yarn. Please pass along finished items either to the office or her home.

100 x 100

There was considerable discussion at this year's recent Annual Meeting concerning the 2025 Budget and the resulting impact on various church programs, especially the Outreach Committee which had its funding cut by approximately \$10,000.

A suggestion was made at the meeting to invite 100 people in the congregation to each give \$100 as a one-time gift, going directly to the Outreach Committee to restore the needed funding. Members and friends of the church can mail in their check and add "Outreach" in the memo section of the check. Not everyone can afford to give \$100 – so any amount you give will be your part in helping the Outreach Committee.

Thank you for your support!



SAVE THE DATE! SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025

Special Olympics NH Summer Games will be held at UNH in Durham. FCC will host the Mini-Javelin event again this year on Saturday, June 7th. **40 volunteers** are needed to successfully run the event – so we need

YOU to help this year! Add your name to the sign-up sheet on the church office window.

PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Your monetary gift has a big impact on our ministries and those we serve. Scan this QR code to learn more...



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

2. Scroll the giving categories and make your offering.



THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Senior Pastor — Rev. Christopher Stevens
Clerk—Rose Wiant **Moderator**—Bill Jones
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, Judy DiNatale, Kathy Rowe
Ministry of Sustaining Our Church Home—Coordinator—Matt Lyons Terri Pattee, Lucia Carlisle, Vicki Tinsley **At Large**—Diane Clement, Bridget Thornton-Smith, Jeanine Finefrock

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

First Congregational Church, Manchester

SUNDAY NEWS

April 13, 2025



Good morning! 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 13th—Palm Sunday

8:30 AM Palm Sunday Breakfast
 10:00 AM Worship Service & Sunday Friends
 11:15 AM Parish Care Team Meeting

Monday, April 14th

9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
 5:30 PM *Special Olympics Young Athletes*

Tuesday, April 15th

9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
 10:00 AM Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 16th

9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
 4:30 PM *FIT Kitchen Volunteer Evening*
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 17th—Maundy Thursday

9:00 AM Morning Watch Prayers on Facebook
 9:00 AM Holly Berry Fair Workshop
 10:00 AM FCC Food Closet Open Hours

Friday, April 18th—Good Friday

1:00 PM Bible Study
 7:00 PM *Good Friday and the Cross* Worship Service

Saturday, April 19th

No Church Activities Scheduled

Sunday, April 20th—Easter Sunday

10:00 AM Worship Service

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Sunday, April 13th 10:00 AM

Ushers: Kathy Nelson, Scott Thornton
 Greeters: Carolyn Lane, Marsha Neubert
Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday Breakfast at 8:30 AM

Sunday Friends

Friday, April 18th 7:00 PM

Good Friday & the Cross Worship Service
 With Harold "Pip" Adams

Sunday, April 20th 10:00 AM

Ushers: Pam LeBlanc, Craig Finefrock
 Greeters: Tracy Jung, Daniel Jung

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 27th 10:00 AM

Ushers: Tom Irving, Mark Sowa
 Greeters: Linda Sowa, Rev. Barbara Brawley

Second Sunday of Easter

Rev. Barbara Papagian Leads Worship
Sacrament of Communion



HAVE A BLESSED

Palm Sunday

Week 4
SUNDAY FRIENDS
Easter Series!
 This Sunday, we will celebrate Palm Sunday and hear the story of Easter Sunday!
Sunday, April 13th
 Judas, the Disciples and Good Friday



All are Welcome!
 Service begins at 10AM at FCC, Manchester, NH

Senior Fellowship
2025 Spring Luncheon
Manchester Country Club
 Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025
 Social Hour at 11 am
 Lunch Served at 12 pm
 Please watch for your invitation coming in the mail this week—RSVP to Lauren in the office by Monday, May 12th. Call her at 603-625-5093 or email LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org.



Friday, April 18th is the deadline for the May Church Newsletter. Please submit articles to Lauren: LHenderson@FCCManchesterNH.org.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Help serve the evening meal at Families in Transition (FIT) from 4:30 to 5:45 pm
 Held at the Adult Emergency Shelter at 199 Manchester Street. **April opportunities include: 4/16 & 4/25!** Put your name on the sign-up sheet on the church hallway bulletin board.


Join FCC Volunteers at the FIT Food Pantry: Tuesday, April 22nd from 1 pm to 3 pm. We sort donations and stock shelves and help wherever needed—just 2 hours of your time to help the food insecure in Manchester. Please see the sign-up sheet on the church hallway bulletin board.

FIT Family Center: Thursday, April 24th from 6pm to 7 pm. Do crafts with kids (ages 5 - 12) while parents are preparing their dinners in the kitchen. See the sign-up sheet on the church hallway bulletin board.

ENA Evening Conversation Café is Weds., April 23rd at 6:30 pm here at FCC! Volunteers provide conversation, laughter, connection and encouragement for the students.

Resilience Reins at the UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Riding Center
 Provide and serve a family dinner for at risk children during the 7-week Resilience Reins program. **Dates are May 7th & June 18th at 6 pm.** Family dinners provide an opportunity for family members to come together, strengthen ties and build better relationships.

Special Olympics Young Athletes meets Mondays at 5:30 pm at the Manchester Community Music School:
 Volunteers are always welcome! Interested can contact Coach Bill Jones via cell or email to get more details: 603-860-1236 or wjones0615@comcast.net.



Questions? Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Liz Verity, by email at liz-v@comcast.net or by call or text to 603-494-6785. Call Lauren in the office during the week at 603-625-5093 and she can sign you up!



UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Parish Care—Sunday, April 13 at 11:15AM
- Stewardship—Monday, Apr. 14 at 6PM
- Trustees—Monday, Apr. 21 at 6:30PM
- ONA—Sunday, Apr. 27 at 11:30AM

Holly Berry Fair Thursday crafting has returned with fun, friendship, and snacks! In April we will meet on April 3rd and April 17th from 9-12.



Please join us for some or all of the time - and bring a friend! You do not need to have crafting skills - only a smile and the willingness to help. In May, we will start meeting every Thursday until Oct.18th - the Holly Berry Fair!
 Please come and laugh and craft with us!
 -Pam & Peggy-




We need donations of old/used CD's!

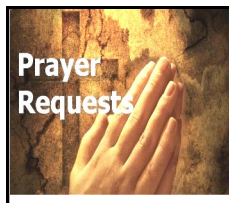
Women's Connection Mystery Ride! Saturday, May 17th



The cost for this years WC Mystery Ride is \$18.00 for the days event only, as lunch is a separate cost paid the day of the ride. Please put \$18.00 in an envelope and if paying by check, please make it out to First Congregational Church with Mystery Ride in the memo, put it in an envelope marked with your name and give to Pam LeBlanc or put in Nikki Brown's mail box in the hall across from Lauren's office. Deadline for the sign-up and the money is May 11. Those who sign up will get more info as the date gets closer... Remember friends are always welcome to attend.




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




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GOOD FRIDAY AND THE CROSS
A worship service telling the story from when Pilate first meets Jesus, to his crucifixion. Friday, April 18th at 7:00 pm
 The service will include readings portraying individuals who witnessed



the final hours of Jesus' life. Jesus will carry a cross into the church to be placed in the chancel. The readings conclude with the death of Jesus on the cross. The service will include spiritual music and singing from selected hymns.

Bible Study Opportunity: "The Ministry of Jesus"
 Based on *The Chosen*:
<https://watch.thechosen.tv/page/seasons%201-3>



We will be using this free television video series as a basis for our 8-session Bible study on the life of Jesus as described in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
Thursday afternoons at 1:00 p.m.. Dates: 4/17, 5/1, 5/15, 5/29, 6/12, 6/26 and 7/10 **OR**
Sunday after church at 11:30 a.m.. Dates: 4/6, 4/27, 5/4, 5/25, 6/1, 6/15, and 7/6.
See the sign-up sheet posted on the church office window!