

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. Oct. 23 Worship at 10:00am

A.A. meets at Noon, Tues. & Thurs., and 7:00pm Sunday.

By [Shantideva](#)

May I become at all times, both now and forever

A protector of those without protection

A guide for those who have lost their way

A ship for those with oceans to cross

A bridge for those with rivers to cross

A sanctuary for those in danger

A lamp for those without light

A place of refuge for those who lack shelter

And a servant to all in need

For as long as space endures,

And for as long as living beings remain,

Until then may I, too, abide

To dispel the misery of the world.

Birthdays

Karen Parker	Oct. 4
Denise Follansbee	Oct. 26

Prayer List:

Missing SHS Student	Wendy Oliver
Clyde Blish,	Cheryl Perron
Bea Tebo's	Scott & Tracy
brother	Pope
Dottie Blish,	Bea Tebo
Bea Tebo's,	Our church
sister-in-law	Claremont
David Bunker	Servicemen &
Ruth Dextraze	women
Donna Ellsworth	Communities
Daniel Follansbee	affected by
Maureen Kinson &	war,
family upon the	violence,
death of David	natural
Terry Grigsby	disaster
Melissa Mason	Our nation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-We encourage you to sign up to serve as Sunday liturgist. See the sign-up sheet.

-A church visioning retreat will be held on Nov 6 immediately following worship. We will start at 11 and end at 1:30, with lunch served for all. The purpose of the retreat will be to learn from the survey data and envision and plan for our future. Invited are all church participants, past and present, members, non-members. Please join us!

-A tentative date has been set for an evening worship service for Dec. 21 at 630. More information to follow!

-Let us know of new prayer concerns. You can contact any of us on the committee or let the church office know of updates. Parish Care Committee members: Jean Allen, Donna Ellsworth, Nancy Miles, Karen Parker

Rev. Dr. Jim Howard (aka Nelson Howard, III), a native of Wellesley, MA, retired in 2015 from serving the First Congregational Church, UCC, in Pembroke, NH. He holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from Claremont School of Theology. He served at four UCC churches in southern California, then churches in Jaffrey and East Derry, NH; Kittery and Portland, ME; and Marshfield, MA. Since retirement, he has sung in the choir and taught classes at his now home church, First Congregational UCC of Hopkinton, NH. He has also led classes at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Concord, NH. In addition, he is a Marian Missionary of Divine Mercy, an Emissary for Augustine Institute, and continues to serve on A New Thing Task Force Mission Group and Clergy Convocation committee of the NH Conference UCC, is chaplain and newsletter editor for the NH Chapter American Guild of Organists, and is a mentor in the Thresholds decision making program at Hillsboro County Dept. of Corrections.

Weekly Total

Pledges	\$50.00
Loose/Unpledged	\$112.00
Total	\$162.00

October Monthly Total

Pledges	\$165.00
Loose & Unpledged	\$202.00
AA	\$299.00
Missions	\$40.00
Total	\$706.00

Attendance last week: 10 in Church on Sunday

Donations can now be given online via the church website: <http://fccclaremont.weebly.com/donate.html>

Look for the Donate Button:



First Congregational Church, UCC

72 Pleasant Street, Claremont, NH 03743

603-542-6342

firstcongregationalchurch@myfairpoint.net

www.fccclaremont.weebly.com

Facebook: [First Congregational Church](#)

Worship Services on Cable Channel 8: put "Congregational Church" in search box at Claremontv.org to watch any time.

Office Hours: Tues 8:30a.m.- 2:30p.m.

October 16, 2022



Sunday Worship

October 16, 2022

Guest Minister: Reverend Dr. Jim Howard

MINISTER OF MUSIC: Katie Parker Ames

LITURGIST:

***NOTE – Those who are able may stand for items marked with an asterisk**

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PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, CONCERNS

MUSICAL INTROIT

Katie Parker Ames

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We gather to affirm the warmth of our faith, giving thanks...

People: For the connectedness that forms whenever Christ convenes us, for the caring that marks us as a church community.

Leader: We gather to receive the nourishment of our faith, giving thanks...

People: For the prayers that strengthen our spirits, for the energizing power that worship releases within us,

Leader: We gather to celebrate the fullness of our faith, giving thanks...

People: For the relationships that make us a beloved community, for the multiple ministries that call us into God's service. We give heartfelt thanks for a faith to savor and to share!

***OPENING HYMN (insert #1) New Century Hymnal #293**

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Loving God, you have called us to be your witnesses in the world.

Grant us your guidance and sustenance.

As we listen to the Word that beckons us to enact our beliefs, help us to become people of purpose and responsiveness.

As we commit ourselves to a new day of spiritual growth and faith opportunities, help us to become people rooted in prayer and hopefulness.

By your grace, may we witness well to a firm faith in Jesus Christ.

In His name we pray as He taught us we say...

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

***GLORIA (insert #2) Pilgrim Hymnal #513**

“Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

(seated) **CONFESSIO** (unison)

Holy God, you have called us to live in faith and freedom, but we live with tightness in our chest.

You have called us to move in a new direction, but we cling to the path we know.

You have called us to reach outward in love, but we draw inward for protection.

You have called us to live with abandon, in trust, but we live carefully, in fear.

God, forgive us. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: God sent Jesus not to judge us, but to save us. God accepts both our courage and our fears. In the name of Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Dare to accept the gift of new beginnings!

(seated) **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Katie Parker Ames

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD (OFFERING PLATES REMAIN STATIONARY)

OFFERTORY MUSIC

***DOXOLOGY AND PRESENTATION (insert #3) Pilgrim Hymnal #515**

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of new life, you teach us that our faith is forgiving and for giving. Inspire us to expand faith in generous offerings and loving service. Receive these gifts, we pray, as signs of our desire to serve well in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:16-19 and 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

MESSAGE

Based on *Part-time Is Plenty: thriving without full-time clergy* by G. Jeffrey MacDonald

“Let The Spirit Lead”

CLOSING HYMN (insert #4) New Century Hymnal #311

“Renew Your Church”

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE (insert #5) New Century Hymnal #82**

“Go, My Children”

***POSTLUDE**

Katie Parker Ames