The First Church

Nashua, New Hampshire

Congregational – United Church of Christ

†

Gathered December 16, 1685

"No matter who you are, whom you love, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Morning Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Sunday

September 12, 2021 8:30 & 10:00 AM

*If it is comfortable for you to do so, please stand

APPROACH TO GOD

Let us keep silence as we prepare for worship.

MEDITATION "Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength." Saint Francis de Sales

PRELUDE *Verbum Supernum Prodiens* G. Oldroyd
from *Three Liturgical Improvisations* *(1886 – 1951)*

Pour light upon us from above
And fire our hearts with Thy strong love

Praise to the Father, and the Son
Through All the Ages as they run;
And to the Holy Paraclete
Be praise with them and worship meet

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: May the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Be strong and fear not!
People: For the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Leader: And the waters shall break forth in the wilderness and spring water will pool in burning sand.
Together: Behold, the Lord will rescue His people.

***HYMN #481** *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* GRAND ISLE
(At the end of the order of worship)

***OPENING PRAYER** (Unison)
Holy and gracious God, we open our hearts to You and ask that You make us agents of Your joy. Help us to hear Your word more clearly, to serve You more gladly, and to sing Your praises more eagerly. Gift us with the Holy Spirit and renew our strength so our deeds, our lives, and our love may become channels of grace in the name of Christ. Amen.

***PRAISE #15/1** *Praise to the Lord* LOBE DEN HERREN

THE CONGREGATION SINGS:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and Salvation!
All ye who hear, Now to his temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

GREETINGS

SERVICE OF COVENANTING

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Isaiah 40:27-31**

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Philippians 4:10-14

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.

Matthew 8: 14-17

When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

GRATIA TIBI *Thanks Be to Thee* T. Tallis
(10:00) **CHANCEL CHOIR** *(1505 – 1585)*

ANTHEM *Lead Me, Lord* S. S. Wesley
(1810 – 1876)

SERMON "The Gift of Strength" Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong

***HYMN #228** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* BEECHER
(10:00) (At the end of the order of worship)

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

PRAISE LITANY (inspired by Psalm 19)

Leader: Incline your hearts to the wisdom of God; seek integrity and understanding.
People: The testimonies of God are wonderful; God's law gives light to all who hear it.
Leader: If you accept God's words and store up his commands within you, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,
People: If you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,
Leader: Then you will find the knowledge of God, for the Lord gives wisdom and from his mouth comes truth and understanding.
People: God holds victory in store for the upright and is a shield to those whose walk is blameless.

PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYERS and PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE *Almighty Father, Hear Our Prayer* F. Mendelssohn
(10:00) *(1809 – 1847)*

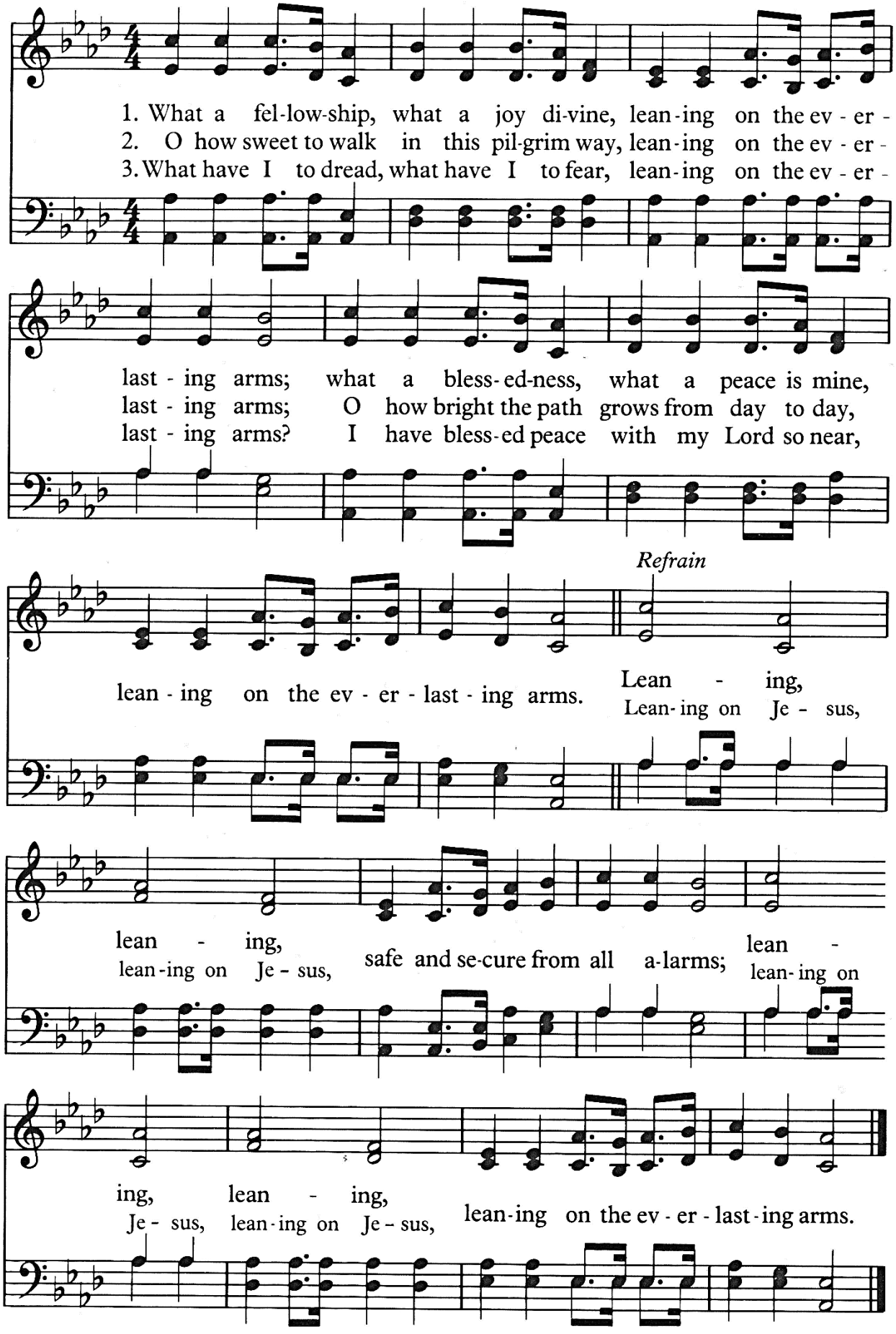
OFFERTORY *Lord of the Worlds Above* G. Young
(1919 – 1998)

***THE DOXOLOGY #515**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Unison)

You open hearts and minds, Gracious God, to the wonders of life and love. You have given us ways to work with you to increase our joy. We give you these gifts just as Jesus did. Keep us alert, then, to what you will do next in and through us. Amen.

***HYMN** *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* SHOWALTER

***BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTUS *Threefold Amen Traditional* Traditional *(Danish)*
(10:00)

The congregation is asked to remain seated
for the POSTLUDE, as a closing meditation.

POSTLUDE *Fanfare in D Major* J.-N. Lemmens
(1823 – 1881)

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED; OUR SERVICE BEGINS

AV TEAM CAMERA CREW: Doug Brenner, Joe Glajch, Lee Hauenstein, Craig Neth, Don Smith-Weiss and Dennis Webster
DEACON OF THE DAY: Dale Neth
HYMNS: Pilgrim Hymnal & United Methodist Hymnal, CCLI#3034682
STAFF SINGER QUARTET: Janet Poisson, soprano – Brianne Biastoff, alto – OPEN POSITION, tenor – Jason Iannuzzi, bass

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CHURCH SCHOOL AND CHILDCARE are offered at 10:00 AM on Sunday for infants through Grade 8. All children (3 years-7th grade) start in the sanctuary each Sunday with their parents. After the children's message, students leave for their classes. The Ushers will be happy to direct newcomers to childcare and classrooms.

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PLEASE USE THE VARIOUS CARDS IN THE PEW RACKS TO HELP KEEP THE STAFF INFORMED OF YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS.

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HEARING AIDS AND LARGE PRINT OF HYMNS AND PRAYERS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

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DVD RECORDINGS ARE MADE OF THE SERVICE AND ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR BORROWING.

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Have you remembered First Church in your will?

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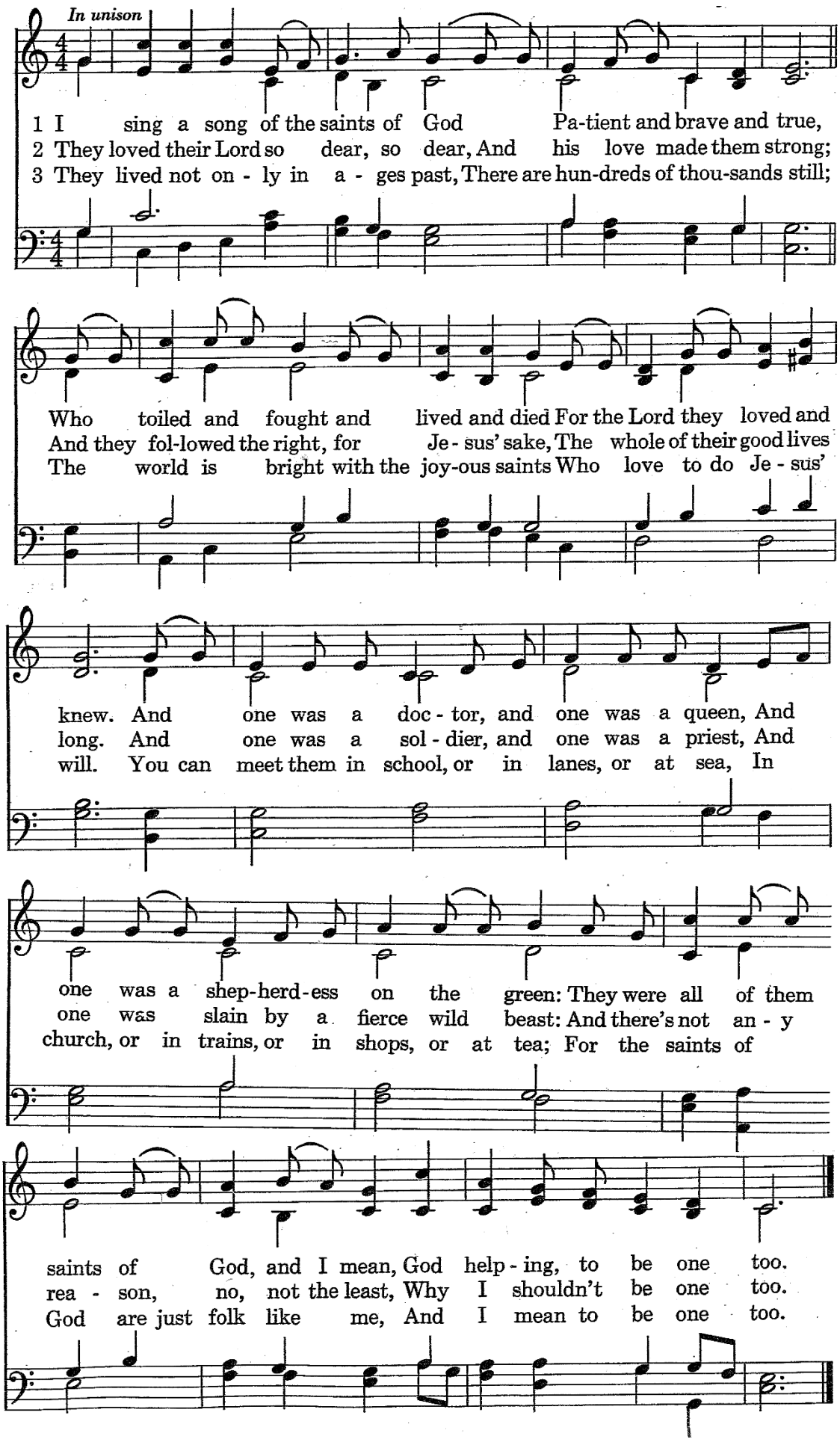
Rally Sunday, September 12, 2021

Sunday School and the New Program Year begins!
8:30 AM: In Person Worship
10:00 AM: In Person Worship and livestream,
Sunday School and Nursery Care
11:30 AM: Annual Rally Sunday Cookout
Everyone is invited!
Hot dogs, burgers, beverages and sides provided
by the Board of Christian Formation.
Ice Cream Truck provided by the Stewardship Committee.

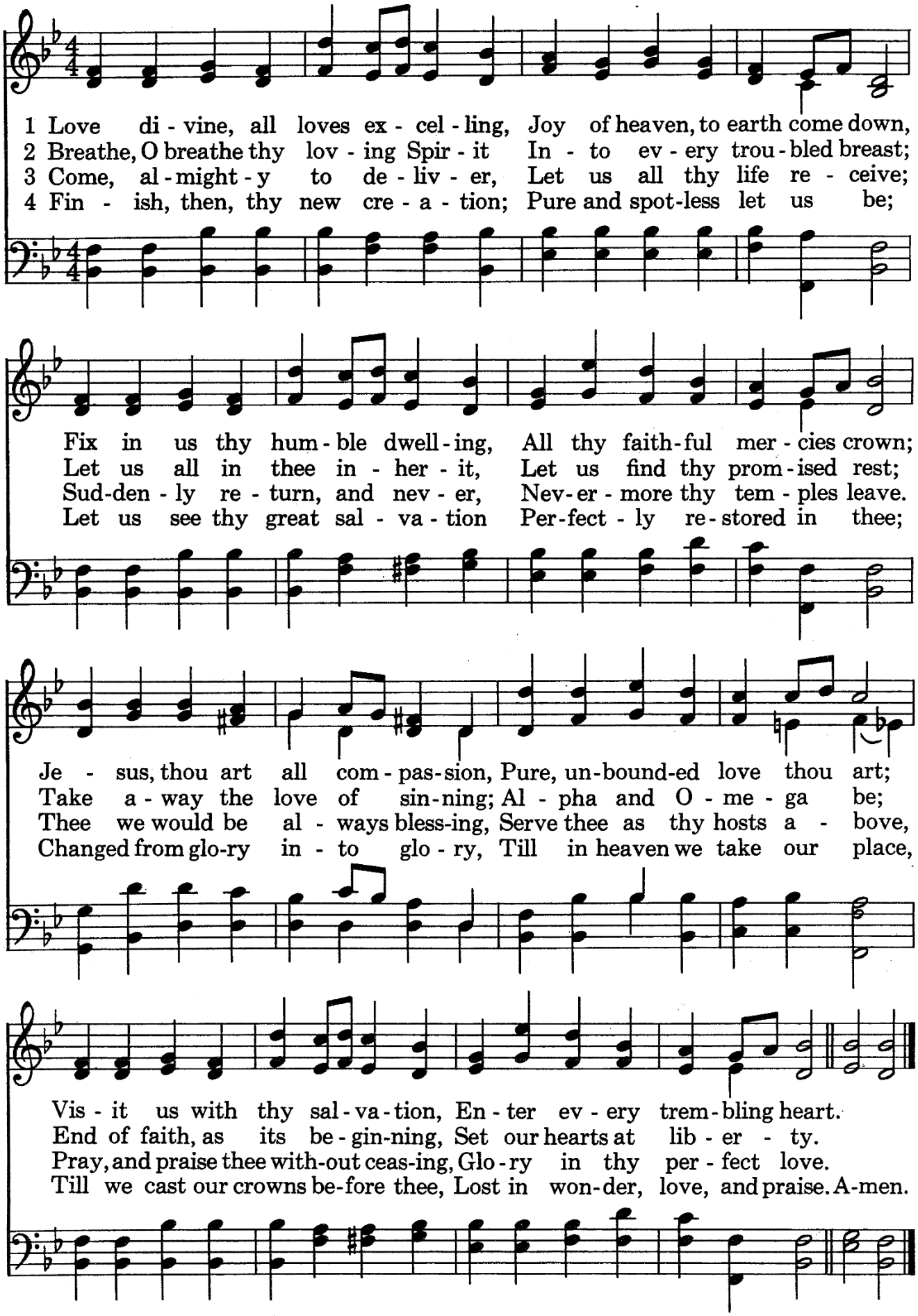
I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

GRAND ISLE



Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER



Notes from the Chancel

This Sunday- traditionally known as Rally Sunday- we welcome the music ministry choirs back into Sunday worship – starting this week with the **Chancel Choir**. Already before Labor Day, the **Chancel Choir** resumed their weekly rehearsals in preparation for worship services in September. **First Folk,** and **Decibells** resume their "regular" nights and times soon. Please check the church website *tfcucc.org* under MUSIC and CHOIR SCHEDULES for more information.

Sign-ups for membership in the children's ensembles **Chapel Chimers, Joyful Noise** and **Jubellation** begin today after 10am Worship. It is hard to imagine that an entire summer season has passed, but here we are in the full swing of things once again! We welcome, new to the music ministry, **REBECCA CRIVELLO**, who will head both Chapel Chimers and Joyful Noise in the coming season. – The Chapel Chimers will meet at 9:15am on Sundays and Joyful Noise will meet at 11:20am on Sundays (moving back to Sunday from its Tuesday evening format) – Both choirs will meet, masked and distanced, in the Shaw Chapel. Schedules will be sent by email to parents after registration. Rebecca will be with us through the month of September for these sign-ups. Today, she will seek to meet families during the cookout. Please see Joseph directly, for any interest in the Grades 4-8 bell choir, Jubellation.

Our **PRELUDE** this morning, borrows a 13th century tune from Thomas Aquinas. This organ work of note has accompanied many significant worship services at The First Church during my tenure. Its beckoning of the Holy Spirit and praise to the Trinity centers our hearts and minds for the worship to come, and also gives us the power of full organ towards the end to celebrate the joy of our church community regathering.

Our **OPENING HYMN** this morning is a very popular children's hymn of the early 20th century. The text by Lesbia Scott gained this melody around 1940, written by J. H. Hopkins, a nephew of the man who wrote "We Three Kings" - Its varied text and almost childlike melody make the perfect "Rally" of the congregation, young and old to open worship!

Our **HYMNODY** this morning is drawn from sources from our **Methodist, Lutheran, and Anglican** brothers and sisters (with our closing hymn directly from the United Methodist tradition). As Congregational hymnody developed later in the 19th century than most Mainline traditions, *(sung psalms or "Psalmody" being the main tradition of Congregationalists, prior to choirs and even pipe organs being present in worship)*, most of our known hymn opera is drawn first from other Christian faith traditions, but largely embraced as part of Congregational and Reform Church life, which merged together in 1957 as the United Church of Christ. (UCC)

Rounding out the service in the **POSTLUDE**, is one of the most beloved compositions by **Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens**, his rambunctious *Fanfare in D*, which is dedicated today to the active children and youth we have in our church programs of Christian Formation and the Music Ministry.

Christian Formation

Today in the Sunday School September 12, 2021
Today is the 16th Sunday after Pentecost and the liturgical color is green.

RALLY DAY - The new program year begins today with nursery care, Sunday school, adult education and fun for all ages.

The annual re-covenanting ceremony takes place during this morning's worship service. Teachers and assistants will be asked to stand at their seats.

NURSERY CARE - The church nursery opens at 9:45 AM to care for children *under* the age of 3 during the 10:00 AM worship service. Nursery coordinators are on hand to greet parents and explain the procedure for checking in and picking up your child.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Following the re-covenanting ceremony, all children age 3 through grade 6 will go to their Sunday school classes.

All parents are asked to pick up their children at their classrooms at 11:15 AM today.

Confirmation Retreat: October 1-3, 2021 at Horton Center - Both classes of confirmands and mentors from 2021 and 2022 will join together for this invaluable experience. Please register today! Contact LeeAnne for more information.

Church Happenings and Outreach

Make a joyful noise! Choirs have started to come back into the session for the fall, with the CHANCEL CHOIR having its first rehearsal this past week. We have openings for new choir members in all choirs, which are all starting up again in the coming weeks. Please consider making a joyful noise and contact the Music Office for more information about membership in one of our many choirs, and see your Church Newsletter for additional information.

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Gathering and Giving in Gratitude 2021 – We all look forward to gathering together again on Rally Sunday, September 12. When the church regathered following the pandemic of 1918, they invited members and friends to bring an offering in support of their mission and ministry with *Glory to God.* You are invited to do the same as an expression of gratitude in order to strengthen our ministries as we fully re-open. Our ministry is a worthy investment in faith to bring the Good News of God to the lives of our members and community.

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Bible, Friends and Coffee begins a new season on **Monday, September 13** at 9:30 AM in room 15 in the Walker Building. This year we are going to wrap our hearts and minds around what we are to believe today as Christians in 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

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Wednesday Morning Men's Study resumes on **Wednesday, September 15** at 8:00 AM in the Ladies' Parlor. This season we'll continue with reflections and discussions on Psalms, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.

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First Church Mission Opportunity - First Church will be participating in an international mission opportunity to the **Dominican Republic on February 26th through March 6th**. Adults and youth (16 unaccompanied or 15 accompanied by parent/guardian) are invited to share their talents to meet many needs of Haitian and Dominican poor centered in La Romana. Whatever skill you bring will be put to use.

Rev. Andy will be leading the trip. He will host a **Zoom call on September 14 at 7:00 PM**. Please e-mail Dianne (dsmigliani@tfcucc.org) or Sue (senglander@tfcucc.org) for the link. He also invites you to an informational meeting following church service at **11:30 AM on September 19** in room 15. In the meantime, feel free to contact him with your many questions and go to https://centralmalaromana.org/ to learn more and view pictures of previous missions.

The First Church Thrift Shop will open for the season on **Thursday, September 16, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM.** They are accepting donations of ***FALL & WINTER CLOTHING***. Here is a list of the items they need:

Boys' and girls' clothing up to size 14, baby clothes, women's clothing (all sizes), costume jewelry, pocket books and accessories, small knickknacks

Leave your donations - ***clean and in good repair*** - in the marked bin in the courtyard lobby between the hours of 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday, or on Sunday morning. Contact Gale Cummings, Beth Bartlett or the church office with any questions.

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Empty Nest Fellowship - If you are a parent/s whose young adults have taken or are about to take the next step towards independence, then this group is for you. We meet for fun, fellowship and discuss important themes associated with the transition we are making to life with an "Empty Nest". Our next gathering will be on **Monday, September 20** at 7 PM. Rev. Andy and Janice will host us at a location TBD.

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Thank You Project's 7th Annual Water Walk
September 18, 2021 ~ 9:00 AM ~ Greeley Park

The Thank You Project is honored to invite First Church, Nashua to our 7th annual Water Walk. First Church has been the backbone of everything we have accomplished thus far in our humble effort to bless others with our blessings in this great country. Together, we have completed two water boreholes in Nigeria and have sent two students to Universities to study Medicine and Engineering respectively. Thanks to the generous donations of our supporters, we are poised to complete our **third** water borehole this year, in Achi, Ijeoma's village. This is a testament to the good in all of us. Thank You!

Please come with your friends and neighbors too. Also, please continue to pray for the vision and mission of Thank You Project. Blessings! www.waterwalk.org. www.thankyouproject.org/donate/

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Be a volunteer at the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter! A core group of individuals helps to serve dinner every Tuesday. They are looking for more volunteers to join this group. They serve dinner from 3:45-6:00 PM each week. This is a rewarding and enjoyable way to help out in our community. If you are interested in substituting, or helping on a rotating basis, please contact Patti Mullin. Her contact information is in the church directory or you may call the church office.

New Date for the Holiday Fair!
Saturday, October 2, 2021 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday, October 3, Post Worship

~ Bake Sale ~ Homemade Crafts ~
~ Lunch from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM with Susie's Scrumptious Selections ~
~ Take Home Chili and Soups ~

The Silent Auction will be held online from October 10-17.

Items include an autographed Red Sox baseball, paintings, a dementia "fidget" blanket, themed baskets, Tole painted basket, and more. Let Rebecca Small know if you have any donations for the auction.

We need volunteers to help with set-up on Monday, September 27 and on October 2 to sell items and serve lunch. Call or email Jocelyn Henning for more information and if you would like to help.

All proceeds go to the Dominican Republic Mission Trip in February 2022.

Men's Retreat: The Hero's Journey - The Wednesday Morning Men's Group is hosting a retreat at Rolling Ridge Retreat Center in Andover, MA from **Sunday**, **November 7th through Tuesday, November 9th**. Our time together will include conversation around "Heroic Leadership" written by Chris Lowney. While the book is now required reading in leading business schools, all US Service Academies, and the War College, it's relevant and inspiring for everyone who wants to deepen their walk with God. Lowney presents the truth that self-awareness, ingenuity, and love, are at the root of heroism, leadership and the Christian life. There will be plenty of time to walk the grounds, read, and relax. The cost for twin rooms is $290, which is all-inclusive. **A deposit of $145 is due by September 21**. Please sign up online or at The Welcome Center and make checks payable to First Church with "Men's Retreat" in memo. Please direct your questions to Rev. Andy.

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Strategic Planning looking for your input - By now, you should have received a letter and a survey from the Strategic Planning Committee. They value your input regarding building and strengthening our church membership. Please take a moment to fill out the survey. If you did not receive a packet, extras are available at the welcome center.

“We didn’t start the Fire” Study Series with Rev. Andy - Billy Joel is right: “We didn’t start the fire. It was always burning since the world’s been turning.” Still, the flames are hot. In this series, Rev. Andy will look at the burning issues of the day with God’s help, scripture, music, culture and your participation in Christian love. This 6-week series will run on **Wednesdays, September 29-November 3, 7:00-8:30 PM.** A hybrid option is TBD. Sign up at the welcome center or online at https://forms.gle/UrfPaChWmMnLf2VD6
See the September newsletter for more information.

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Community Supper Planning at First Church - Ham and bean supper anyone? Rev. Andy along with community and church committee representatives are planning to establish a monthly community supper hosted by First Church. With the Front Door Agency and Family Promise families renting from First Church for transitional housing and even more families living nearby in our neighborhood, these meals will be a good way to further our mission, outreach and community building. We plan to secure food donations to support the meals with help from the Nashua Soup Kitchen.

While these monthly suppers will require help with planning, cooking, serving and clean up, they will also provide a wonderful way to connect with those living in our First Church neighborhood. If you are interested in supporting the work of these community suppers at First Church please contact Rev. Andy, Erin Almeda or indicate your interest at the Welcome Center. Stay tuned for more information!

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Crop Walk 2021 - Save the Date, Sunday, October 24. This year’s Nashua’s Crop Hunger Walk plans call for an in-person event with numerous COVID precautions. Last year Nashua was ranked 12th in the nation for fund raising, so we hope to have another banner year for participation. Please contact Jay Darrin or the church office if you’d like to help with recruiting or would like materials to gather pledges for your walk.

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Al Fresco Office Hours with Andy Gilman: Wednesdays, 10:00 AM-Noon at the Riverwalk Café, weather permitting **through September 29**. Drop by, have a cup of coffee or tea, and chat. This is a non-scheduled time, so the conversation will include whoever shows up. Andy G. is also available for scheduled office hours, inside or out, on Wednesdays.

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New Member Orientations - There will be two orientations for those wishing to learn more about the church and become members on **Sundays September 26 and October 3.** One of these will be virtual. Joining Sunday is October 17. Contact the church office to register.

Help keep your giving current - The First Church offers convenient e-giving options for pledges and other giving. Scan the QR code on the back cover of this bulletin to view one of the giving options available or go to https://tfcucc.org/give/. Contact Dianne Smigliani with any questions.

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Church Directory - Do we have a picture of you and your family in the directory? Is your contact information current? Please call or email Sue in the church office so we can update the directory, and our files, and assist you with access to the directory.

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Donate your extra garden produce (or purchased produce) to the Lil' Free Farmstand located at the UU Church of Nashua during the summer months. Bring your donations to the stand between 9:00 AM and noon on Sundays. Visit https://www.grownashua.org/share for more information.

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Submit Prayer Concerns Online - Find the 'prayer request' button on the worship page for any prayer concerns you would like to share with Rev. Jami. You may also submit a confidential prayer by calling the church office.

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Pulpit Flowers – If you would like to provide fresh flowers for the pulpit on Sunday morning, sign up on the chart located on the window sill near the welcome center or contact Sue in the church office to see what dates are available.

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Sign up to receive First Church e-News to stay in touch with what's happening at First Church. Contact Dianne at dsmigliani@tfcucc.org, and she will add you to the list.

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First Church Cyclists - The group invites anyone, regardless of age or ability to join them for fun, fresh air, and fellowship. All rides are on Sundays at 2:00 PM.

Rain date is the following Sunday. Contact Ray Baldwin (contact the church office or see the church directory for his number) with any questions.

September 12: Goffstown Rail Trail, Fisher Cats Stadium, Manchester,
September 26: Charles River Bike Path, Museum of Science, Boston, MA
October 3: Reformatory/Narrow Gauge Trails, Depot Park, Bedford, MA

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Choirs in Worship Next Sunday

Sunday, September 19, 2021

8:30 and 10:00 AM: Staff Singer Quartet

FIRST MUSIC

CONCERT SERIES 2021–22 SEASON

SEASON XIV: STAYING ALIVE!

October 17, 2021
PIPES SPECTACULAR!
Organ virtuoso Adam J. Brakel

December 19, 2021
CHRISTMAS AT FIRST: *Gaudete*
Chancel Choir of The First Church & Muddy Brook Chamber Ensemble

March 13, 2022
4 HANDS – 1 GRAND
(Piano duo)
Liana Paniyeva & Cihan Yucel

April 10, 2022
DIVA TO DIVA TO DIVO
Brianna Robinson, soprano – Michelle Trainor, soprano – David Rivera Bozon, tenor

May 15, 2022
JAZZ MASTERS
The Nebula Project - Rosenblum Sextet

FIRST FRIDAYS AT FIRST
FREE 30-minute organ recitals @ 12:15pm

November 5	*Scott Bergendahl*	St. Hedwig Parish – Manchester, NH
December 3	*Barbara Flocco*	Phillips Academy Exeter – Exeter, NH
January 7	*Bruce Adami*	Christ Church Exeter – Exeter, NH
February 4	*Mary Jodice*	Saint Andrew Episcopal Church – Marblehead, MA
March 4	*Kristjon Imperio*	Pakachoag Music School – Worcester, MA
April 1	*Emily Adams*	Main Street United Methodist Church – Nashua, NH

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday Worship

SEP 5 - Last Summer Service
9:00am: In-Person Worship & Livestream
SEP 12 – Regular Services Begin
8:30am: In-Person Worship
10:00am: In-Person Worship & Livestream
Sunday School & Childcare

Choirs

Starting
WED SEP 1, 6:45pm: Chancel Choir, sanctuary

THU SEP 28, 6:30pm: First Folk, sanctuary

THU SEP 30, 7:00pm: Decibells, sanctuary

Small Groups

MON SEP 13, 9:30am: Bible, Friends & Coffee, Fellowship Hall

WED SEP 15, 8:00am: Men's Group, Ladies' Parlor

Other Groups

TUESDAYS, 4:00pm: First Church at Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter

THURSDAYS, STARTING SEP 16: 10:00am-2:00pm Thrift Shop

SATURDAYS, 11:00am: Sisters in Sobriety, dining room

MONTHLY EVENTS

WED SEP 1, 12:00 pm: Nashua Area Interfaith Council

WED SEP 8, 7:00pm: Thank You Project, room 10

THU SEP 9, 3:00 pm: Caregivers Meeting

FRI SEP 10, 2:00 pm: Hunt Community Service

TUE SEP 14, 2:00 pm: Visitation Meeting, room 10

WED SEP 15, 4:00 pm: Craft Meeting, dining room

SAT SEP 18, 10:00am: DAR, room 10

FRI SEP 24, 4:00 pm: First Church at Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter

TUE SEP 28, 2:00 pm: Huntington Service

BI-MONTHLY

SUN SEP 19, 11:30 am: Confirmation Class, Fireside Room

SUN SEP 26, 11:30 am: Women's Wisdom & Spirituality, dining room

SPECIAL EVENTS

THU SEP 9, 6:00pm: Teachers' Meeting, Shaw Chapel & Classrooms

SUN SEP 12, Rally Sunday & Barbecue

MON SEP 13, 5:30pm: Safe Church
6:30 pm: All Boards Worship and Meetings

SAT SEP 18, 8:00am-12:00pm: Thank You Project's Water Walk, Greeley Park
9:00am-2:00pm: Prudential Retreat, NCC

SUN SEP 19, 11:30am: Board Chairs, room 10
11:30am: Mission Trip Informational Meeting, room 15

MON SEP 20, 7:00pm: Empty Nest, location TBD

WED SEP 22: First Church Golf Tournament, Overlook Golf Club

SUN SEP 26, 11:30am: Membership Orientation, room 10

WED SEP 29, 7:00pm: Discussion Series, dining room

THU SEP 30, 6:00pm: Heron Cove, dining room

THE FIRST CHURCH

STAFF

Senior Minister, *Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong*, aarmstrong@tfcucc.org
Associate Minister for Congregational Care, *Rev. Jami D. Boyle*, jboyle@tfcucc.org
Interim Associate Minister, *Rev. Andrew Gilman*, agilman@tfcucc.org
Minister of Music, *Joseph R. Olefirowicz, CAGO*, jolefirowicz@tfcucc.org
Director of Christian Formation, *LeeAnne Steenhoek*, lsteenhoek@tfcucc.org
Church Business and Marketing Manager, *Dianne Smigliani*, dsmigliani@tfcucc.org
Secretary/Receptionist, *Susan T. Englander*, senglander@tfcucc.org
Sexton, *Steve Buck*, sbuck@tfcucc.org

Pastors Emeriti, *Rev. James S. Chaloner and Rev. Dr. Jeffrey C. Evans*

WELCOME

A warm welcome is extended to all who are attending this worship service. A special greeting to those who are visiting or worshiping for the first time. Please sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or fill out the **visitor card** found in the pew racks. Fill out the back of the card, and put it in the offering plate or hand it to a minister, Usher or Deacon so we may acknowledge your visit. Join in the time of fellowship, in Chapel Hall, following worship. If you have any questions about the life and ministry of First Church please seek out the individuals wearing colored name tags; they are members of the various boards and committees.

INFORMATION

First Church was gathered on December 16, 1685 as The Church of Christ in Dunstable. On the same day Thomas Weld was ordained and settled as minister of the church. The current building, built in 1894, is the tenth building to house the First Church community. In 1961, the church entered fellowship with the United Church of Christ. We welcome into our membership any who will own the covenant of First Church and seek to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in the community and world. Those interested in joining the church should contact the church office for information. New members are received during worship in November, February and May. The Sacrament of Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month and the Sacrament of Baptism on the last. First Church is supported almost entirely by pledges. Every member is expected to make a financial pledge according to their ability.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is available to all in need. Please keep the ministers informed of occasions of sickness, sorrow, and joy. Let the church office know if you or family member or friend is hospitalized.

COMMUNICATIONS

If you have a change of address, phone number, or email address, please let the church office know so that we may keep our records current.

All information for the weekly bulletin must be in the office by noon on Wednesday. All information for the monthly newsletter must be in the office by 4:30 PM on the second Monday of the month.

<u>All use of the building must be scheduled by the Secretary.</u>

THE FIRST CHURCH
NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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