



First Parish Federated Church

Weekly Word

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

*Welcoming All – Sharing God's Love – Living in Grace
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation*

Children's Celebration Sunday, June 9th

Come & See, Come & Hear what our
children have been exploring in Sunday School!!!!
10 A.M. Worship

Dear friends & members of FPFC, sharing ministry with you as part-time Bridge Pastors since January has been a blessed experience. You have graciously received us into your homes, your worship time, and your lives. Thank you for the trust you have placed in us as we have been privileged to serve our home church in this unique pastoral role. Also, thanks for the opportunity to actually pastor together for only the second time in our 40+ years of ordained ministry. Our original covenant was to serve as Bridge Pastors through March 31. As you are aware, we agreed to extend this ministry with the church through the end of April, then May, and now June is upon us. Like many of you, we look forward to a more relaxed pace for the Summer, when we can have more adventures with our grandson, and visit favorite places with our family. Beginning June 10th, we will relinquish our Bridge Ministry responsibilities.

We are aware that, despite the Search committee's due diligence there is no definite date for an Interim Pastor to begin. Knowing that, we have agreed with the Council to lead worship and preach on June 23, and to occasionally provide pulpit supply for FPFC as we are available. Moving forward, the Deacons and the Called to Care team will provide ongoing pastoral care. We will respond to crisis pastoral care needs at the request of the Deacons. We are committed to continuing our roles as members with Community Outreach, Men's Group and Deacons (Mark) & Christian Education, Called to Care and Pastoral Relations. (Ivy)

Thank you to all those who have pitched in and capably handled more than their usual commitments to the church to assist us and the church during this transitional period. We pray that our church will continue to be faithful in the ministry and mission of this transition at FPFC.

*In God's grace and peace,
Ivy and Mark*



The next gathering of the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will be on Saturday, June 8th from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Church library. You don't have to know how to knit or crochet; just come for the fellowship if you like. If you are interested in starting a project, surely someone in the group could help with some instruction. If you have any questions, please free to contact either Cheryl Estabrooke at 207-384-5280 or Candy Flanders at 207-384-2807.



South Berwick Strawberry Festival

Strawberry Festival Team needed to plan the church booth activity. Please join us after church in the Shorey Room. And if you can't make the meeting, we still need you to man the booth. Two hour shifts on Saturday June 29 from 9am to 4pm. Please let Julia Ouellette know how you can help and thank you.

We need your feedback...

Please use this link to complete a survey for the tech team to gain feedback on livestream experiences and future interest in possible expansions.

[FPFC Tech Team-Livestream Survey 2024forms.gle](https://forms.gle)

Please let our Pastors know if you have any prayer needs or Pastoral emergencies. They are so grateful for the opportunity to serve our faith community as bridge Pastors. *See contact info at the bottom of this newsletter.*



Every week, UCC churches in Maine take a turn praying for each other. This week we are praying for Rev. Dan Hollis and Rev. Eric Dupee and the congregational at York, First Parish.

FPFC Prayer Journal for this week

Prayers – all those who need God’s comfort, strength and support; all caregivers; help us to have hearts of compassion, encouragement, and understanding; PEACE! and healing; the end to gun violence; the lost and forgotten; those who are hungry or displaced; Kitty Davis; Louise Ford; Betty and Maynard Hansen; Arlene Burton, waiting for a test date; Arlene Hodgdon; Beth Lizotte, finished her chemo, but still to have transfusions; the people of Israel, Gaza, Palestine, Sudan & Ukraine; harmony in the world; our Search Committee; Kent MacNown and Donna Seward; Mae and Cary Wallace; people searching or questioning; Craig Curtis; all missionaries; Janet Conroy’s brothers-in -law, Jeff and Jack; Bonnie’s son; Jane Leach has covid; York Beach Union Congregational Church

GOD, HELP US TO BE BRIDGE BUILDERS

Celebrations – thank you to: Chris Klaxton for your music; our guest musician, Maria Benzekri, a cellist; the choir for their voices; the Tech Team; Reverends Ivy Merrill and Mark Ferrin; Judy Bagrud for organizing coffee hour, this is her last Sunday before fall, enjoy camp; Julia Ouellette for running the nursery; Lucy Putnam for the beautiful flowers; Olivia Therrien and sister Zoey and friends in Washington, DC for a wedding; women who went to the Pilgrim Lodge retreat; HOLY COMMUNION; in the sanctuary today! and able to join in a circle for Peace On Earth; Birthdays: 5/25-Christie Oberg; 5/28- Emery Odile Klaxton (1); 6/2-Kitty Davis (102); 6/3-Candy Flanders; 6/7-Betty Holbrook; 6/10-Carter Bolduc; 6/18-Marie Trudel; 6/19-Erin Dickson and Michaela Flanders; Happy Anniversary to Betty and Maynard Hanson (67) on May 26.

JESUS ACCEPTS US ALL

If you missed worship this past Sunday, here's a video of it to watch if you wish.



*Thank you for continuing to give to your church during these challenging times. Your gifts keep us ministering to our communities and our world!
We couldn't be the church without you!*

Click here to give to your church! And...thank you!



First Parish Federated Church

Pastors: Rev. Mark Ferrin and
Rev. Ivy Merrill

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Contact Us

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