



The North Church

# BEACON

The deadline for the next BEACON is at **9 a.m. Monday June 6, 2011**. Send entries to [beacon@fccucc.org](mailto:beacon@fccucc.org).

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**May 22, 2011**

**Worship**

**1**

**Pastor and Pew**

**2**

**S L & W**

**3**

**Seniors / Youth**

**3**

**E G & F / M & O**

**4**

**Administration**

**5**

## Looking Ahead in Worship

### May 22 - Community Crisis Ministries Sunday

**8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship**

**10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship** with the Meetinghouse

Choir and nursery/toddler care. Older children remain in worship with their families. Scott Berry will give the message.

### May 29 - Memorial Day Sunday

**8:30 a.m. - Chapel worship**

**10:00 a.m. - Sanctuary worship** with the Meetinghouse

Choir and nursery/toddler care. Older children remain in worship with their families. Elsa Peters will give the message and members of the Willard Engine and Ladder Company #2 will join us.

## SUMMER CHILD CARE

Each Sunday mid-May through August we'll offer nursery-toddler care and child care for children through age 5. Older children are invited to worship with their families through the summer.

Remember we have children's bulletins available each week, and summer services are shorter followed by lemonade on the porch. As always we welcome your suggestions on how to make Sunday mornings "family friendly."

**PLEASE:** remember to bring non-perishable items for our food pantry. The need is greater than ever.



## IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Those serving in the military and their loved ones; peace and peacemakers; victims of the earthquake in Japan, and weather-related suffering especially in the southern US; those caught up in government protests; for our elected leaders and those who are left desperate by budget cuts and shifting priorities.

### *Ongoing prayers:*

**Dick Hermann**, Pam's husband, following heart surgery; **David Smart** at Brighton Rehab; **Kim Early** following knee surgery for a torn ACL; **Pam Mulcahey** – Ralph and Jane Howard's daughter – who is donating a kidney to a coworker on May 24.

## 30 Precious Minutes

It's the season where I sit for 30 minutes with young people as they make decisions about Confirmation. I start each conversation the same way that many families talk about their days over dinner. What was the best thing that happened in Confirmation? What was the worst? The last youth I met with told me that everything was wonderful. He couldn't think of anything bad.

I find myself wishing that were true for life. For these 30 precious minutes, I get to explore baptismal vows, moments of grace, attempting to define the theological concept of grace and what this youth thinks they will need beyond this moment when they are confirmed. Each year, our kids resound with a chorus for the need of support. They want to know that the church will be there for them. They want to know that our members will indeed walk with them through the darkest valleys and not only celebrate them with scholarships and camperships. Those are good things. The youth appreciate them very much, but our youth are profoundly aware that it's not always going to be so easy. Things are going to be tough when they grow up. They are all very emphatic on this point. I wonder where this idea comes from. I wonder who or what told them that life is so hard. But, there it is: nothing will be as delightful as the experience of Confirmation. I don't push them on this. Instead, my question seems to be, "OK, well, what will you do to change the world?"

Ironically, that's the question they are already asking. Our 10 youth who will be confirmed on June 12 believe that following Jesus Christ means putting faith into action. After Children's Celebration Sunday, these 10 youth and their 10 mentors gathered at my home to ask pertinent questions about how to do that. I was surprised and delighted as these kids critiqued the powers of this world, imagined a world without poverty and claimed peace in their own lives. Well, it wasn't that simple or that easy but my heart is warmed that they are asking terrific questions. These 10 youth will change both the world and the church simply because they want you to hear their voice. It's my hope that you'll listen to what they have to say and always encourage them to take another step. I hope that you too find 30 precious minutes with each of these youth. As one of these youth would be quick to remind you, that's what it means to be the body of Christ.

*Elsa*

**CONFIRMATION  
SUNDAY  
JUNE 12**

Love our youth as they decide if and how they will join our church in June.



**SENIOR ACTIVITIES**

**Thursday, May 26 - 9:00 breakfast at I-Hop.** Join us for food, friendship and fun.

**Thursday, June 2 - SAGE meeting at 1:00.**

**Thursday, June 16 - Leave church at 1:00 for a matinee performance "The Marvelous Wonderettes" at Maine State Music Theatre.** Tickets are limited so please reserve soon.

**Wednesday, June 22 - Leave church at 11:00 for lunch at the Lobster Shack.**

**POTTED PALMS  
FOR SALE**

We have three potted palms for sale from our Palm Sunday service. If you'd like to purchase one to grace your home or patio, please drop off a check for \$10.00 payable to FCC, UCC.

Cyndi Alden  
[cda@fccucc.org](mailto:cda@fccucc.org)

**All Church Capture the Flag Game**

In Christ Kid's Club, our kids from Grades 1-8 have been working together to understand how to find Jesus in the ways that they play together. This has been our year-long focus of Christ Kid's Club. They've played games together of all shapes and sizes to practice leadership, sharing and seeing Christ in everyone. Now, it's time to share what they've learned.

The kids invite you to an all-church capture the flag game (where everyone from 2-102 can play) at Fort Williams at 2:00 p.m. on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Find us on the yard right where you drive in. We'll play with anyone who comes and hope to model the things we've learned together through fair and loving play.

Elsa A. Peters  
[elsa@fccucc.org](mailto:elsa@fccucc.org)

**Summer is (Almost) Here! Beach Chair Theology is Back!**

Beach Chair Theology will return this summer. This is our fourth summer and for the first time we'll be diving back into the Hebrew Scriptures to hear a familiar story of freedom and promise. This summer, we'll explore the Exodus story. Bring a beach chair and a Bible. The coffee will be poured and Bibles will be opened at 8:00 a.m.

If you're interested in reading along with us or joining us early on Tuesday mornings, please note the following schedule. Please also look for reading materials available around the church building to learn more about the Book of Exodus.

**Tuesday May 31:** Exodus 12:33-13:10  
**Tuesday June 28:** Exodus 13:11-13:22  
**Tuesday July 12:** Exodus 14:1-15:19  
**Tuesday August 2:** Exodus 15:20-16:36

We are blessed that Scott Berry will be our wonderful host again. He has a beautiful view near Two Lights overlooking the water. It's a treat to be there - with plenty of parking for all.

Directions to Scott's home are: take 77 to Two Lights Road. Follow this to Mare's Hollow Lane (on your right where the paintings are sold). Make a sharp right. Scott's home is the first on the left. There is ample parking on the grass right before Scott's home. Scott may even be out there to direct traffic.

Elsa A. Peters  
[elsa@fccucc.org](mailto:elsa@fccucc.org)

**Youth Ministry Ends Season**

Youth Ministry will have its last event of the year on **Sunday May 29**. The youth will go cheer the **Sea Dogs**. Meet at church at **11:45 a.m.** After the game, we'll have an end of the season barbecue at the Bakke's home.



## Scholarship Awards – May 15

The Scholarship Committee announces with great pleasure the scholarship award recipients for 2011:

### General Scholarship Awards:

Calvin Alden  
Morgen Alden  
Brian Arsenault  
Elizabeth Briggs  
Sam Chatto  
Ross Cummings  
Sarah Gray  
Christopher Harle  
Jennifer Harle  
Sarah Howard  
Evan Indorf  
Mavis Kwakutse  
Catherine McAloon  
Charles McAloon  
Alexander Ratta  
Greg Reinhold  
Jamie Reinhold  
Jerry Reynolds  
Matt Russell  
Coral Sandler  
Connor Shoos  
Tess Wiggins

## April Rummage/Garage Sale Update...

Well, it happened and we are rejoicing as we made \$2831.00! A long week of hard work but it was worth it.

I want to extend a grand THANK YOU to those who gave us items to sell and a grateful THANK YOU to my workers who make it happen

## Mission Trip Study

Our group will gather to study about why we do mission once more on **June 8 at 7:00 p.m.** in Davidson Lounge. Attendance is required of all participants so please mark your calendars.



The General Scholarship Fund is set aside for any church members who are studying at the college, university or graduate level. Award considerations include financial need, and church involvement during and after high school.

No awards were made from the Pond Scholarship Fund this year.

### *Scholarship Committee:*

Debra Andrews  
Scott Ayre  
Eben Marsh  
John McCall  
Jeri Sides  
Chris Zechman

every time. I could not do it without your help.

I am now taking time to slow down as the fall sale will be here before we know it!!

*Prudy Wiggins*  
[rummagesale@fccucc.org](mailto:rummagesale@fccucc.org)

## Leisurely Lectionary

Our Wednesday morning Bible Study will take its usual summer rest. Our last gathering will be **Wednesday June 8 at 10:30 am.** We'll be together again in the fall.

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Our last date for knitting will be **Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup>.** We will start up again on Tuesday September 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Darla Harris*  
[prayershawl@fccucc.org](mailto:prayershawl@fccucc.org)

## FAIR TRADE COFFEE

The next Fair Trade coffee orders will be taken **June 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>** outside Wright Pavilion with an expected distribution date of July 3.

*Carol Scheffler*  
[fairtrade@fccucc.org](mailto:fairtrade@fccucc.org)

## THANK YOU'S

We sincerely thank the generous members of the Monday bridge group for their recent donation to Community Crisis Ministries. They continue to support our program and help make it possible for us to assist our neighbors who have nowhere else to turn. Thank you very much for your contribution!

Another thank you goes to the people who helped with the 90th birthday party on May 5. We had 45 in attendance with 13 over 90. Two other "over 90's" had planned to come and 15 would have been our record for attendance.

It took many hands before, during and after the party to make it all possible. We thank you all.

*Kathy Sahrbeck*  
[outreach@fccucc.org](mailto:outreach@fccucc.org)

### OFFICIAL CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING

The members of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, are hereby called to meet on **Sunday, May 22, 2011** following the 10:00 a.m. service of worship:

- I. To receive the annual reports of the Officers of the Church, The Minister and Staff, Boards and Committees;
- II. To elect Church Officers, Council and Team members for the 2011-2012 program year;
- III. To hear and act upon any other business which may properly come before the Church.

Janet B. Butler  
Church Clerk

### News from Nancy Foran, Elder Chaplain

It's hard to believe that I have been the Elder Chaplain here at FCC for a decade and pastor at the Raymond Village Community Church for nearly 6 years. As part of my terms of call at the Raymond Village Church, I was granted a sabbatical after 5 years - which I shall be taking this summer and early fall. I am grateful that FCC has also allowed me to take an unpaid leave of absence to coincide with my renewal time.

A year ago, the Raymond Village Church and I applied for a Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Grant, which we were awarded last November. I am excited that the Raymond Village Church will have its share of renewal programs and events even as I am following my sabbatical dreams.

My sabbatical time begins on June 27th. I will back renewed here at FCC on October 25th. During those 4 months, I will be doing some traveling as well as spending time in my own back yard. My husband, Joe, and our three children, Heather, Paddy, and Tim will be traveling with

me to Peru in July for a Foran Family Adventure. We will be doing a 5 day trek to Cochequirao as well as visiting Machu Picchu and other Incan sites in the Sacred Valley outside of Cusco. Our guide will be Puma Quispe, a respected indigenous shaman and friend of our daughter, Heather.

I will also be spending time at our summer cottage in Algonquin Park in Ontario with my family - just relaxing! Joe and I will be hiking part of the West Highland Way in Scotland in September as well as spending a week at the Iona Community off the coast of Scotland. When I am not traveling, I will be creating an outdoor labyrinth on our property in Naples.

I know that John McCall is working diligently to match many of the senior citizens that I visit with lay visitors for the time I am away. I trust that this plan will work well - and perhaps over time will expand the ministry that I do. I look forward to sharing my stories when I return!

*Nancy Foran*

### WHO IS GOING TO PILGRIM LODGE?

*May 27-30*

**Mike Kasputes  
Deb Theriault**

*June 22-25*

**Alexis Nesbit  
Paul Zechman**

*June 26-July 2*

**Sally Keiter**

*July 7-9*

**Carolyn Foster  
Grace Stacey**

*July 17-23*

**Colin Harle  
Jen Harle  
Sally Keiter**

*July 24-30*

**Sam Ayre**

*July 31-August 6*

**Lindsey Ayre  
Kayla Hulsey**

*August 7-13*

**Alex Livingston  
Xander Keiter  
Finn Zechman**

*August 14-20*

**Theo Brucker  
Mac Brucker**

Don't you want to go too? Register at [www.pilgrimlodge.org](http://www.pilgrimlodge.org).

Camperships are available to all church members who express a need. Generous contributions to our Campership Fund are always welcome.

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