



T H E B E A C O N

SEPTEMBER 2016

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 9

Deadline for the next BEACON is Monday, September 18, 2016—Send entries to beacon@fccucc.org



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For those who live without sufficient food, water, shelter, or safety; for veterans and those in active service; for peace and peacemakers; for areas in strife around the world.

Prayers for Louise Nisbet;

Prayers for Jean Siulinski, recovering at home;

Prayers for Debra Honey;

Prayers for Jim Ekedahl;

Prayers for Thatcher Lord, brother of Debbie Riley.

Prayers for Debbie Conlon, wife of our sexton Tom, as she is undergoing dialysis and awaits a kidney transplant.



LOOKING AHEAD IN WORSHIP

September 4

9:30 a.m.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sanctuary Worship with Communion

Cindy Maddox will give the message. Fellowship time follows with Lemonade on the Porch.

September 11

8:30 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost—*Homecoming*

Chapel Worship

Sanctuary Worship

Cindy Maddox will give the message.

Homecoming picnic follows.

10:00 a.m.

September 18

8:30 a.m.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chapel Worship

Sanctuary Worship with Sunday School

Cindy Maddox will give the message. Fellowship time follows.

10:00 a.m.

September 25

8:30 a.m.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Chapel Worship

Sanctuary Worship

Cindy Maddox will give the message. Fellowship time follows.

10:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Visit our web site: www.fccucc.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

On **July 24**, we welcomed **nine** new members to our congregation:

Sue Farris was born in Portland, grew up in Connecticut and spent 20 years in New Hampshire before returning to her roots here in Maine. Sue moved here in February 2016, for a great job opportunity in administration at the University of New England College of Graduate and Professional Studies. She also teaches part-time, online, for Granite State College. When she has free time, Sue loves being on her bicycle, tramping through the woods, or exploring the beautiful coastline of her partner Ann's home in Corea, Maine. Sue is thrilled to be a part of this church community!

Polly Finlay recently moved to the Eastern Prom to start a new job as the Commercial Sales Rep for the House of Lights in Scarborough, Maine. She is the mother of Myles, 14 and Megan, 21. Polly grew up on the south shore of Boston, but has called the greater Portland area "home" for the last 25 years. Polly enjoys Portland and all the wonderful activities it offers, especially the trail system in and around the water for walking.

Stephanie Greenland hails from Merrimack, New Hampshire, where she grew up attending First Church Nashua UCC. Stephanie enjoys photography, hiking, music, singing with the *Meetinghouse Choir*, and participating in the Cherryfield Mission Trip. She thanks you for your patience as she took the scenic route to membership and looks forward to continuing to share in this faith journey with you.

Kara Leopold and her husband David have three children: Thomas (11), Grant (9) and Alexandra (6). Born in San Diego and reared in Washington, DC, Kara worked as an attorney in New York City and Albany before finally coming

"home" to Maine in 2006. She lives in Cape Elizabeth with her family and serves on the board of the Fort Williams Park Foundation, the Cape Elizabeth Educational Foundation, coaches youth cross country, and is active with the Portland Museum of Art's Contemporaries.

Jeff & Karen Stoddard live in South Portland with their two children: Henry will be six in October and entering Kindergarten this fall; Elliott will be three in September and starting Pre-K this fall. Karen, who grew up in Yarmouth is a stay-at-home mom. She recently became a yoga instructor and a life guard. Jeff, originally from Natick, MA, is the CIO at Onpoint Health Data. He has been in Maine for 12 years. When possible, the family likes being outdoors to hike and swim. Jeff and Karen are very excited in becoming more involved in our great church!

Neil & Peggy Sutton moved to the Portland area in October 2015, after 40 plus years in Massachusetts, to be near their son Clark and his two boys, ages three and six. Their other son Tyler lives in California with his family, one son age 8, and one daughter age 3. Neil is in sales/management and enjoys being around people. Peggy is a social worker and worked at a Hospice in Springfield, MA for several years. She is interested in gardening, water color painting, sports and the outdoors. Neil and Peggy have been married for 43 years and love the ocean, but remain lakes and mountain lovers at heart. They are very family oriented and look forward to being part of a church community.

Anna Whitaker moved to South Portland in January and is a recent graduate from the University of Southern Maine. She is on the *Caring and Connections Team* and looks forward to meeting more people at church. In her free time, Anna enjoys reading, playing board games and spending time outdoors.

MINISTRY OPEN HOUSE

Are you looking for a place to serve in the church? Trying to find your niche? Or just wondering what all these different committees do around here? Then you will enjoy our Ministry Open House. During our fellowship time after worship on **September 18**, the different committees and teams will staff tables with info on what they do and how you can get involved. Come and see!



MISSION GLOBE, ALTAR FLOWERS & STEEPLE REMEMBRANCES

STEEPLE DEDICATIONS

August 28—September 3—In loving memory of **William T. & Vera T.**

Holbrook, from Judy & Bob Kelley, Debbie & Joe Conley and Karen McDonough

September 4-10—In loving memory of **John Wetmore, Jr.**, his mother and father **Mr. & Mrs. John Wetmore**; Ina's mother and father **Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Strout**, from Ina, Steve and Pat

MISSION GLOBE

September 18—In loving memory of **Edithe & Linwood Durrell** and **Eugene & Bernice Rideout**, from their children Debbie & Jim Rideout.

For Steeple dedications, please call the church office.

To remember or celebrate loved ones with flowers on the altar or light the Mission Globe, please contact Dana Wiggins at danawig@gmail.com.

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Shirley is back on the organ bench and planning for the fall choir rehearsals.

Tuesday, September 6, the **Meetinghouse Choir** starts rehearsals at **7:00 p.m.** in the rehearsal room under the chancel. We start singing in services on September 11. Choir is open to all from 7th grade on up. Rehearsals run from **7:00—8:45 p.m.** and all are welcome.

Wednesday, September 7, the **Children's Choir** starts rehearsals at **6:30 p.m.** Rehearsals are 45 minutes and this choir is open to all girls and boys in **grades 2-6**. Come sing and clap and stomp with us!

Watch for the next Beacon for details about the **Joyful Noise** group led by Robin Mead. *Hallelujah!*



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES ACTIVITIES

Thursday, September 1—**SAM meeting** at **1:00 p.m.** in the 2nd/ 3rd grade classroom above the church office. Please come with your new activity ideas. Come even if you don't have any thoughts on what we might do!

Wednesday, September 14—We will leave at **9:30 a.m.** to go to the **Oxford County Fair**. We'll miss the Pig Scramble and He-man contest but there will be other fun things to do while we're there. Please **RSVP by September 8**, so that we can arrange for transportation.



Thursday, September 22—We will meet at the church at **11:30 a.m.** and go for lunch to **Ken's Restaurant** in Scarborough. This might be the last time you have fried fish in 2016, so join us. **RSVP by September 19**.

Thursday, October 6—**SAM meeting** at **1:00 p.m.** in the 2nd/ 3rd grade classroom above the church office.



THE HILLTOP GUILD will meet on **Thursday, September 8** at **700 p.m.** We will plan the upcoming year and talk about the fun we had this summer! We hope that you will join us!



LEISURELY LECTIONARY IS BACK!
Thursday, September 15
10:30 a.m.

HOMECOMING—CHURCH PICNIC

Our Annual church picnic will be held after our 10:00 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, September 11**, in the church parking lot. (If it rains, we will picnic in Guptill Hall). We are asking church families to help by signing up on the board posted in the narthex and consider bringing one of the items listed to the picnic. Thank you so much for contributing.



~ EF&G Committee

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Please use the form on the link provided on the Sunday School section of our website, or fill out one of the paper forms in the narthex and leave in Anne Fuehrer’s mailbox. The **first day of classes** is **September 18**.



Teachers and teaching partners are needed in all grades, so please don’t be shy about expressing an interest in this area. We need adults to cover all the age groups. Teacher Training will be held early this month, with updates in an upcoming church bulletin.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

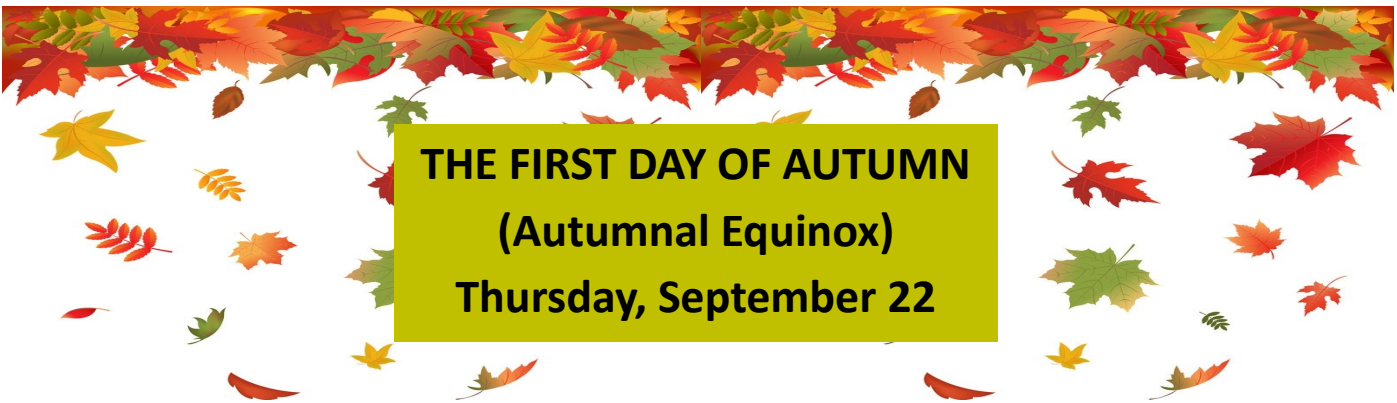
On **Homecoming Sunday, September 11**, we will have a blessing of the backpacks during our children’s time. All students (of any age) are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed. Teachers, administrators, and other school personnel are also invited to bring their bags or anything else that represents their work.



Also, please bring extra school supplies for children in need.

WATER FROM MANY PLACES

If you are traveling this summer, consider bringing home a small container of water from a special place. We’ll gather the water in the font on **September 11**, and consecrate it to be used for baptisms in the coming year.



THE FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
(Autumnal Equinox)
Thursday, September 22

FREE TRADE COFFEE & TEA

We are all still enjoying the pleasures – and challenges – of a Maine summer but Fall is just around the corner. With September comes the start of all kinds of activities including taking orders for **Fair Trade coffee and tea**. We will be taking orders on **September 25**, and **October 2**, with distribution hopefully happening on October 23. If this seems a long time away and summer company has depleted your store of coffee, you can go to the Equal Exchange Fair Trade website at www.equalexchange.coop/community to see their product list and wholesale prices. There are some new products to check out, including single serve “k-cups”! Please note that wholesale prices apply only when ordering a whole case and that shipping will be charged unless your order totals over \$135.00. In the meantime, enjoy your summer and we will see you in September!
~ Your Fair Trade Committee



2016 ART SHOW First Congregational Church UCC invites the entries of artists who wish to exhibit an original work of art that reflects the show's theme, *Divine Diversity*, in its second art show funded by the Dream Initiative on **Saturday, October 8, 2016, 1:00-4:30 p.m.**

A panel of judges will award cash prizes in three categories: painting/drawing; photography; other media such as sculpture, stained glass, fabric arts, metal arts. First prize – \$300; Second prize – \$200; Honorable Mention. There will also be a Visitors' Choice award of \$100. Visit our web site at www.fccucc.org to register.



CHILDREN'S MUSEUM & THEATRE OF MAINE

We have a membership pass to the **Children's Museum & Theatre!** Church members may use this pass for free admission to the Museum for up to six people (in one group) per day. Please call or stop by the Church Office to reserve the date that you would like to visit the Museum and a pass will be issued. For information activities and hours at the Museum, visit the web site at www.kitetails.org



RUMMAGE SALE

Our Rummage Sale will be held on **October 22**, so save the date, your clothing, furniture, books, etc. for the big sale. For more information, contact Prudy Wiggins at 799.5705. **Please do not bring any items to church until after October 1.**

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Any of you yard sale shoppers, this is the season where they are all over the place. Please, while you are out and about, think of us. If you see something you think might fit into Grandma's Attic, Gifts or Trash & Treasures. How about buying it for a donation to our Bazaar! There are lots of nice items out there for a few dollars. Even if you are not a yard sale person, just stop once in awhile when you are driving by one. We really need everyone's help. If you don't want to store the things you collect, bring them to me, Jan. Thanks ~ Jan Files & Lynne Lanctot

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Whoever said, *"You can't get there from here"* was wrong.

Yes, you can!

Quickly and easily!

Any time you want!

Your church has taken care of everything for you.



Here's how it works. Our church has a contract with ITN (International Transportation Network). You simply call them up, tell them where you want to go, and they will make it happen for you.

A couple of limitations:

You must be at least 65 years old.

You must wish to go within about a 15 mile radius.

Enormous advantages:

Any trip related to the church is totally free for you.

Any trip, anywhere else, is much cheaper than a taxi would be.



Getting everything started is really easy:

Call Rev. Bob Morse, 799-3361, and he will help do everything to make it happen.