



# Flipping Tables January 25, 2026

We are a progressive community of faith seeking to follow the teachings of Jesus, pursue justice and live God's love.

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



**A Note for Families / Folks of All Ages:** Today we begin worship together. After the Time for All God's Children, young people grades K-8 are invited to follow teachers upstairs to our one-room classroom.

There are clipboards with paper and coloring pages at the back of the sanctuary, for worshippers of any age to use during the service.

**PRELUDE**

*Psalm 89 I Will Sing of Thy Steadfast Love*

Ring for Joy

Judy Hunnicutt

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**THRESHOLD MOMENT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP\*\***

One: We are children of God:

**All: Called to praise, and to bless, and to show mercy.**

One: We are citizens of a nation:

**All: Called to care, and to respond, and to share our freedom.**

One: We are members of a community:

**All: Called to know each other and to honor each other's humanity.**

One: We belong to God, and through God, to one another.

**All: So may our hearts be as one, and let us worship our God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*God of Mercy, God of Justice*

#504, vs. 1, 2, 4

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS\*\***

Gracious God, source of mercy and grace, hear our prayer.

**We come before you in need of healing:**

**The healing of our bodies and souls,**

**The healing of our relationships,**

**The healing of our pride and fear and apathy.**

**We know that with you, nothing is impossible, not even our healing,**

**Not even the restoration of the whole world.**

**We pray that you will heal us, that you will heal our world,**

**So that we will be freed to serve and love and dream and be,**

**As Christ calls us. Amen.**

**PRAYERFUL PAUSE**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

### \*SUNG RESPONSE

*Guide My Feet* African American Spiritual 

**Guide my feet, while I run this race. [3 times]**

**For I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Stand by me, while I run this race...**

## TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

John Grew

One: Jesus invites us to look at the world – and God – from a fresh angle.

All: **Holy One, open our eyes, upend our assumptions and prepare us to envision Your world transformed by love and justice.**

### SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:13-22

### SERMON

*Flipping Tables*

Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

## MOMENT OF CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

### ANTHEM

*All Beautiful the March of Days* Frances Whitmarsh Wile,

Arr. Gary Norian

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father-Mother 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.**

### SUNG RESPONSE

*Dream God's Dream*

Sirchio

**Dream God's Dream! Holy Spirit, help us dream  
of a world where there is justice and where everyone is free  
to build and grow and love, and to simply have enough.  
The world will change, when we dream God's dream.**

## OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER

Help us to live God's love and justice. You can make a secure gift by using the QR code, going to [fccucc.org/donate](https://fccucc.org/donate), or by adding your contribution to the box at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!



## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

## BLESSING THE OFFERING

## CLOSING HYMN

*We'll Build a Land*

S-26

Chorus: "Come build a land where *all of us, siblings*, anointed by God..."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Festive Flourish*

Michael W. Joy

Ring for Joy

\* \* \* \* \*

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Thank you** to this morning's ushers: Team B, Peggy Murray, captain.

**Livestream:** Thank you to Alex Ratta for managing our worship livestream!

**Cover Photo by** Dries Buytaert, ©Creative Commons.

**\*\* This morning's liturgy** is adapted from content written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

**The flowers on the altar** are in celebration of my wonderful parents, Patricia A. and Wayne M. Lockwood, on my Dad's birthday with love, from Bruce Lockwood.

**How to make an altar dedication:** Would you like to place flowers on the altar or light the Mission Globe in memory or in honor of a loved one? If so, contact Danna Wiggins at [dannawig2@gmail.com](mailto:dannawig2@gmail.com). To dedicate the lighting of the church steeple, please contact the church office at 799-3361 or email [office@fccucc.org](mailto:office@fccucc.org).

☰ **Royalty for Spirituals:** Historically, the composers of African American Spirituals were neither known nor compensated for use of their songs. The FCC UCC music department has committed to paying forward a 'royalty' each time we include a Spiritual in worship. Funds are donated to the Indigo Arts Alliance:

<https://indigoartsalliance.me/>. You are invited to contribute, as well. Mark your contribution as “Royalty for Spirituals.” *Thank you.*

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE CHURCH IN 2025!**

If you give online and haven't taken the time to update your giving amounts for 2026, now is a great time. Go to the donate page on the church's website, or email [business@fccucc.org](mailto:business@fccucc.org) for an ACH/Credit Card Authorization form or pick one up at the church office.

## **TODAY @ FCC UCC**

**Poster Making Session, Wright Pavilion after worship.** For the Human Rights Vigil on Sunday, February 8.

**Second Hour with Maggie Somers, Maine Conservation of Voters, 12 - 1:00 pm:** Our Wabanaki Allies working group will host a forum on Wabanaki bills pending in the short session of the 132nd Maine legislature. Guest speaker Maggie Somers will help get us up to speed on two bills, in particular: LD 395 (An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws Beneficial to the Wabanaki Nations) and LD 785 (An Act to Enact the Remaining Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act).

## **WEEKLY @ FCC UCC**

**Bible Study, Tuesdays, 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge:** Explore the scripture from the past Sunday, led by Rev. Steve Savage.

**Meetinghouse Choir rehearses on Wednesdays, 6:15 - 8 pm.** All singers are welcome. We meet in the Choir Room on the lower level of the church. Questions? Contact choir director Deirdre McClure at [dmcclure@fccucc.org](mailto:dmcclure@fccucc.org).

**Handbells rehearse on Wednesdays, 4:45 pm in Wright Pavilion.** If you are interested in ringing in the choir or would like more information, please contact bell choir director Sharon Potter: [handbells@fccucc.org](mailto:handbells@fccucc.org).

## **COMING UP @ FCC UCC**

**Hymn Sing, Sunday, February 1, 9:30 am in the chapel:** Choir Director Deirdre McClure invites you to learn some hymns and short songs. Please come! Singers and non-singers alike are invited, and if you feel like you might not quite fit in— that is the *very reason* you should come!

**Annual Budget Meeting, Sunday, February 1, 11:15 am:** All are invited and encouraged to attend this important gathering in the life of our congregation. Learn about the financial health of the church. Bring your questions. Members will be asked to approve the 2026 budget. Our finances fuel our ministry, and all members have a role in stewarding those resources. So, mark your calendars and join us. Thank you!

**Fellowship Club, Tuesday, February 3, 6:15 pm:** Chicken pot pie dinner and entertainment by the Peter Dunphey Trio. Email [carolyn.clark353@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.clark353@gmail.com) for reservations by February 1 at noon. \$25 per person, for more info email [blockwood@portlandresearch.com](mailto:blockwood@portlandresearch.com). Rides available.

**Retirement Celebration, Sunday, February 8,** gather after church in Guptil Hall to celebrate Kathy Sahrbacks retirement.

**Human Rights Vigil, Sunday, February 8, 11:15 am - 11:45 am** join us on the front steps as we stand together to support the inherent rights and freedoms for all people including: Immigrants, black and brown people, women, and all those targeted by ICE.

**Women's Spirit Circle of FCCUCC, Tuesday, February 10, 7 pm, Community Room (5<sup>th</sup> floor):** A welcoming, sacred space where we can slow down, breathe deeply, and connect with one another through laughter, reflection, and soulful conversation. Come just as you are. All women, including LGBTQIA+ women, are welcome. For more info, contact Nancy Brajtbord: [nancy.brajtbord@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.brajtbord@gmail.com) Or Pat Thatcher: [pat.thatcher123@gmail.com](mailto:pat.thatcher123@gmail.com)

**New Member Sunday, February 15** - We will welcome our newest members into covenant community during worship. Are you thinking about joining the church? Please speak to Pastor Alison or email her at [revalisonpatton@fccucc.org](mailto:revalisonpatton@fccucc.org).

**Parents of Adult Children group, Sunday, February 15, 2026, 6:00 - 7:30 pm:** All parents of adult children (over 18 years old) are welcome to join us. For more info contact FCC UCC member Jill Saxby at [revjillsaxby@gmail.com](mailto:revjillsaxby@gmail.com).

**Monthly Game Night, Tuesday, January 20, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Wright Pavilion:** Do you like to play board games? From classics like Rack-O and Rummikub to newer options like Ticket to Ride, there's something for everyone. Questions? Contact Kathy Sahrbeck at [outreach@fccucc.org](mailto:outreach@fccucc.org).

## MISSION AND SOCIAL WITNESS

**Clynk Bags** are in the narthex (inside main entrance). Collect your returnable cans and bottles and return them to a Clynk collection site at Hannaford or other participating grocery stores. Scan the code on the bags and the refunds will automatically be donated to our FCC mission team. *Thank you!*

**Volunteer for Preble Street Food Hub:** On the last Friday of each month, we prepare meals at the Food Hub, 75 Darling Avenue, South Portland, for delivery to Preble Street satellite sites. Please join us! To learn more about how to volunteer, see the Weekly Word or contact Danna Wiggins at [dannawig2@gmail.com](mailto:dannawig2@gmail.com)

## THE WIDER COMMUNITY

**Community Sing, Sunday, February 8, 3:30 pm** at HopeGateWay, 515 Woodford Street, Portland: A monthly gathering of people from around Greater Portland who want to cultivate hope by singing together. Founded by musician-turned-community-organizer Emilia Dahlin. Sign up to learn about future events or opt-in to the Response Team to sing at resistance and change events at [emilia@emiliadahlin.com](mailto:emilia@emiliadahlin.com).

**Youth Service Corps February Meeting, Sunday, February 8, 12 – 2 pm:** Youth are invited to join with youth from around the area on Sunday February 8th, from 12 - 2 pm at First Congregational Church in South Portland, to assemble cleaning kits for Maine Needs. A pizza lunch will be provided at no cost! If you or your young ones have questions, please contact Pastor Steve at [steve@fccucc.org](mailto:steve@fccucc.org).

**Coastal Resilience Overlay Zone Workshop, Tuesday, February 10, 6:30 pm:** City Council Workshop to discuss the proposed Coastal Resilience Overlay Zone (CROZ). WHERE: City Hall (25 Cottage Rd.), Council Chambers. WHO: All members of the public. Join members of FCC UCC's Environmental Task Force who will be attending; help to shape a climate-resilient future in our community!

**Weekly Multi-Faith Vigil outside the Cumberland County Jail, UPDATE.** The detainees who had been being held at CCJ were moved out by federal agents late Thursday night. We are shifting the vigil to neighborhoods where our immigrant neighbors can feel our love. The timing, length and location may vary. Stay tuned for info each week. For this coming **Wednesday, January 28, we will gather at the Courts of Kennedy Park (86 Fox Street, Portland, ME), 2:45-3:15 pm.**

## WHAT'S UP?

**Want to stay in the loop?** Make sure you are on our email list! To UPDATE or ADD your contact info, go to: [fccucc.org](http://fccucc.org) and select "Contact Us" then select "Contact Info Update Form."

**Your positive reviews on social media help others to find us.**

**Write a review on Google (Thanks!). Like and follow us:**



If you witness enforcement activity, call  
the MAINE ICE WATCH HOTLINE and  
remember **SALUTE**

**Size:** How many agents/vehicles?

**Activity:** What are they doing?

**Location:** Where exactly is this happening? (Exact address if possible)

**Unit:** What agency? (ICE, CBP, etc.)

**Time:** When did you see this?

**Equipment:** Vehicle descriptions, clothing, badges



MAINE ICE WATCH HOTLINE NUMBER

**207-544-9989**