



**Confirmation Sunday:
Pass it On!
May 24, 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 worship all together. 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

In the Garden

C. Austin Miles, Arr. Stan Pethel

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THRESHOLD MOMENT

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beautiful, spirit-filled people,
have you heard the news?
God's love is on the move!

All: Pass it on!

One: ¡El amor de Dios se está
moviendo!

All: Pass it on!

One: Whose love?

All: God's love!

Take turns calling out, "God's love is on the move!" or just, "God's love!" in any language you know, one at a time. Each time, the congregation responds:

All: Pass it on! ...

One: God's love is on the move,
blowing through God's Church,
And blazing in God's people!

All: Pass it on!

OPENING HYMN

Pass It On

Kurt Kaiser

Verse 1

It only takes a spark
To get a fire going
And soon all those around
Can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love
Once you've experienced it
You spread God's love to ev'ryone
You want to pass it on.

Verse 2

What a wondrous time is spring
When all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing
The flowers start their blooming

That's how it is with God's love

Once you've experienced it

You want to sing it's fresh like spring

You want to pass it on.

Verse 3

I wish for you my friend

This happiness that I've found

You can depend on God

It matters not where you're bound

I'll shout it from the mountain top

I want my world to know

The Lord of love has come to me

I want to pass it on.

*Please rise, on your feet or in your hearts.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

God of wind and fire, on that first Pentecost, you sent your Spirit and launched a movement to spread love and justice. That movement continues! When we stifle your Spirit in ourselves or others, when we fail to speak up or step out, forgive us! Ignite in us the will to speak truth to power and fan the flames of compassion among us. Wherever we encounter your love in action, teach us to pass it on!

PRAYERFUL PAUSE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Easter People

David Light

We are an Easter people and hallelujah is our song!

We are an Easter people and hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah is our song!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Deborah Tomblyn

One: God of life-renewing power, as we read these ancient texts,

All: Harness our attention, spark our curiosity, and ignite our desire to radiate enough love and justice to restore your world.

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-21 Deborah Tomblyn and Confirmands

SERMON

Pass It On

Rev. Stephen Savage

CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION

Neil Haskins - introduced by Kathy Cotter

Sarah Lupien - introduced by Danna Wiggins

Mary Mahoney - introduced by Carol Zechman

Abby Proctor - introduced by Christine Campbell

Exchange of Promises

FCCUCC Mission Commitments

Bryan Wiggins and Congregation

All: Together we seek:

To worship God as made known in the Scriptures, as revealed in Jesus Christ, and as encountered through the Holy Spirit;

To serve our members, our community and our world, working in faithful witness toward justice and peace for all people;

To educate people of all ages toward a deeper understanding of their individual faith pilgrimage, their relationships with others, and their responsibilities as stewards of God's created order;

And to grow in fellowship as the Body of Christ, inviting others to share in the Good News of God's love.

Act of Confirmation

Family members will be invited forward to gather around each confirmand as they are blessed.

Unison Words of Welcome

All: We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church! We promise you our friendship and prayers, as we share the hopes and labors of Christ's Church. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we grow together, listen for the Still-Speaking God, work for a just and loving world and extend an extravagant welcome to all we meet. Amen!

Prayer of Blessing

One: God who calls us each by name and calls us all to serve:

All: Bless these, your disciples. Lend them eyes to see Christ in friend and stranger, ears to hear the cries of your people, lips to boldly proclaim your grace and mercy, hands to work for justice and a heart to love your world. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

Cantad al Señor

Brazilian Folk Song

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father-Mother in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come; Your 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 Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema

Lord, listen to your children praying

Lord send your Spirit in this place

Lord, listen to your children praying

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

GRATITUDE FOR CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS

STRENGTHEN OUR CHURCH[‡] *and* OFFERING INVITATION

Help us to live God's love and justice. You can make a secure gift by using the QR code, by going to fccucc.org and clicking on "Donate," or by adding your contribution to the box at the back of the sanctuary.



MUSICAL INTERLUDE

CLOSING SONG

This Little Light of Mine

No. 364

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

This Little Light of Mine - Reprise

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WORSHIP NOTES

Thank you to this morning's ushers: Team I, Richard Parker, captain.

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

Flowers on the altar are from Joyce Brown in remembrance of her mother, Ruth J. Brown to celebrate her May 26 birthday.

****The Pastoral Prayer** includes words by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

‡ Strengthen Our Church supports congregations and leaders across the United Church of Christ, as they answer the Spirit's call to live God's love and justice. From leadership development to new church starts, our gifts contribute to innovation and vitality in UCC churches.

WEEKLY @ FCCUCC

Bible Study every Tuesday, 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge: Explore the scripture from the past Sunday, led by Pastor Steve.

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 dmclure@fccucc.org.

Handbell Rehearsal every Wednesday, 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.

Prayer Shawls, every Wednesday, 1 - 3 pm in Davidson Lounge: New and experienced knitters welcome. Bring needles size 9, 10, or 11, and your own yarn, or check out the church yarn supply. Questions? Lynne: lanctotla74@gmail.com.

COMING UP @ FCC UCC

Mission Trip Fundraising Dinner and Auction: Saturday evening, May 30, Dinner and Silent Auction - 6 pm; Live auction - 7 pm: Menu: Chicken or eggplant parmesan with spaghetti, salad, and dessert. Cost: \$20 per adult / \$12 per child. Dinner reservations required. Email Chris Keiter at cfkeiter@gmail.com with the number of attendees and meal choices (or if you are interested in participating in the July 12-17 mission trip). To donate auction items: Lynne at 207-318-1605.

Introducing: *Faith and Fiction*, May 31 and June 28, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm: Join FCCUCC member Chuck Warner and Pastor Steve for reflection on various books and short stories. On May 31, we will discuss the first in a hope-filled two-book series set in a sustainable climate future: *A Psalm for the Wild Built* by Becky Chambers. On June 28, we will discuss the second book: *A Prayer for the Crown Shy*. These books can be bought in a single volume called *Monk and Robot*.

JUNE - SAVE THE DATES!

Church Lunch and Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 7, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm: Join us after worship on Sunday, June 7 for this annual gathering. Reflect on the past year, elect our leaders and learn what's been cooking at FCCUCC. Don't miss it!

Pride Parade, Saturday, June 20, 11:30 am parade start: March with FCCUCC members and friends, and others from our Greater Portland multi-faith community, in celebration of the LGBTQ+ community. Watch for details.

MISSION AND SOCIAL WITNESS

Children's Clothes Closet is now open to the public! Beginning May 13, The Children's Clothes Closet will be open:

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 11 am - 1 pm • 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 12 pm - 2 pm

Interested in volunteering? contact AnnElissa Leveque: imzadidog@maine.rr.com.

Volunteer for Preble Street Food Hub: On the last Friday of the month, we prepare meals at the Food Hub, 75 Darling Avenue, South Portland. To learn more, see the Weekly Word or contact Danna Wiggins: dannawig2@gmail.com.

IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Training on Power and Organizing, Thursday, May 28 - Saturday, May 30, Augusta: FCCUCC is exploring what it would look like to join a broad-based organizing effort in Maine. This 3-day Industrial Areas Foundation training will provide an overview of key concepts and critical components for building strong community groups connected to a broad-based community organization necessary to create shared power to act effectively. If you would be interested in attending this training on behalf of FCCUCC, please contact Pastor Steve at steve@fccucc.org or Pastor Alison at revalisonpatton@fccucc.org.

Green Teams Gathering, Saturday, May 30, 10 am - 4 pm, Wolfe's Neck Center, Freeport: The BTS Center invites faith communities from across New England to come together in a spirit of bold collaboration and vision. Passamaquoddy Language Keeper Dwayne Tomah will offer the keynote on an indigenous perspective on the Doctrine of Discovery. Learn more at: <https://thebtscenter.org/greenteams/>. NOTE: *There is a discount if you register as part of the FCCUCC Team.* Contact Pastor Alison at revalisonpatton@fccucc.org

Sea Change Chorale: My Heart Be Brave, Saturday, May 30, 4 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick and Sunday, May 31, here at FCCUCC. No tickets needed. All donations will go to the Maine Immigrant Rights' Coalition (MIRC). Directed by our own music director, Deirdre McClure.

Film Screening: *Heightened Scrutiny*, June 6, 4-6:30 pm, Equality Community Center. This is a free Pride month screening. Reserve your seat ECCMaine.org/film.

The Malaga Ship at the Maine Maritime Museum, Bath, ME, Wednesday, June 10: Beginning at 4 pm, guests are invited to enjoy free admission to Maine Maritime Museum's exhibits, including *Re/Sounding*, a powerful new exhibition centering Indigenous and Black perspectives on Maine's maritime past. Live performance of *The Malaga Ship* begins at 5 pm, with panel discussion to follow. 3 pm carpool (for those who want to see the exhibit). Return about 8:30 pm. Contact revalisonpatton@fccucc.org to join the carpool.

MEET OUR CONFIRMANDS

Neil Haskins, is a student at South Portland High School, an avid ultimate frisbee player, a musician, and a lover of history. His engagement and his willingness to try new things and consider new ideas were a tremendous asset to this confirmation class. An important piece of living a faithful life according to Neil, is “helping others and trying to make the world a better place, even if it means just making one person’s day better.”

Sarah Lupien loves to run, and she runs both cross country and track at South Portland High School. She also sings in a number of choirs, in her school, her community, and even right here in our very own Meetinghouse Choir. She often spends her time volunteering and helping out in the community, including being a regular participant in Youth Service Corp projects. She notes that she is grateful that her faith and her trust in this church are sources of “courage in nervous moments.”

Mary Mahoney, a Cape Elizabeth High School student, enjoys playing sports and filling her time with baking, bedazzling, and exploring new places. Mary equally enjoys spending time in the city or walking the beach with her sisters. Her thoughtful questions during confirmation gatherings often helped to keep the group on task and to help everyone to dig deeper. In the future, Mary looks forward to growing closer to God and becoming a more engaged part of the church.

Abby Proctor, a student at Cape Elizabeth High School, enjoys playing softball and field hockey. When she's not on the field, she also enjoys the beach and spending time with her family. Abby is looking forward to being confirmed because it will provide more opportunities to participate in the life of the church and to support others.

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 and select “Contact Us”.

Find us, like and follow us on social media. Now on Substack! @FCCUCC





Understanding Gender and Sexuality: A 3-Part Series

**An invitation to honor Pride Month with this
rich learning opportunity.**

Join us for Three Tuesdays, 6-8 pm

Part 1: May 26

Part 2: June 2

Part 3: June 16

In a time of significant controversy concerning gender and sexuality, educator and LGBTQ+ equal rights advocate Christine Caulfield will examine claims and information about gender, drawing on the disciplines of biology, sociology, history, and political science.

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/3mmr82nk>

First Congregational Church, UCC

301 Cottage Road

South Portland, ME 04106

207-799-3361

