

All My Days

Sunday, July 26: Purpose



Purpose July 26, 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: During the summer, we do not have church school, but young people are encouraged to check the narthex (entryway) for simple crafts or activities. There are also clipboards with paper and coloring pages at the back of the sanctuary, for worshippers of any age to use during the service.

PRELUDE Morning Has Broken arr. Tucker
Flute Ensemble: Nancy Cahn, Jennifer Meko, Sharon Potter, Melissa Yosua-Davis

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THRESHOLD MOMENT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We arrive fully into this moment, Holy One.
We open to sense your presence among us.
We hear you say,

ALL: "Love is the purpose."

One: We need you, Jesus, to help us.
We come to you as your first disciples did.
We hear you say,

ALL: "Love is the purpose"

One: Spirit of Divine Love,
come to us with your healing waters.
We hear you say,

ALL: "Love is the purpose"

***OPENING HYMN** Seek Ye First #443

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

When our goals and ambitions begin to crowd out the pursuit of Your love for all of creation, and we act not to achieve justice, but to serve just us, forgive us. Hold us to Your path, and show us the power and the impact of a life lived for You. Shield us from the distractions of wealth and ease, and make us to love as You taught, that your perfect kin-dom of plenty and peace might come to be reality today. Amen

PRAYERFUL PAUSE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

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

All: And also with you.

***SUNG RESPONSE** *Peace Like a River* African American Spiritual 𐄂

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,

I've got peace like a river in my soul. (Repeat)

I've got joy like a fountain...

I've got love like an ocean...

SACRED PLAY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bruce Lockwood

One: This is the story of God's journey with God's people - including all of us.

All: Open our hearts to receive and our lives to be expanded by what we hear.

SCRIPTURE

James 2: 2-5 and Luke 17: 20-21

SERMON

Rev. Stephen Savage

MOMENT OF CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

ANTHEM

Andante and Rondo for Two Flutes and Piano

Doppler

Jennifer Meko and Melissa Yosua-Davis on Flute

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father-Mother in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kin-dom 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 kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

Open My Eyes

Manibusan/Zaragoza

Open my eyes, Love, Help me to see your face.

Open my eyes, Love. Help me to see.

Open my ears, Love. Help me to hear your voice.

Open my ears, Love. Help me to hear.

Open my heart, Love. Help me to love like you.

Open my heart, Love. Help me to love.

I live within you. Deep in your heart, O Love.

I live within you. Rest now in me.

OFFERING INVITATION

Help us to live God's love and justice. You can make a secure gift by scanning 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

BLESSING OUR GIFTS

*CLOSING HYMN

Jesu Jesu

#459

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Romanze from Divertimento V

Mozart
Flute Ensemble

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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!

The flowers on the altar are in loving memory of both our Dads, Papa & Pepe, Ronnie Christie and Roger Borelli Sr. from Judith, Shane, Nicolas and Luke Borelli.

All My Days is adapted from the series created by Marcia McFee and the Worship Design Studio and used by permission. Worshipdesignstudio.com/days

☰ **Royalty for Spirituals:** Historically, the composers of African American Spirituals were neither known nor compensated for use of their songs. The FCCUCC music department has committed to paying forward a 'royalty' each time we include a Spiritual in worship. We donate funds to the **Indigo Arts Alliance**. Join us: you can donate by check or online, with "Royalty for Spirituals" in the memo. Thank you.

WEEKLY @ FCCUCC

Bible Study, Tuesdays, Join Pastor Steve on Tuesdays, from 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge.

Prayer Shawls, every Wednesday, 1 - 3 pm, Summer location changes weekly:
Text Lynne Lanctot at 318-1605 by Tuesday evening for location. 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.

Meetinghouse Choir and Handbell Choir are on summer break. They will resume rehearsals at the end of August.

COMING UP @ FCCUCC

On The Town

A couple of questions for anyone who participates in our “on the town” activities, and or anyone who might be interested in joining in on the fun...

Would you be interested in seeing the movie, The Odyssey, the first week in August?

Would you want to take a trip to Gray for breakfast at the Sweet Spot? We could also go (or not) to the Maine Wildlife Park, which is also in Gray.

Please contact Kathy Sahrbeck for more information or to share your interest. kathrynsme@yahoo.com or 415-0170. Thank you.

Outdoor Worship At Bug Light, August 2, 10am!

Join us for our outdoor worship service at Bug Light Park, here in South Portland. Bring a camp chair, and join us for worship with communion and a view!

Parents of Adult Children, Friday, August 7, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

All parents of adult children (over 18 years old) are welcome to join us at the next meeting at the home of Carol Zechman, 46 Mitchell Rd, South Portland. A relaxed, supportive, safe, and confidential space to share and listen to each others' joys and concerns at this stage of parenting. Potluck snacks, drinks provided.

HANDBELL BASICS WORKSHOP, Thursday, August 13, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Handbell Director Sharon Potter will be presenting a Handbell Basics Workshop in the Sanctuary. If you would like to learn how to ring handbells and play in the choir or are just curious about how the instrument works, this workshop is for you. Ages 11 and up are welcome and no prior experience or music reading ability is required. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Sharon Potter at handbells@fccucc.org.

MISSION AND SOCIAL WITNESS

Children's Clothes Closet is now open to the public!

- Second and fourth Wednesdays, 11 am - 1 pm
- Second and fourth Saturdays, 12 pm - 2 pm

If you are interested in volunteering, contact AnnElissa Leveque or Pastor Steve at steve@fccucc.org.

Clothing Donations:

1. Clean, wearable children's clothes of all sizes (including teens) can be dropped off on the 5th floor, in the Children's Clothes Closet donation bin just inside the left-hand door.
2. Adult clothes, shoes and accessories, both wearable *and* unwearable, can now be deposited in the *Apparel Impact* Bin in the main parking lot. Upcycle and recycle to keep clothes out of our landfills! Learn more: <https://www.apparelimpact.com/>.

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.

THE WIDER COMMUNITY

BTS Center's Summer Fiction Book Club discusses *There are Rivers in the Sky*, by Elif Shafak, Thursday, July 23, 11:30 am – 1 pm on Zoom: “From the Booker Prize finalist, author of *The Island of Missing Trees*, an enchanting new tale about three characters living along two great rivers, all connected by a single drop of water. Check out Book Club details at <https://thebtscenter.org/fiction/>.

Women in Harmony & Ferry Beach Choral Fest, July 30, 2026, 7:30 p.m. at First Parish Congregational Church, UCC in Saco (12 Beach St., Saco, ME 04072). Join us for a FREE CONCERT of inspiring songs of justice, peace, and celebration of community and summers by the sea. For more info visit: <https://www.ferrybeach.org/choral-concert.html>.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Rev. Alison Buttrick Patton, Senior Pastor, will be away on Vacation:
Monday, August 3 - Monday, August 24.

Melissa Yosua-Davis, Business Manager, will be in the office Monday and Wednesday.

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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



Show off your FCCUCC Colors!

Now you can share your love for FCCUCC, thanks to FCC member Bryan Wiggins, who created a colorful design and found an environmentally sustainable company to bring us this lightweight, durable heather gray, 100% organic cotton shirt!



To Place Your Order: Choose from unisex sizes from XS to 4XL for \$30 per shirt by **July 31**, and we'll share the date for you to pick up, pay, and boldly share God's love and justice! Just go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/2d6f2r69> OR scan the QR code:

