

Church Events for Lent & Easter 2015
First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
at 10 Station Rd in Hartland, Vermont 05048

Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson, Pastor

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Dear Members and Friends – You are invited to enter the sacred season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service this week. Lent is the 40 day journey of spiritual preparation for Easter. Our worship services will be based on the last week in Jesus' life. The music, prayer and conversation will focus on the Lenten journey

Additionally, we have some interesting opportunities for prayer, fasting and works of love – the tradition disciplines in Lent. During this time, the Monday Bible Study will explore the scripture lesson deeply in preparation for worship. The Church School will be learning how the Heifer Project, a Christian founded organization, works to “End Hunger and Poverty while Caring for the Earth.” The whole congregation is invited to participate in the Heifer Project's work and ministry by taking a home a Heifer bank and giving calendar to reflect on our own abundance in a world of need. We will have a special service on April 12th to collect the donations and celebrate the Heifer project. For works of love, we have two Habitat work days schedule and a Hixon House dinner – please consider participating in one of these outreach ministries. You have an opportunity to make this season of Lent a time of personal growth and deep reflection. Make the commitment to weekly worship. Join the adult study. Begin your day in prayer. Open your bible. Reach out to your neighbor. Tell me about your Journey. I'd love to hear your story!

See you in Church – peace – Lucia

Worship & Church School for Lent & Easter

**Wed, Feb 18th 6:00 - Ash Wednesday Service – a simple, reflective service with imposition of Ashes, prayer, scripture & silence followed by Soup & Bread supper hosted by the Deacons – please bring your own bowl or mug for soup!*

Sun, February 22nd - 1st Sunday in Lent **Worship
Regular Church School – Heifer Project
11:30 Unwrapping Our Gifts*

**Sun, March 1st - 2nd Sunday in Lent
Worship with Communion
Regular Church School – Heifer Project
11:30 Unwrapping Our Gifts*

Sun, March 8th - 3rd Sunday in Lent * Daylight Savings****
Worship & Regular Church School – Heifer Project*

Sun, March 15th - 4th Sun in Lent **Worship
Regular Church School – Heifer Project
11:15 Brunch to benefit the Youth Mission Trip (here)
11:30 Newcomers Class*

Sun, March 22nd – 5th Sunday in Lent **Worship with Communion
Regular Church School – Heifer Project
11:30 Newcomers Class*

HOLY WEEK

**Sun, March 29th – Palm Sunday Processional 6th Sun in Lent,
Worship & Regular Church School – Heifer Project*

**Thur, April 2nd 7:00 Maundy Thursday, Service of Tenebrae
with Communion*

**Friday, April 3rd – Good Friday Vigil 12:00 – 3:00, 6:00 – 7:00
Sanctuary open for quiet prayer, reflection & scripture*

Sunday, April 5th –EASTER – He is Risen!**
***6:00 Sunrise Service on Hammond's hill behind Mike's
Followed by breakfast at the church.
***10:00 Easter Service Celebrate the resurrection!*

Board of Christian Education News and Notes:

Thank you to Donna Lemeiux who taught in January & February!

Now you too can volunteer - a vital Sunday School is essential to a vital church! Volunteer to be a workshop leader (two weeks) or a shepherd (4 weeks) - You'll be glad that you did!!!!

Still Needed: "On Call" nursery volunteers- to be ready to welcome a young family to our church by volunteering in the church nursery IF needed.

New Units: Heifer Project (Lent) and Acts (April-May)

Church School Calendar:

LENT Session 5 Heifer Project – Feeding the 5,000

Wednesday, February 18th - Ash Wednesday, Evening Worship
Sunday, February 22nd - 1st Sun in Lent, Regular Church School
Wed, Feb 25th - 7:00 CE BOARD MEETING
Sunday, March 1st - 2nd Sunday in Lent, Regular Church School
Sunday, March 8th - 3rd Sunday in Lent, Regular Church school
Sunday, March 15th - 4th Sunday in Lent, Reg Church School
Sunday, March 22nd - 5th Sun in Lent, Regular Church School
Wednesday, March 25th - 7:00 CE BOARD MEETING
Sunday, March 29th - *Palm Sunday Processional & Regular Church School*
Sunday, April 5th - *Easter! Sunrise Service! Family Worship 10:00*

Session 6 - Acts 16

"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved...."- Acts 16:31

Sunday, April 12th - Regular Church School
Sunday, April 19th - Regular Church School
Wed, April 22nd - 7:00 CE BOARD MEETING
Sunday, April 26th - Regular Church School
Sunday, May 3rd - Communion, Regular Church School
Sunday, May 10th - Regular Church School
Sunday, May 17th - Last Regular Church School
Wednesday, May 27th - 7:00 CE BOARD MEETING

Ending Hunger and Poverty, Caring for the Earth

Our church school will spend the six weeks of Lent using the Heifer Project curriculum. They will explore stories of the Heifer project working around the world, gain a greater understanding of issues involving hunger, access to food, sustainability, and also of different cultures and climates that affect food.

Each and every church family is invited to take home a Heifer Project bank and giving calendar to reflect on our own abundance in a world of need.

We will collect the banks and donations on April 12th.

As people of faith, we are called to care for those who are hungry and in need, we are called to compassion and generosity. The Heifer Project is a wonderful way to explore how to be God's people in the world today.

Jesus said:" . . . for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' - Matthew 25

We have a Prayer Shawl Ministry!! We have blessed and delivered several shawls in the past few months – what a gift for someone living with illness, or grieving a loss, or homebound, or new grandparents or for a wedding!! All levels of knitters & crocheters welcome! We have two totes of yarn at the church to share if you need supplies! We will gather on Wednesdays, Feb 25, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 27, 5:00 – 6:00 *JOIN US!*

Choir NEWS

*Please consider joining the choir for this Sacred Season!
Your voice is needed – share your gift of music.*

Rehearsals in March: Friday, March 6th, 5:30 – 6:30
Sunday March 8th 8:30 for 10:00 Worship
Friday March 20th 5:30 – 6:30
Sunday, March 22nd 8:30 for 10:00 Worship
Friday, March 27th 5:30 – 6:30

HOLY WEEK:

Palm Sunday, March 29th 8:30 for 10:00 Worship
11:00 Rehearsal
Maundy Thursday, 6:00 Rehearsal for 7:00 Worship
Easter Sunday, April 5th 8:30 for 10:00 Worship Service.

* * *

A THANK YOU

Many church members volunteer their time and talent to the church in a multitude of ways - just doing what needs to be done. So, here are just a few of the people to thank for efforts in the last few months

Thank you to : Linda Genovese for consistent and focused work as church treasurer and for showing up and just doing what needs to be done!

Thank you to our Roast Beef Supper crews – kitchen and dining room volunteers and to Jeannie & Larry Frazer and Sherry & Darryl Calkins for leading each set! And to Melissa Perkins & Anita Dole for running the Dining room.

Board of Missions & Outreach

Habitat for Humanity – working in on Densmore Hill in Hartland. Volunteers and lunch needed for March 14th & 28th. Please speak with Lucia if interested in volunteering!

Hartland Local Food Shelf – non perishables can be dropped off here anytime.

HIXON HOUSE DATES for 2015:

March 31st, June 30th , Sept 29th , Dec 29th

To participate in this wonderful outreach ministry, please speak with the Jim or Vicki to volunteer as a team leader or to cook or to serve or to donate food!

From Vicki after serving in December: "Just a note to share with you what a wonderful time we had at Tuesdays dinner. The residents were extremely appreciative. On average, a younger aged group, very engaged in discussion. One young man wanting to talk about circumstances that "have left me down on my luck". Remarkably, "how lucky I feel to have this place, a warm bed, and good food".

We felt lucky to be able to provide the food, and then sit in community to share the meal, as well as conversation and laughter.

Our "team" (Jim & Vicki Lawrence, Lori & Dan Hampton) thanks everyone who helped with the meal - LBS for the roast beef, Sherry Calkins for the delicious gravy, Sue Motschman for her garden corn, Molly Delaney for the Caesar salad, and Lori for the delectable dessert.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS! *Youth group happens at the FUSH (UU in 4 Corners) or at FCCH (UCC in 3 Corners) please note where the meetings are!*

JUNIOR HIGH (7th & 8th grade)

SENIOR HIGHS (9TH - 12TH grade) Sr Highs will have pizza, and *dessert donations welcome!* (please tell Lucia if you can provide dessert one evening & please donate \$20 again for the winter/spring cost of the pizza.)

*Sunday, Feb 15th 7:00 - 9:30 Senior High Game Night !!! at FCCH (UCC) Yes, game night for the Sr Highs! No pizza, so eat dinner ahead of time, but we will have make your own sundaes.

*Sunday, Feb 22nd - Youth Group Meetings at FCCH (UCC)
Regular Jr High Youth Group 5:00 - 6:15

*Sunday, March 8th - Youth Group Meetings at FCCH (UCC)
5:00 - 6:15 Jr Highs 6:30 - 8:00 Sr Highs

*Sunday, March 15th - Youth Mission Trip Brunch at FCCH (UCC) (last one) all Mission Trip 2015 participants expected to help! Parental support needed!

*Sunday, March 22nd - Youth Group Meetings at FCCH (UCC)
5:00 - 6:15 Jr Highs 6:30 - 8:00 Sr Highs

*Sunday, April 12th - Youth Group Meetings at FUSH (UU) - MISSION TRIP MONEY (\$100) AND REGISTRATION DUE
5:00 - 6:15 Jr Highs 6:30 - 8:00 Sr Highs

****Mission Trip 2015 - July 26th - Aug 1st to New Haven, CT with Worship on Aug 2nd - a combined service celebration of the youth mission trip at the First Congregational Church, UCC.**

Minutes from the Annual Congregational Meeting – 25 January 2015

Called to order by the Moderator, David Hale at 11:29.

26 members present – a quorum (15 members) was established.

Pastor Lucia Anne Jackson opened with a prayer.

[attachments as noted available from the church office or by email]

Minutes of the January 2014 Congregational Meeting: a motion was made and seconded that the 2014 minutes Annual Minutes be waived. There was unanimous consent.

Reports were accepted and filed as follows:

Annual Statistical Report: was presented and accepted. See attachment A
Pastor's Report – Rev. Lucia Jackson - see attachment #1. Accepted as presented.
Treasurers Report and Proposed 2009 Budget – Linda Genovese (see attachment #2) was presented and accepted.

Boards of Deacons – Linda Johnston – see (attachment #3) presented and accepted.
Board of Trustees – See attached report #4 - prepared by Carmen Summarsell. presented and accepted.

Christian Education – Daun Smith – see below. Sue Reilly made a plea for more members to volunteer as teachers. (report available)

Ladies Benevolent Society: - Patricia Richardson submitted the Treasurers Report. Attachment #5.

Mission and Outreach Committee – Michael Heaney – see attachment # 6

Music Committee: Molly Delaney (report available)

Men's Fellowship - Larry Frazer - this year is the second year of six suppers but the Men's Fellowship was able to meet its pledge to the church. There will be more discussions about possible fund raising efforts.

Minutes of the 2014 VT UCC Meeting Daun Smith see attachment #7

Auditors Report: None.

Old Business: None

New Business: Whit Mowry made 2 suggestions 1) to disband the Investment and Endowment Committee since it has not met in years and because of the recent change in investment policy as outlined in the Treasures Report. This would require a change in the by-laws and must be proposed at a future meeting and voted on another meeting. The exact wording of the by-law change will be presented at the April 2015 Church Council Meeting. 2) He also suggested that pertinent minutes of meetings be posted... the definition of pertinent would be up to the Pastor. Unanimous consent.

Proposed Budget for 2015 presented by Linda Genovese – see attachment # 8 Motion to accept was made and seconded – discussed and passed. See budget.

Congregation Officers and Committees Members for 2015 presented by the Nominating Committee (Martha McGlenn). The Moderator outlined the changes. There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was accepted as presented.

Comments or Announcements:

Connie Moser renewed the previous comments re the importance of Christian Education, especially in the younger ages.

**First Congregational Church of Hartland, VT
2015 Church Officers, Boards and Committees**

Officers

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Clerk | Joe Reilly | 436-2564 |
| Assistant Clerk | Cordie Merritt | |
| Treasurer | Linda Genovese | 436-2137 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Susan Motschman | 436-2561 |
| Moderator | David Hale | 436-1434 |

Board of Deacons

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Carol Mowry | 2012-2015, 2015-2018 | 436-3383 |
| Daun Smith | 2013-2016 | 295-7982 |
| Cindy Hale | 2013-2014, 2014-2017 | 436-1434 |
| Jeannie Frazer | 2013-2016 | 436-2972 |
| Susan D'Anna | 2013-2016 | 802-291-5676 (cell) |
| Linda Johnston | 2011-2014, 2014-2017 | 436-3241 |
| Patty O'Neill | 2013-2015, 2015-2018 | 674-9210 |

Board of Trustees

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Linda Genovese (Treasurer ex-officio) | | 436-2137 |
| Darryl Calkins | 2012-2015, 2015-2018 | 436-2031 |
| Larry Frazer | 2012-2015, 2015-2018 | 436-2972 |
| Dexter Cooper | 2013-2016 (non-voting) | 436-2640 |
| Brian Porto | 2013-2016 | 674-9505 |
| Carmen Summarsell | 2013-2016 | 436-2300 |
| Jon Cone | 2014-2017 | 436-2117 |
| Arnie Powell | 2014-2017 | 457-4096 |
| Roger Trachier | 2014-2017 | 436-2252 |

Board of Christian Education

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------|
| Daun Smith | 2015-2018 | 295-7982 |
| Kim Hartell | 2011-2014, 2014-2017 | 296-2909 |
| Donna Lemieux | 2013-2016 | 436-2662 |
| Michelle Dunne | 2012-2015 (non-voting) | 436-2007 |
| Jill Allegretti | 2014-2017 (non-voting) | 698-8702 |
| Donna Bowers | 2015-2018 (non-voting) | |

Board of Outreach and Missions

| | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------|
| Karen Lewis | 2014-2017 | 457-4521 |
| Maggie Moore | 2014-2017 | 436-2369 |
| Michael Heaney | 2014-2017 | 436-2841 |
| Kristi White | 2015-2018 | 436-2043 |

Nominating Committee One member is chosen from each of the Boards & One member-at-large Martha McGlinn 436-2159

Music Committee

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------------|----------|
| Virginia Dow, organist | 436-2417 & | Clydene Trachier | 436-2522 |
| Mary Jo Ramsey | 436-3094 & | Martha McGlinn | 436-2159 |
| Molly Delaney | 436-2640 & | Harriet Dumas | 436-2880 |
| Becky Wood (non voting) | 436-2847 & | Nancy Smith | 436-2616 |

Altar Committee

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Emily Silver | 436-2681 |
| Linda Genovese | 436-2137 & Martha McGlinn 436-2159 |

Pastoral Relations Committee – to be convened by Trustees

Stewardship Committee Pat Richardson

Investment and Endowment Committee

Auditor Martin Dole 436-3653

Delegates to Windsor-Orange Association

Carmen Summarsell

Delegates to Vermont Conference Annual Meeting

Carmen Summarsell 436-2300 & Daun Smith 295-7982

Custodian

Dave Cooper 436-2341

Church Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 28th at 7:00 for all Boards and Committee Chairs. Please contact Moderator David Hale with any agenda items and make sure that your Board or Committee member is represented at the meeting.

Interested in joining the church?

All new newcomers, those interested in joining the church and those curious - are invited to
New Member classes in March.

Come with your questions, come for conversation, come with your concerns, come to be a part of an interesting discussion including some Bible study, church history, personal stories, UCC structure and maybe a few surprises!

Sundays March 15th & 22nd 11:30 - 12:30.

Please let Lucia ASAP if you will need childcare during the New Member Classes.

Lent by Ann Weems

Lent is a time to take the time

to let the power of our faith story take hold of us,
a time to let the events get up and walk around in us,
a time to intensify our living unto Christ,
a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts,
a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem
or to walk along the sea and listen to his word,
a time to touch his robe
and feel the healing surge through us,
a time to ponder and a time to wonder . . .

Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God!

Altar Committee Notice - If you would like to make a donation toward Easter flowers for the sanctuary, envelopes will be available in the pews later in Lent or by notifying Lucia, Martha McGlinn, Emily Silver or Linda Genovese with your information to include the donor's name, "in memory of" and your contribution.

Requests must be in by Palm Sunday.