

Church Events for Fall 2016

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 Church Family – You will find an abundance of church events in the enclosed church newsletter: Book Club & Bible study, Youth Group & Church School, Worship & Choir, Outreach & Missions, Meetings & Fellowship – ways for YOU to connect and be involved with this church community. PLUS we are stepping out in faith by preparing for young families and Church School. We have our new DCE (Director of Christian Education), Mary Jo Ramsey, planning new Curriculum, decorating the classrooms, recruiting volunteers and organizing the Ice Cream Social for Sunday, Sept 11th. All we need is more children! Please invite your friends, neighbors, family to join us. AND the Board of Deacons and I are honored to announce that we are hosting a Field Education Student from Andover Newton Theological Seminary. Lava Mueller is an active member of the Bethany UCC church in Randolph, VT. She has a fascinating faith journey. As Lava explores her pastoral calling, she will be working with us 12 hours a week – in worship, preaching, adult education class, attending meetings, visiting. Please welcome Lava to our church and remember that we are part of a teaching ministry, so I will be meeting weekly with Lava for theological reflections. Your feedback to Lava is needed for her to grow in ministry. What a rare opportunity for all of us.

Hope to see YOU in church – Joy - Lucia

Worship Schedule

- *Sunday, Sept 11th 10:00– Intergenerational Worship Service
11:00 *Ice Cream Social for Everyone bring a topping to share! Wear informal clothes to church to play some end of summer games!!*
- *Sun, Sep 18th 10:00–WELCOME BACK SUNDAY w/ Choir Anthem
*Our Church School begins! 8:30 Choir Rehearsal
5:00 Jr Youth Group (UU) 6:30 Sr Youth Group (UU)*
- *Sunday, September 25th 10:00 – Worship, Regular Church School
First Sunday for our Field Education Student, Lava Mueller!
- *Sunday, Oct 2nd – Worship, World Communion,
Regular Church School
Youth Group to 6 Flags
- *Sunday, Oct 9th – Worship, Regular Church School
11:30 Adult Study
5:00 Jr Youth Group (UU) 6:30 Sr Youth Group (UU)
- *Sunday, October 16th - Worship, Regular Church School
11:30 Adult Study
- *Sunday, October 23rd - Worship, Regular Church School
11:30 Adult Study
*5:00 Jr Youth Group (UU)
6:00 Mission Trip Info Session (UU)
6:30 Sr Youth Group (UU) (care packages!)*
- *Sun, Oct 30th - Intergenerational Worship Service,
Reformation & Bible Sunday
11:30 Adult Study
Youth Mission Trip Brunch to benefit Mission Trip 2017 (Here).
- *Sun, Nov 6th – Remembrance Sunday, Worship with Communion,
Regular Church School
11:30 Adult Study

Board of Christian Education News and Notes:

From our NEW DCE: We are off to an exciting start of a new church school year! I am happy to announce that we have a great group of volunteers ready to teach Sunday School! A big THANK YOU goes out to Jeanne Frazer, Carol Mowry, Sue Reilly, Bonnie Reynolds and Carol Withington for offering your time! And if there is anyone out there feeling like they missed this great opportunity, there is still one Sunday, September 18th open!

Our theme will be "Creation". There are many fun and tasty activities planned for our Kindergarten through 6th graders!

Now that we have this program ready to go, we ask that you bring your kids and grandkids to church and also invite a young family to join us!

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions or suggestions.

Mary Jo Ramsey, DCE (Director of Christian Education)

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Church School Schedule

Sunday, September 11th – 10:00 Intergenerational Worship Sunday,

Sunday, September 18th – *Welcome Sunday* Church School begins!

Sunday, September 25th - Regular Church School

Sunday, October 2nd - World Communion Sun, Regular Church School

Sunday, October 9th Regular Church School, Fire Drill

Sunday, October 16th – Regular Church School

Sunday, October 23rd – Regular Church School

Sunday, October 30th - Reformation & Bible Sunday!

Church School Celebration! Family Sunday

11:00 Youth Mission Trip Brunch

Sunday, November 6th – Communion, Regular Church School

Sunday, November 13th - Stewardship Sunday, Regular Church School

Tuesday, November 15th CE Board Meeting at 5:00

Sunday, Nov 20th - Combined Worship Service with the UUs (here)

Youth Mission Trip Brunch

For all ages

Sunday, Sept 11th 11:00 (after church)
bring a topping to share!

*Wear informal clothes to church to play
some end of summer games!!*

Invite a friend, neighbor, family member!

WELCOME SUNDAY

Sunday, September 18th

The first day of CHURCH SCHOOL!

Join us for Worship and Church School.

*We will have a re-covenanting service,
volunteer dedication AND
the choir returns to worship.*

Youth Groups start too!

Ice Cream Social

ADULT EDUCATION & STUDY

Book Club – with Old South Church in Windsor. Meetings at 6:30 at Old South this fall. (We'll meet at our church this winter.) Join us for anyone or all of the gatherings! Some book copies available at church.

Sept 13th Read Between the Lines by Jo Knowles (*Young Adult fiction by local author.*) *"The voices of seemingly ordinary teenagers speak loud and clear of the complex dance that is life in a small town. Over the course of a single day, these characters orbit one another in their innocent attempts to understand and be understood. Their voices - and others - resonate in a gritty and unflinching portrayal of a day that could be any other, with its ordinary traumas, heartbreak, and revenge. But on any given day, the line where presentation and perception meet is a tenuous one, so hard to discern. Unless, of course, one can look a little closer - and read between the lines."*

Oct 11th Beginner's Grace: Bringing Prayer to Life by Kate Braestrup *"Writing in the beautiful, funny, honest narrative style that moved and inspired readers of her first book, Here If You Need Me, Kate Braestrup explains what prayer is and the many ways we can pray. With an approach that is both personal and inclusive, Beginner's Grace is a new kind of prayer book. In these pages, Braestrup explains how and why the practice of prayer can open a space in our busy lives for mindfulness, gratitude, contentment, and a wider compassion toward others."*

Nov 15th Abraham A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths by Bruce Feiler *"At a moment when the world is asking "Can the religions get along?" Abraham stands as the shared ancestor of Jews, Christians and Muslims. He holds the key to our deepest fears - and our possible reconciliation. Bruce Feiler set out on a personal quest to better understand our common patriarch. And in doing so, Feiler discovers the untold story of the man who defines faith for half the world."*

TWO Ongoing Bible Studies – you are invited to drop in any time!

Bible Study Starts on Monday, Sept 26th at 5:00! The Monday Bible Study Group focuses on the worship scripture for the following Sunday. We study the text to see how God might be speaking to us today, and to recognize how our own stories and the bible stories speak to one another. Everyone welcome.

Adult Church School Sundays 11:30-12:30 beginning on October 9th – Join us for our Adult Class based on thoughtful discussion and careful questions. You are welcome to come any Sunday – no experience necessary! Fall Topic to be announced.

Under the Tree Race was a huge event this

year. Weather was perfect for 123 runners, 56 running the 10k. Being part of the Upper Valley Race Series was a huge boost! Great raffle prizes, the grand prize being a kayak, which was won by Story Graves, a local woman! With donations included, raised around \$4,000 for the project. With this boost the project was able to donate a \$1,000 to the summer camp scholarship program at the rec!!! A big thank you to all who helped in any way.

Ladies Benevolent Society **NO FALL SUPPER!** Future activities will be announced!

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, quilters and rug hookers welcome! We have two totes of yarn at the church to share if you need supplies. We will gather on Tuesdays 5:00 – 6:00, Sept 27th, Oct 25th & Nov 29th.

From the Altar Committee: If you would like to provide flowers for worship, please call Martha McGlenn 436 – 2159 or Emily Silver or Linda Genovese for scheduling. If you have garden flowers, or wild flowers, call Martha, Emily or Linda. Thanks, fellow gardeners!!

Choir Begins on Welcome Sunday, Sept 18th

Rehearsal at 8:30 every Sunday Morning –
PLUS
On some Sundays, Clydene Trachier & Becky Wood
are
directing anthems & leading rehearsals:
Choir Rehearsal Schedule:
Thurs, Sept 15th at 5:00; Fri, Sept 30th at
5:00
Thurs, Oct 13 at 5:00; Thurs, Oct 20th at
5:00,
Fri, Oct 28th at 5:00
YOUR VOICE WELCOME & NEEDED!
Come for any or all the weeks!

Remembrance Sunday is scheduled for November 6th
A time for Remembrance will be held during worship on
Sunday, November 6th for members, loved ones and friends
who died during the past year. Please give the names of
persons you wish to have included in the Litany of
Remembrance to Lucia or any deacon before Tuesday, Nov
1st.

Church Council Meeting on Tuesday, October 25th 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.

A THANK YOU

*Many church members volunteer their time and
talent to keep our church doors open, our building
systems operating and the church grounds
attractive as well as running the suppers, singing
in the choir, teaching Church School and providing
altar flowers (to name a few!). Many folks make
efforts to volunteer – 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:

Bradley & Scott Bowers for mowing the lawn this
summer!

Jeannie & Larry Frazer for hosting the picnic in
June!

our flower committee – Emily Silver, Martha
McGlinn and Linda Genovese for providing beautiful
floral arrangements week after week!

Brian Porto, Connie Moser and the Board of
Deacons for providing worship leadership when
Lucia was on vacation!

all those who ushered this summer!

Sue and Joe Reilly for leading the Hixon House
Team in August. Sue wrote *“The dinner was a great
success and served at least 18 clients and staff.
It was a joyful time! One gentleman stated, “It’s
just like my Mother used to make!”, and there
were many thank you’s. Thank you to all who
donated food and especially to those who cooked
and served (and ate).”*

We love this community! Sue and Joe

To all the Habitat for Humanity volunteers – a
note from the homeowner in Claremont (who
remembered and listed all of our names
individually!) – *“I can’t thank you all enough for*

your incredible work in my very hot attic. Insulation is such a dirty job. You all worked tirelessly and fixed a problem sure to happen. Your efforts made that space useable. Hooray! I really enjoyed meeting all the nice folks from the First Congregational Church of Hartland. What a difference you all have made in my home. I appreciate your hard work and dedication. And I realize how lucky I am for your kindness. Thank you all so very much!"

in need internationally!! The CSW bags were made by a variety of people in beautiful colors. JOY

*Making Mission a Habit, working with God's people in need. In July, our church had a tremendous week volunteering in Claremont with **Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity**. (see the "Thanks yous" for a note from the homeowner!) And we had delicious lunches provided by our Lunch Volunteers. THANK YOU!*

Board of Missions & Outreach

Neighbors in Need Offering will be received throughout the month of Oct. Neighbors in Need is an offering of the UCC and is used locally for non profit organizations and for peace and justice issues.

Serving the evening meal at the **Hixon House**: we are scheduled for Tuesday, November 29th *Volunteers are needed. Please contact Carol Withington for more information or to donate food/help serve. (see the "Thank yous" for Sue Reilly's report about the Aug meal at the Hixon House)*

Always: **Hartland Local Food Shelf** – non perishables can be dropped off here anytime. Garden produce may be donated to the food shelf at the UU in 4 Corners on Fridays 8:00-10:00. All food welcome, but here is the current list of needs: spaghetti sauce, peanut butter (smooth) & jelly, tunafish, boxed Mac & cheese, small boxes dry/powdered milk, canned fruit, canned veggies, cereal, toothbrushes & toothpaste, cleanser, paper towels & toilet paper.

*Reflecting God's love through your generosity!! We donated many backpacks and tons of supplies to our **PINS partner for children in need in our region AND 31 Church World Service kits for children***

YOUTH HAPPENINGS!

JUNIOR HIGH School Youth Group (7th & 8th grade)

Junior High youth group generally meets twice a month **at 5:00 – 6:15**, however we will sometimes meet at the UCC in 3 Corners and sometimes at the UU in 4 Corners.

SENIOR HIGHS (9TH – 12TH grade)

High School youth group generally meets twice a month **at 6:30 – 8:00**, however we will sometimes meet at the UCC in 3 Corners and sometimes at the UU in 4 Corners. *PLEASE NOTE: We will NOT have pizza, but snack and dessert donations welcome!*

If you did NOT go on Mission Trip 2016, you must do a new medical/contact information form which is available from Lucia or Paul.

*** Sunday, Sept 18th FIRST Youth Group Meetings at the UU**

Jr Highs 5:00 – 6:15 Sr Highs 6:30 – 8:00

***Sun, Oct 2nd 11:00 – 8:00pm ALL YOUTH trip: 6 FLAGS New England!!** We leave immediately following worship and will return at 8:00pm. Medicals & Money are due by Sun, Sept 25th, Cost:\$35.00 **Parent Drivers/Chaperones are NEEDED!**

***Sun, Oct 9th Youth Group Meetings at the UU**

5:00 – 6:15 Jr Highs 6:30 – 8:00 Sr Highs

***Sun, Oct 23 Youth Group & Mission Trip Info Session (UU)**

5:00 -6:00 pm —Junior Youth at the UU Church
6:00 – 6:30 pm—Mission Trip slide-show, and introductory information session for all 8th graders, senior youth, parents, and anyone else who is interested!
6:30–8:00 pm—Senior Youth at the UU Church

***Sunday, October 30th 9:00 – 1:00 – Mission Trip Fundraiser**

Brunch (here) - all Mission Trip 2017 participants expected to help! Parental support needed!

THE MOONLIGHTERS!

Don't miss two more chances to hear Hartland's own big band, "The Moonlighters" in concert on Sunday, September 18 and 25 at 3:00 PM! Hartland Rec. Ctr. has graciously

offered the use of the beautiful grounds (or inside if the weather is inclement)

These concerts will be a fundraiser for the band to upgrade sound equipment. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the concerts. More information TBA!

The band hopes for a great turnout

If you would like to help at either of these concerts, please call Janet Hewes at: [802-436-2069](tel:802-436-2069) or email: themoonlightersbigband@yahoo.com

Interfaith Power and Light is a national organization, founded by Rev. Sally Bingham to "be faithful stewards of Creation by responding to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. This campaign intends to protect the earth's ecosystems, safeguard the health of all Creation, and ensure sufficient, sustainable energy for all."

*Every year Vermont IPL has an conference in the fall and this year VT IPL has partnered with **The Our Children, Climate, Faith Symposium group**, formerly of Strafford, VT, to co-host an event on **October 15 and 16 in White River Junction**. This year's event is titled "Deep Change for Climate Justice, Coalescing a Transformational Movement."*

Please visit the website for more information: <http://dc4cj2016.org/>.

First Congregational Church of Hartland, UCC
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