

## Church News and Events for Fall 2019

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
10 Station Road, Hartland, Vermont 05048

Rev. Lucia Anne Jackson, Pastor

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### **A Message from the Board of Deacons**

*Following Lucia's announcement of her plans to retire next August, the Board of Deacons has been forming a Search Committee to find our church's next settled pastor.*

*The Deacons would like to thank all who expressed interest in serving on the Search Committee. It has been a privilege to read over the Interest Forms that were submitted.*

*We were very impressed by what people wrote.*

*Work of the Search Committee will be starting up soon.*

*Thank you to the following people, who will be serving on the committee: Jon Cone, Sue Reilly, Tom Ramsey, Caroline Lee, Dexter Cooper, Maggie Moore, Darryl Calkins, Cindy Hale and Daun Smith (as an alternate).*

*Please keep this group in your prayers!*

**~Cindy Hale, Board of Deacons**

### **Up to Date Church Calendar**

<http://www.hartlandcongregationalchurch.org/calendar/>

## **Worship Schedule**

**Sunday, September 8, 10:00** Love of Creation & Climate Justice Sunday with Emma Allegretti - An Intergenerational Service PLUS The Choir Returns!

11:00 Ice Cream Social for Everyone - bring a topping to share!

**Sunday, September 15, 10:00**, Worship, Welcome Sunday - Church School Begins!! Re-covenanting service.

11:00 Fellowship at Coffee Hour

11:15 Confirmation Orientation

**Sunday, September 22, 10:00** – Worship & Church School

11:00 Fellowship at Coffee Hour

11:30 Trustees Meeting

**Sunday, September 29, 10:00**– Worship & Church School

11:00 Fellowship at the Celebration of Apples Coffee Hour!! Get out your favorite apple recipe & share your treat at Coffee Hour.

11:30 Youth Group Trip to Bromley

**Sunday, October 6, 10:00** Worship & World Communion, Church School

11:00 Fellowship at Coffee Hour

**Sunday, October 13, 10:00**- Worship & Church School, Rev. Laura Cadmus preaching

11:00 Fellowship at Coffee Hour

**Sunday, October 20, 10:00** Worship & Church School,

11:00 Fellowship at Coffee Hour

**Sunday, October 27, 10:00** Bible/Reformation Sunday  
Worship & Church School

11:00 Brunch to benefit Youth Mission Trip 2020 (Here)

**Sunday, November 3, 10:00** Remembrance Sunday,  
Worship with Communion & Church School

11:00 Fellowship at Coffee Hour

## **Christian Education News and Notes**

We are ready to start another Church School Year!!! AND, our program is growing!! We are planning to offer 2 separate classes this year: a pre-K class and a class for grades 1 - 6. We also want to continue offering nursery care. However, as with anything that sees new growth, there comes the need for more help.

*PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER OFFERING TO HELP WITH THIS IMPORTANT MISSION!*

All lessons will be planned out, and any new ideas are welcome. If there are enough volunteers, your commitment may only be 1 Sunday every couple of months.

If you are in grade 8-12, you can earn 1 hour of community service points each time you help.

Thank you for considering this! You can email me at: [toucansam54@gmail.com](mailto:toucansam54@gmail.com)  
~*Mary Jo Ramsey, Director of Christian Education*

### **Ice Cream Social**

*For all ages*

**Sunday, Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 11:00** (after church)

*bring a topping to share!*

*Invite a friend, neighbor, family member!*

### **WELCOME SUNDAY**

**Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**

*The first day of CHURCH SCHOOL!*

*Join us for Worship and Church School.*

*We will have a re-covenanting service  
and volunteer dedication!*

## **ANNOUNCING . . . FAMILY GAME NIGHTS!**

An evening of fun for all ages!

**Fridays 7:00 – 8:30, October 18 & November 15.**

Board Games, Cards, Desserts and Fellowship.

Save the dates – more details to follow!

Do you have a favorite card game that you would like to teach?

Do you like to play trivia games? Or Bingo?

If you have an idea or a game to share – please contact Lucia.

*Because really, who doesn't love a good game?*

## **Music News**

**THE CHOIR is Back in WORSHIP on September 8!**

Rehearsal at 8:30 every Sunday Morning –

*PLUS MANY* Sundays are 'directed Sundays'

(by Choir Director Becky Wood)

and thus a Friday Rehearsal at 5:00: Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>

Oct 11<sup>th</sup>, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> & Nov 15<sup>th</sup>

***YOUR VOICE IS WELCOME & NEEDED!***

*Come for any or all the weeks!*

## **Church Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00** for all Boards and Committee Chairs. Please contact Moderator Brian Porto with any agenda items and make sure that your Board or Committee member is represented at the meeting.

## **ADULT EDUCATION & STUDY**

**Bible Study every Monday at 5:00.** (starting September 23rd )  
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 is welcome.

### **A Book Study, Tuesdays at 5:00**

**On Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & Nov 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**

How do we as individuals respond to the climate crisis?

Do we respond as people of faith who believe in God as Creator?

Do we have responsibility as a church? If so, what? And how?

Do you have questions? Then join the book study!

Climate Church, Climate World 'How People of Faith must work for Change' by Jim Antal . *Amazon review: "Climate Church, Climate World argues that climate change is the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced; it multiplies all forms of global social injustice: hunger, refugees, poverty, inequality, deadly viruses, war. Environmental leader Reverend Jim Antal presents a compelling case that it's time for the church to meet this moral challenge, just as the church addressed previous moral challenges. He calls for the church to embrace a new vocation so that future generations might live in harmony with God's creation."*

There will be copies of the book available to borrow.  
I hope that you will consider joining this important study!

### **Women's Retreat**

**November 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>** At Bethany Birches Camp  
Program/study: 5:00pm on Friday – 8:00pm on Saturday plus you can choose to stay until Sunday to relax! Cost: \$40.00 Give yourself a gift – Set aside a weekend for reflection, laughter, meditation, study, fellowship, games, prayer – before the holiday busyness. Sign up on Lucia's bulletin board.

## **Book Club**

Join us at **7:00 on Friday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> for Book Club!** In remembrance of the incredible Toni Morrison, we will be reading and discussing her last book: The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations

*"Arguably the most celebrated and revered writer of our time now gives us a new nonfiction collection--a rich gathering of her essays, speeches, and meditations on society, culture, and art, spanning four decades. The Source of Self-Regard is brimming with all the elegance of mind and style, the literary prowess and moral compass that are Toni Morrison's inimitable hallmark. . . . In the writings and speeches included here, Morrison takes on contested social issues: the foreigner, female empowerment, the press, money, "black matter(s)," and human rights. "*

Looking forward to an interesting book and discussion! You can read a portion, a single essay, or the whole book & then JOIN US!

## **Prayer Shawl Meetings**

The group meets once a month from September to June on the fourth Tuesday each month- except there is no meeting in December. We meet in the social room at the church. We share items we are working on and things we have finished. We share stories and each other's knowledge of knitting, crocheting and other handy crafts.

We would love to have anyone who would like to join us!

The fall schedule is as follows:

**Tuesdays at 5:00 on Sept. 24, Oct. 22, and Nov. 26.**

*~Susan Reilly*

## The Ladies Benevolent Society

Ladies Benevolent Society (Lady B's) is looking forward to another season of "giving, gathering, gabbing, and going places"! Old faces and new faces welcome. Members, family and friends of our church (or each other!) are invited to join us to plan the upcoming year's calendar.

We'll gather on **Thursday, September 19 at 1:00 PM.**

Join us with your ideas for good works for our church, for chatter and laughter and good company. We meet in the church Social Room on the third Thursday of each month. We also have yummy refreshments at our informal and fun meetings! In 2018-19, Lady B's had interesting speakers at some meetings; fun trips; a Christmas luncheon with a Yankee Swap; an English 'Tea'; made/sold some quilts, etc., etc., etc. Lady B's does make an occasional quilt, but, as you can see, we do a lot of other things! Lady B's would love to have you to join us! You'll be glad you did! The comradery of other ladies is SO uplifting! If you need more information, contact Carol Williams at: 802-674-5274.

*~Carol Williams, President and Jan Hewes, Secretary*

## Remembrance Sunday

A time for Remembrance will be held during worship on **Sunday, Nov 3rd** 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 before Wed, Oct 30th .

## Board of Missions & Outreach

**Neighbors in Need** Offering will be 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 Wed, Oct 30th. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Carol Withington for more information or to donate food/help serve.

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.

**Reflecting God's love through your generosity!!** We donated 28 new backpacks and 12 full bags of school supplies to DCF and HES AND 48 Church World Service kits for children in need internationally!! The CWS bags were made by a variety of people in beautiful colors. Our back to school donations support children locally, regionally and internationally. JOY! JOY! JOY!

## Puerto Rico Potluck

Please join Lydia Rosaly Velázquez and Angel Cepeda, IEUPR/UCC Disaster Response and Preparedness Coordinators in Puerto Rico for an area-wide Pot Luck Supper at 6:00pm, on September 25 at the Norwich Congregational Church. They will be updating us on the current Hurricane Maria Recovery situation in Puerto Rico during their visit to the Burlington and Upper Valley areas. They will be staying in Sharon with Doug and Judy Moore as UCC guests. Lydia and Angel have been involved with all the UCC disaster recovery work since the program was started and have much information to share with us. They will also give a short presentation during church at the Thetford Church on Sunday, September 30 at 10am. Contact moorejudy22@yahoo.com for more information.

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

CONFIRMATION class will be offered to all youth grade 8 and higher. We will be meeting weekly on **Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 7:15 starting September 25**. Confirmation Sunday will be May 3, 2020! Lucia and Daun Smith will be leading the course. We will be using the Affirming Faith curriculum and ask that each student purchase the book for \$12.00.

Kick off class: **Wed, September 25, 6:00 – 7:15**.

There will be an orientation meeting for interested confirmands and parents on **September 15 at 11:15** in the fellowship room. During Confirmation, students are expected to attend worship each Sunday or help in an assigned Church School classroom, usher and read scripture, volunteer 10 hours of service to the church, and participate consistently in the Confirmation classes. Confirmation is a wonderful experience, a time of faith nurture and growth, fellowship and faith commitment. I am anticipating a terrific year for all of us! Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns or to sign up! ~Lucia

## **Youth Mission Trip**

We had a wonderful Youth Mission Trip in July with 9 youth and 7 adults. Returning to New Haven, Ct for 12 years, we know the agencies, the folks who work there, the host church and the area. And we feel a deep connection to the work that Habitat for Humanity, New Reach and Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen do for folks in need of shelter, transitional housing and affordable homes.

## **YOUTH HAPPENINGS!**

**JUNIOR HIGH** School Youth Group (7th & 8th grade): generally meets every two weeks on Sundays at 5:00 – 6:15,  
**SENIOR HIGH** School Youth Group (9TH – 12TH grade): generally meets every two weeks on Sundays at 6:30 – 8:00.

However we will sometimes meet at the UCC in Hartland Village and sometimes at the UU in Hartland 4 Corners. So you will have to note where the meeting is! If you did NOT go on Mission Trip 2019, you must do a new medical/contact info form - available from Lucia or Paul.

**September 22**, Youth Group Begins! (UCC) Trip signup & \$ due

**September 29, 11:30 - 6:00** ALL YOUTH TRIP TO BROMLEY! Leaving immediately following worship (11:30) from the UCC church, returning at 6:00pm. Parent drivers/chaperones needed! \$35 per person. Bring more money for the zipline (\$20). Sign ups & money due Sept 22nd.

**October 6**, Youth Group! (UCC)

The Sr High Youth Group will be doing CARE PACKAGES for recent youth group graduates – please bring food/baked goods/items for packages!

**October 20**, Youth Group! (UCC)

**October 27**, BRUNCH to Benefit Youth Mission Trip 2020 (UCC) all Mission Trip 2020 participants expected to help! Parental support needed! Start prepping at 9:00, stay through Clean up.

**November 3**

**5-6:00 pm** —Junior Youth at the UU Church

**6:00 pm** (UU Church) Mission Trip slide show, and introductory info 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

## **SEVERAL THANK YOUS**

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!

Brian Porto and Connie Moser and Daun Smith for providing worship leadership when Lucia was on vacation!

Carol Withington and her amazing Hixon House Team for providing delicious meals with a smile!

Martha McGlenn for providing beautiful garden flowers for worship each week (or for recruiting others to do it!)

Jeannie Frazer and Beth Rice and all of the UNDER THE TREE RUN volunteers. Your hard work is a great commitment to the Hartland Christmas Project.

TO EVERYONE who donated food to the Youth Mission Trip.  
(best fed teenagers!)

First Congregational Church of Hartland, UCC  
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