

First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC

~ ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! ~

~SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025 ~ EPIPHANY SEVEN



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY *“For me, forgiveness and compassion are always linked: how do we hold people accountable for wrongdoing and yet at the same time remain in touch with their humanity enough to believe in their capacity to be transformed?”* bell hooks



~ FEBRUARY 23, 2025 ~EPIPHANY SEVEN~

PRELUDE *Change My Heart, O God*

Joanie Brown

WELCOME

Pastor Jane

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES AND RINGING OF THE BELL

Mary Ann & Michelle

One: What is our church's mission?

Many: To embody God's powerful love...

- welcoming all people, with a vision and message of hope,
- weaving deep relationships with Jesus and each other,
- working, praising and playing in our towns and world.

OPENING HYMN *Chalice # 715 Now Thank We All Our God*

*Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom the world rejoices,
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.*

*O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us full of grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.*

*All praise and thanks to God
our Father and our Mother,
to Christ and to the One
who binds us to each other,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Our salvation is from the Lord;

PEOPLE: *God is our refuge in times of trouble.*

LEADER: The Lord helps us and rescues us;

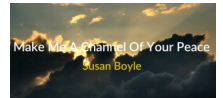
PEOPLE: *God saves us because we take refuge in our Lord.*

LEADER: Come, let us worship and praise our Lord that loves us.

INVOCATION

Lisa Fenwick

PRAISE AND WORSHIP *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

TIME WITH THE YOUNG—A MESSAGE OF GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ann Bucci

HEBREW READING GENESIS 45:3-11

RESPONSORIAL READING OF PSALM 37 1-11, 15

LEADER: Don't be worried on account of the wicked; don't be jealous of those who do wrong. They will soon disappear like grass that dries up; they will die like plants that wither.

PEOPLE: Trust in the LORD and do good; live in the land and be safe. Seek your happiness in the LORD, and he will give you your heart's desire.

LEADER: Give yourself to the LORD trust in him, and he will help you; he will make your righteousness shine like the noonday sun. Be patient and wait for the LORD to act; don't be worried about those who prosper or those who succeed in their evil plans.

PEOPLE: Don't give in to worry or anger; it only leads to trouble. Those who trust in the LORD will possess the land, but the wicked will be driven out.

LEADER: Soon the wicked will disappear; you may look for them, but you won't find them; but the humble will possess the land and enjoy prosperity and peace.

PEOPLE: The LORD saves the righteous and protects them in times of trouble. He helps them and rescues them; he saves them from the wicked, because they go to him for protection.

GOSPEL READING LUKE 6:27-38

SERMONIC HYMN Chalice # 668 vs. 1, 2 3 *For the Healing of the Nations*

*For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.*

*Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.*

*All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.*

SERMON Witness to Forgiveness

Pastor Jane

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Please use
this QR code
to make a



DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CLOSING HYMN *Chalice # 477 Pass It On*

*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 His love to ev'ryone
You want to pass it on*

*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*

*I wish for you my friend
This happiness that I've found
You can depend on Him
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*

BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD****POSTLUDE** *Love Lifted Me*

Joanie Brown

*Our thanks to everyone who helped with the worship this morning****Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service*****PRAYER LIST** Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.**IMMEDIATE NEEDS:** Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, Patty Stannard, Chelsea, C.J. Dave Mallory, Connie Manukka, Judy Sheldon, Carlene Kasuba, Alan Wolmuth, Phil Stack**ANNOUNCEMENTS****BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND****LENTEN BOOK STUDY** Let's read, *Give Up Something Bad for Lent* by James W. Moore. The easy to read book is available in Reed Chapel for \$4.00 each. Let's read the introduction and chapters, 1 2 and 3 (pages 7 thru 33) We can meet on **Sunday, March 23rd** to have a light lunch and discussion.**ASH WEDNESDAY** Deacons, Debbie Pratt and Mary Ann Charron will give ashes to go on **Wednesday, March 5th from 12:00 Noon—1:00 PM in the front of the church** Pastor Jane and Deacon, Ron Stack will give ashes to go from **5:00 PM—6:00 PM in front of the church.****Let's watch CHOSEN together during Lent.** The Methodist Church in **Poultney** has invited us to join them on **Friday evenings, at 6:00 PM beginning March 7th.** This will be potluck. Bring something to share. Please let Pastor Jane know if you plan to join in the fun. A discussion will follow the episode.**DEACONS MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH****CABINET MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH**



TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE QUEEN SIZE QUILT, 85" X 89"

A beautiful quilt made by Clem Levesque, age 91, is hanging in Reed Chapel. Clem donated this quilt to help with fund raising for the organ. **Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20.** (Sorry for the error in ticket price last week) The drawing will be held on Easter Sunday at the church.



230th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference UCC

Location: Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St, Rutland, VT
or meet Virtually

Date and time: Fri, May 2, 2025 3:00 PM - Sat, May 3, 2025 5:00 PM

Organizer: Vermont Conference, (802) 505-8727,
treasurer@vermontucc.org

Vitality Day 2025

Let's Celebrate Children's and
Youth Ministries in Vermont!

Details!

Saturday, March 8th, 2025
at the Charlotte Congregational Church,
UCC from 10-3.
\$40 per church, for however many you bring,
with lunch included.

Who is Speaking?

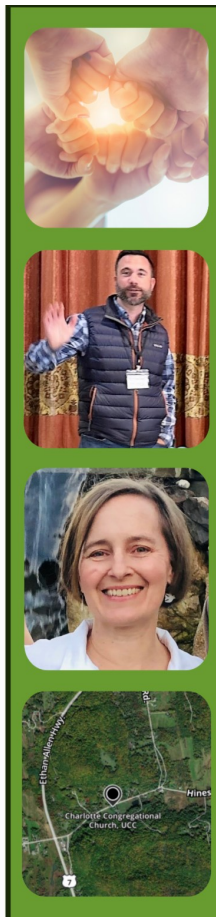
Speakers include
Jessica Moore,
Dan Haugh,
Skip Masbeck,
and the Christian Educators of
the Vermont Conference.

Goals!:

A Day to:
Learn from One Another!
Be encouraged!
See new possibilities in my
community!
We can share God's love with the
next generation!

Register Here!!

Contact Pastor Jane if you are
interested in attending.
Call her at 802-430-3636 or email
janechurchlady@gmail.com



risen

indeed

The 230th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference
May 2-3, 2025
Grace Church, Rutland VT

"Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God."
Isaiah 58:1-12

If you would like to schedule time with Pastor Jane, please call her directly at 802-430-3636 or email her at janechurchlady@gmail.com

To schedule time with a Deacon either in-person or zoom, please contact Eileen via email to be placed on their calendar. Eileen@fhucc.org

Prayer Circle: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer you may call anyone of the following:

Karen Festa 802-287-2405
 Maryann Charron 802-468-3207
 Karyn Jockell 802-278-8058
 Lana Petty 802-353-0485

WE TRY TO MAKE IT EASIER TO COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

Trouble with Stairs?

A Handicap RAMP is available on the Caernarvon Street side of Church! You MAY park on the church side of Caernarvon Street during church events.

A handicapped accessible bathroom is available on the main floor of the church.

Parking. Please save spaces near the front of the church for those who have difficulty walking. One handicapped space is available on Caernarvan St. near the ramp.

Pastor Jane LoBrutto janechurchlady@gmail.com 802-430-3636

Church Administrator: Eileen Hurlburt eileen@fhucc.org

Debbie Pratt - Lead Deacon

Sharon Pinsonnault & Joan Brown Organist/Pianist

Andrew Donahue and Ron Stack – Social Media

Thank you for coming to worship with us!

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of Fair Haven UCC



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