

First Congregational Church of St. Albans (FCC) is a welcoming community of spiritual seekers, believers, and doubters.

Please know that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

To create an open and loving community that encourages a joyous exploration with God.

To work together to care for and nurture the wider community.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as a community resource church is to provide a safe place for spiritual exploration and personal growth. To affirm the value of each person and to meet them where they are.

To connect to the community through personal service, giving, and pastoral care.

Please feel free to contact us:

Administrative Office: 8 AM to 11 AM weekdays.

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

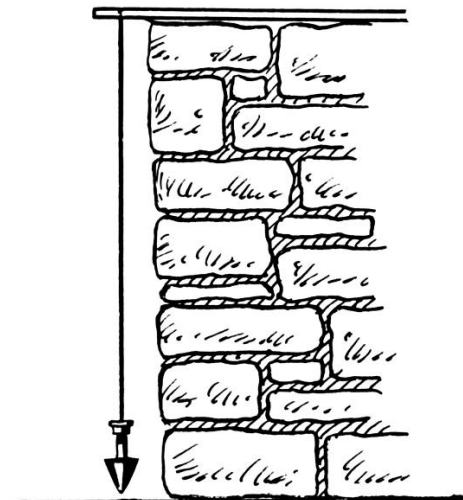
Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: T-W-F, 9am-12pm

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

For urgent, pastoral matters outside of regular office hours, call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE IS BROADCAST OVER THE LOCAL PUBLIC ACCESS CHANNEL 1079 ON SUNDAYS AT 4 PM.

SCRIPTURE READER: LANE MCELREE



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

JULY 10, 2022

10AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

ERIN GRAINGER, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

SUE POWERS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS:

“Truth is never a straight line; it is a circle that will take you back to what you know, in order to challenge your belief in what is fair, what is real, what is forgivable, what is not and what type of person will you become today now that you know.” — Shannon L. Alder

THE PREPARATION

The beginning of the prelude is a call to enter into the spirit of prayer and community.

Prelude *Amazing Grace* (for organ and Mellotron) Traditional

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: God of salvation, we lift our souls to you.

Many: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

One: In trust, we wait on you to speak, to reveal, to send.

Many: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

One: Lead us in your truth with mercy and righteousness.

Many: The paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness.

Welcome to all visitors: We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today and are strengthened by your participation in our service!

If you are new to First Congregational Church of St. Albans, please sign the guest book in the narthex (main entrance of the church).

If you would like more information about our church and its programs or would like to receive our Morning Reflections, and weekly e-newsletter, “From the Manse,” please fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the Offering tray (be sure to include your email address).

After the service please join us for fellowship, conversation, coffee, and refreshments.

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

¹UCC, WORSHIP WAYS

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Mission Highlight

The Welcome Home Initiative:

First Congregational Church of St. Albans is a founding member of the Welcome Home Initiative (WH). WH provides people transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties of Vermont with new- home essentials (mop, broom, dishes, cleaners, trash can, pots & pans, etc.), personal items (shampoo, deodorant, etc.), and a full pantry, fridge, and freezer stock of food.

The Welcome Home Initiative is a collaboration among:

- Franklin/Grand Isle CVOEO- Community Action
- First Congregational Church of St Albans
- Grace Episcopal Church, Sheldon
- Sheldon Methodist Food Shelf
- Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Swanton
- As well as other churches and businesses that have donated to the Initiative.

WH works with local housing case workers from:

- F/GI Community Action
- Voices Against Violence
- Samaritan House
- Restorative Justice Center
- Pathways

First Congregational Church functions as the fiscal agent, collection center and pick-up hub for the program. WH serves on average 6-7 individuals/families to be housed a month.

MORNING PRAYER¹ (Unison)

**Divine Builder, you set our standards and foundation.
Make your presence known to us as we gather before you.
Let this community reflect your body and your vision.
Fortify us with all truth and strengthen us with your
abundant love. Enliven our senses and stir our being as
we worship you as the people you have crafted to build
alongside you. Amen.**

HYMN*

“Praise to the Living God”

NCH 8

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (Unison)

**Everlasting God, you build up and tear down. We confess
that we have erected idols that need to be demolished in
our time. We embrace complacency and comfort over
following your vision of beloved community and liberation.
We measure ourselves not against your precepts but by the
standards of this world. We close our ears to voices we do
not want to hear and our eyes to sights too painful to see.
Tear down the fear of discomfort within us and rebuild us
with the pillars of holy love, compassionate care, and
Spirit-led action. In your mercy, make us new. Amen.**

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC *UNDER A TREE*
(FROM NOCTURNAL RAINBOWS) S. CONRADY

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 7:7-17

Luke 10:25-37

MORNING REFLECTION

“Testing, Testing, 1-2-3”

HYMN*

“For the Fruit of All Creation” NCH 425

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE ~

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“Go Light Your World” Insert in NCH

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Somewhere (arr.Conrady) L. Bernstein

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A Special Note of Gratitude From All of Us At FCC:

- Sue’s sister, Lori, Thank You for updating our bulletin board and keeping us in season!
- Greg Beeman Thank You for your help at the Manse!

The flowers gracing the altar this morning have been provided by Mara Vijups in memory and honor of Doris Hughes, who was our past, longtime organist.

Summer Music

Do you, or a friend, sing or play an instrument? You are invited to “pray twice” and share music during Sunday worship! Contact Erin during coffee hour or during the week through the office or firstcongregationalmusic@gmail.com

Bible Study is on Summer Break!

We will resume in the September.

**JUSTICE – and Poetry – FOR ALL
CELEBRATING**

Indigenous Poetry of New England

People of the Dawnland: Voice of Today and Tomorrow

Featuring Poet: **Suzanne Rancourt**

When: Friday, July 22nd at 5:30 PM food and music.

Main event at 6:30 PM.

Where: Pavilion, Kill Kare State Park, St. Albans
Sundog Poetry Center invites you to join us to hear featured indigenous writer Suzanne Rancourt, as well as other local artists. For more details go to www.sundogpoetry.org or call 802-585-8502.