

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: 8-12 Tuesday, 8-10 Wednesday,
8-12 Thursday and 9-12 Friday.

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: LOUISE HAYNES



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



First Congregational Church of St. Albans

An open and affirming community.



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

AUGUST 6, 2023

9:00 AM

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

ERIN GRAINGER, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

MONICA NEWTON, OFFICE MANAGER

27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478

802-524-4555

INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

CENTERING WORDS:

“No one has ever become poor by giving.”

Anne Frank

THE PREPARATION

PRELUDE:

Ariosio

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MORNING PRAYER ¹

(UNISON)

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and we who have need come, receive the abundance of substance provided freely for our bodies and souls. Incline our ears, and let us come to God to listen, so that we may live. Our Creator makes an everlasting covenant with us as God has with our ancestors. We ask for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in this sacred space, so we can recommit ourselves through word, love and action to our everlasting covenant with our God in Jesus' Name. Amen.

HYMN*

“God Is Here! As We Your People” (1, 2, 4)

NCH 70

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

¹ UCC WORSHIP WAYS

MUSIC, COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS: CCLI #4799426 AND SJMP #14586

MUSIC MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT:



Join Us September 10th at 3pm for FCC's Annual Organ Concert!

The *Church Street Sounds of the Season* series grew out of plans developed simultaneously, but independently, by the music directors at each host church.

As co-artistic directors, Donna Costes (St. Luke's) & Erin Grainger (First Congregational) cooperate to present fall and spring series to our communities. Our goal is multifold: to bring a variety of high quality music performances across the genres of classical, chamber, choral, and folk music; to provide a performance venue in the northwest corner of Vermont to our excellent musicians in the region; to share our beautiful church spaces with the public; and to allow these performances to be financially accessible to the public.

Locations

Spring performances are held at **St. Luke's Episcopal Church** in St. Albans VT, the church on the south end of the park with the red door (8 Bishop St, St. Albans VT).
Stay Tuned for Spring Concert Information!

Fall performances are held at the **First Congregational Church** in St. Albans VT, the church on the north end of the park with the clock tower (27 Church St, St. Albans VT).

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (LITANY)

One: As we gather in worship, let us take this moment to consider our needs for transformation and forgiveness. I invite you to quietly reflect on our need for grace.

Moment of Silence

People: Dear God, the creator of all things based on love, you created us in your image of love. There have been times we have fallen short of that love, not only to you but to each other and all of creation. I ask for your forgiveness and from you, present today, my siblings, sisters and brothers in Christ. I thank you for the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy Spirit to do better in bringing love and grace and all I do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

SPECIAL MUSIC Poem (for Keith Jarret) S. Conrady

SCRIPTURE READING

ISAIAH 55:1-5

MATTHEW 14:13-21

MORNING REFLECTION: “And the Beat Goes On”

HYMN*

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

NCH 330

THE COMMUNION

BLUE BINDER

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER ~

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, all heavenly hosts:

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE DEPARTURE

HYMN*

“Great Is Your Faithfulness”

NCH 423

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision (Trad.) E. Grainger

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- Greg Beeman Thank You for filling the giant hole at the mouth of the Manse’s driveway!
- Paula Kane, JoAnn Chambers, Sandy Cristman Thank You for meeting with and evaluating church staff during July!
- Thank You to everyone who contributed to the emergency call to help a young single mother with her car payment—we did it! She can continue her work with Instacart uninterrupted.

August 12 @ 1pm - Cookout at the Beeman’s in Fairfax!

Bring your favorite picnic dish to share, relax with friends, and enjoy the beautiful gardens and pool!
416 Buck Hollow Rd, Fairfax
Sign-up at coffee hour!

Open Mic

August 19

7-9pm

Theme: Surf and Summer!

Summer is still here . . . let’s make the most of it!

Join us for poetry, singing, storytelling, refreshments and fellowship!

Everyone is welcome: beginners, experts and everyone

Pastor Jessica’s Next Vacation August 14-29

● Special Guest Preachers:

- August 20: Robin Genetti
- August 27: Doug Klette

● Emergency Pastoral Care

- Rev. Darcey Mercier from St. Luke’s and Grace Episcopal churches: 802 393-0363