

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:

**M: 10-12, Tu: 9-2, W: 10-12, Th: 9-12 & 1-5, F: 10-12**

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours: By Appointment

Monday is Pastor Jessica's Sabbath.

Email: [pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org](mailto:pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)

For urgent pastoral matters call Pastor Jessica at 207-632-5544.

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

**READER:** Stephen McLaughlin

**ACOLYTES:** Mykala Pryor & Ada Sanders



**"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."**

**WORSHIP WITH US:**

**OCTOBER 13, 2024**

**10 AM**

**REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR**

**STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST**

**MONICA NEWTON, OFFICE MANAGER**

**27 CHURCH STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT 05478**

**802-524-4555**

**[INFO@FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](mailto:info@firstcongregationalstalbans.org)**

**[WWW.FIRSTCONGREGATIONALSTALBANS.ORG](http://www.firstcongregationalstalbans.org)**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

Centering Words:

"In this world it is not what we take up, but what we give up,  
that makes us rich."

—Henry Ward Beecher

**❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖****THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call To Worship

One: Within this community

**All: We experience God's unconditional love**

One: Within this community

**All: We rejoice in the risen Christ**

One: Within this community

**All: We awaken to the Holy Spirit**

One: Within this community

**All: We join together in worship**

Morning Prayer<sup>1</sup> (Unison)

Everlasting God, we come before you with questions, and  
you question us in return. We declare that you are good, and  
you have declared us good. May we acknowledge that you  
make all things new, you redeem our days, and you empower  
us to be your people. In your presence, there is joy, and there

**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

<sup>1</sup>UCC, 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 nonperishable food items.

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
- ➔ Congregational Church of So. Hero
- ➔ St. Luke's Episcopal Church, St. Albans
- ➔ Our local Girl Scout Troop
- ➔ 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
- Reach-Up
- Spectrum Youth and Family Services

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.

is struggle. Peace surpasses understanding, and our hearts break. This defines the fullness of human community and experience in companionship with you. We give thanks for your presence and trust that you continue to transform the impossible into the possible. Make it so in us and through us in your precious name. Amen.

HYMN\*

*“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* (1,2, 4) NCH 1

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION <sup>1</sup> (UNISON)

Just God, we confess our attachment to things of this world, to our possessions, and to objects of status. We acknowledge the pride we take in doing good things that require little of us while turning away from the needed thing that challenges our wants and desires. Make us repairers of brokenness and restorers of lost. Help us to discern that life in full pursuit of your kin-dom is rich, full, and freeing. Even as you test us, help us meet the moment with abounding love and abiding faith. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

## THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:17-31

MORNING REFLECTION

REORIENTATION

HYMN\*

**“O God Our Help in Ages Past”** (1-4) NCH 25**THE COMMUNION**

(See Insert)

**THE THANKSGIVING**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTOR’S PRAYER~

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.**

**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\*

**“In the Midst of New Dimensions”** (1,2,5) NCH 391

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖**ANNOUNCEMENTS:****A Special Note of Gratitude From All of Us At FCC:**

- ★ Stephan Conrady Thank You for being flexible and “can-do” at the Blessing of the Animals! Being locked out of the gazebo didn’t stop you. The stress of the situation didn’t thwart your beautiful music or our enjoyment of it!
- ★ Bailey Brown, Sue Powers, Park Newton, John Boomhover, Stephen McLaughlin, and everyone else who helped with the heavy lifting, chair fetching, extension cord stretching at the Blessing of the Animals service—being locked out of the gazebo and electric box didn’t stop FCC! You made it happen!!

**Tent Drive:**

Community Action and Samaritan House recently lost funding for camping supplies—can you help? Donations can be brought to the church. They need:

NEW 3-5 person tents.

New or Gently Used:

- Sleeping bags
- Blankets
- Tarps
- Ground Cloths

Cash or check

**Open-Mic****October 19 7-9pm**

Pot-luck dinner. Come to play, sing, tell a story, or to simply listen.

All ages, free.

**Spooky Saturday****October 26 Noon-2pm**

We need volunteers to hand-out candy and  
**WE NEED CANDY!!**

**Online Giving:****Wi-Fi:**

Sanctuary  
sanctuary123

