

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: Tuesday - Friday: 9am- 2pm

Church Office Phone Number: 802-524-4555

Pastor Jessica's Office Hours:

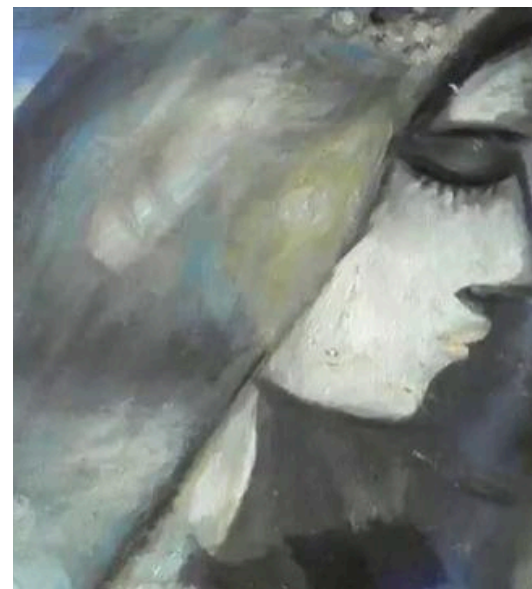
Friday 9:30am-2:30pm and by Appointment

Email: pastorjessica@firstcongregationalstalbans.org

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

Please note that Monday is Pastor Jessica's day off.

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



"WE WELCOME YOU AND SERVE ALL THROUGH FAITH."

WORSHIP WITH US:

OCTOBER 19, 2025

10 A.M.

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

BAILEY BROWN, MUSIC AND CHORAL DIRECTOR

STEPHAN CONRADY, ORGANIST

STEPHEN McLAUGHLIN, 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:

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
(Romans 12:12)

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖**THE PREPARATION**

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

PRELUDE *Grace Alone* S. Brown & J. Nelson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP *Here in This Place*

Holy One, may your presence here open our minds.

May your Spirit among us help us to find

You are rising up now like a fountain of Grace

From the Holy Ground.

Here in this place. Here in this place.

MORNING PRAYER¹ (UNISON)

One: As the sun sets behind the hills,

Many: We celebrate hope in our Creator.

One: Even as the sun strikes the earth in daytime

Many: We celebrate peace in our Creator.

One: As we move about this earth from day to day

Many: We celebrate the love of our Creator.

HYMN*

Loves Divine All Loves Excelling (1,2,4) NCH 43

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).

THIS SERVICE IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE GENEROUS PARTICIPATION OF:

GREETERS: Mary Bostwick and Carol Klette

SCRIPTURE READER: Chris Guzman

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

ACOLYTES: Sophia Gagnon, Kaia Newton, Mykala Pryor, and Ada Sanders

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

*PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

¹UCC WORSHIP WAYS

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

The 2025 Mitten Tree campaign is starting soon!

Please consider making or donating the following items: hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, socks, skeins of yarn or blankets.



Patterns for mittens, gloves, and hats are available on a display table outside the FCC kitchen.

The Samaritan House, CVOEO, and the Bellows Free Academy are a few of the local organizations that will benefit from your handmade and donated items. Donations can be accepted from October 20 through December 12, 2025.

Please contact Chris Guzman (chrich717@gmail.com) or Maria Barresi (mom.barr@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Thank you for supporting this mission.

Annual Meeting: November 9

The Annual Meeting of the First Congregational Church of St. Albans, Vermont will be held on November 9th, 2025 immediately following the Sunday service. This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Article V, section 2 providing for an Annual Meeting to be held on the second Sunday in November, and section 5A providing for two-weeks notice for such meeting and a month's notice is required by the by-laws for a change in the by-laws.

Mindful Awareness with Jonathan: Thursday mornings 8-9am; Free

Explore present-centered awareness and insight through acceptance and letting go. Everyone is welcome.

Online Giving:

Wi-Fi (Sanctuary):
sanctuary123



PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE¹ (Unison)

Beloved God of All,

We often feel deserted by Divine Justice and Peace, especially after absorbing the news each day. We allow ourselves to fully walk away from spreading Good News of your love and grace after feeling the lack of mercy in our world. We would rather be silent in places of comfort instead of shining your light in our pain-present reality. Our hearts can not bear knowing of any further wrongdoings. Open our souls to your healing. Embolden us to be persistent in our quest to do justice and love kindness. May we follow your light when the shadows attempt to swallow our resolve. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:1-8

CONTEMPORARY READING

Pleading for Justice Steve Garnaas-Holmes

MORNING REFLECTION

Weapons of the Weak

HYMN*

Be Now My Vision (1,2,3)

NCH 451

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER:

HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD D. WELPTON

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE ~

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

"THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE."

SCOTTISH PSALTER, 1615

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* *This Is the Day of New Beginning* NCH 417

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Together Again S. Conrady
for Gudrun (1935-2025) and Hans Blatzheim (1922-1997)

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

- ❖ Thank You, Jonathan - For continuing to hold the weekly meditation sessions!
- ❖ Thank You, Park Newton for replacing the light in the porte cochere –we can see clearly now!

October 19 at 3 pm

Sounds of the Season Concert: Vermont Cello Duet

Enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music from Vermont Cello Duet, Vermont's only cello duet known for performing a range of styles from Bach and Vivaldi to Taylor Swift! Admission is by DONATION

October 25, 12-1pm

Spooky Saturday

Volunteers needed to hand out candy and help with a children's craft.

October 28 7-8PM

The Arpeggione Duo: Jazz - Classical - Crossover

FREE and Family Friendly!

The Arpeggione Duo presents a new and rare sound, that of two of the most ancient string instruments: the cello and the guitar.

All Souls Prayer Walk, November 1 @ 10am

Hard'ack Grace Trail

We live in stressful times! Take some time to recalibrate through reflection, contemplation, and prayer.

Sign-up at Coffee Hour

ZOOM Bible Study: Wednesdays 7pm

Next: October 22; Luke 18: 9-14

Wifi:

Sanctuary
sanctuary123