

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:

JULY 26, 2026

10 A.M.

REV. JESSICA MOORE, PASTOR

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:

Suddenly miracles are made of quiet moments of faithfulness.
— Andrena Sawyer

❖ BEGINNING OF SERVICE ❖

THE PREPARATION

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

PRELUDE *We Shall Not be Moved* Spiritual

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 PRAYER ¹ (UNISON)

**Gracious God, you have made yourself known among us.
When we seek you, we find you. You surround us with love
and righteousness. Your presence strengthens and upholds
us. While we gather together, let us be mindful that your
wisdom speaks, your power fuels, and your heart fills us.
Grant us discernment. Let us be faithful. May you be
glorified. Amen.**

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:

DEACON OF THE MONTH: Maria Barresi

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH: Ira Wilkens

SCRIPTURE READER: Alan Shannon

COFFEE-HOUR HOSTS: Bonnie Bosley and Val Odrechowski

GREETER: Stephen McLaughlin

**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

July 26

Special Offering:

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

The 4500 congregations of the United Church of Christ covenant together to put God's love into action in our communities and across the world.

In isolation, no single congregation can completely answer God's call to love. Together we are a bold witness to God's extravagant love for all. We share resources to bring our vision to life. Gifts from congregations like ours to OCWM Basic Support make it possible for our Conferences and the National Ministries to strengthen local churches and leaders and engage us in mission well beyond our community.

Most of our OCWM Basic Support dollars remain in our Conferences to help local congregations thrive. Direct support in Conferences comes through leadership initiatives, such as communities of practice, committees on ministry, and one-on-one mentoring. Conferences also share in congregational vitality work. This includes conflict transformation, resourcing leaders as they reimagine ministry, and grants to churches.

The National Ministries of the UCC, a crucial partner of our Conference and each congregation, helps us put love into action, especially through ministry that no one congregation could do alone.



HYMN*

Praise to the Living God (1, 2, 4) NCH 8

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION ¹ (UNISON)

Glorious God, may your face shine upon us. Teach us your ways so that we may live in peace, justice, and righteousness. Keep our way steady and directed toward you. Remove the hold of oppression and evil from among your people. Transform our hearts and minds so that we might reflect your goodness and love in the world. Amen.

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE MESSAGE

TIME WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC *Ol' Man River* arr. Conrady J. Kern

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

CONTEMPORARY READING

The Field Steve Garnaas-Holmes

REFLECTION

Start Small

HYMN*

Be Now My Vision (1,3,4) NCH 451

THE THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

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*

O God of Love, O God of Peace NCH 571

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Interstellar Theme arr. Conrady H. Zimmer

❖ END OF SERVICE ❖

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A Special Note of Gratitude from All of Us at FCC:

- ★ Maria Barresi, Bonney Bosley, Sandy Cristman, Carol Klette, Park Newton, Dick Thayer - Thank You for deep cleaning and helping keep our church a welcoming and safe space!
- ★ Nancy Newton - Thank You for taking care of the books in the Library and bringing in new titles for us to browse, take home, and enjoy!

August 8, Saturday

9am-2pm - Church Street Festival

Volunteers needed! See Paula Kane, Sandy Cristman, or Pastor Jessica.

The AHA Art Club:

Thursdays at Noon

Looking for a creative outlet? Join us. Instruction, materials, and good cheer available. No experience necessary. Donations welcome.

Mindful Awareness with Jonathan:

**Thursday mornings 8-9am - Free
In the Sanctuary**

Explore present-centered awareness and insight through acceptance and letting go. All are welcome.

ZOOM Bible Study: On vacation!

Wifi:

Sanctuary: sanctuary123

