



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

207.781.3413



Serving Christ and Community since
1754 Third Parish Church;
1833 The Brick Church

The Reverend Amelia Edson


THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

“If one completes the journey into one’s heart, one will find oneself in the heart of everyone else.” —Father Thomas Keating

LIFE OF THE CHURCH***WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRELUDE

“Let it Begin with Me” Laurie Davis/Virginia Eddy

***CALL TO WORSHIP¹**

One: Praise the Lord!

All: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord from the Heights!

One: Praise God, all the angels, praise God, all the host!

All: Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, shining moon.

One: Let all praise the name of the Almighty, the creator of all.

All: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of earth!

One: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

All: Let all praise the name of the Almighty, who is above heaven and earth.

One: God has raised up a horn for the people, praise for all his faithful.

All: Praise the Lord!

***HYMN**

“What Child is This”

No. 162

CHILDREN’S MOMENT**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

¹ Based on Psalm 148

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we have fallen short, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive, renew, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and follow in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Based on Romans 8:38-39)

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God. Amen.

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 63: 7-9

Matthew 2:13-23

(NRSV p. 653; RSV p.657†)

(NRSV p. 2; RSV p.2†)

THE SERMON

“Escape”

Rev. Amelia Edson

*HYMN

“Away in a Manger”

No.147

During this song, Ushers will collect prayer cards for the Pastoral Prayer.

THE OFFERTORY

“Prayer of St. Francis”

Virginia Eddy

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow:

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

PASTORAL PRAYER

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

All: Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

One: Let us pray.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain

No. 167

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

“Go in Peace”

No.445

POSTLUDE

“Noel”

Louis Claude Daquin

*** During the postlude, you may be seated to listen, or you may leave.**

Throughout the order of worship, if print is in bold, words may be spoken in unison.

(*)Please rise in body or spirit.

† NRSV Bibles are on the pulpit side and the RSV Bibles are on the lectern side of the sanctuary.

Visiting Falmouth Congregational this morning? Please fill out a blue visitor card and put it in the offering plate so that we can send you a (personal, non-spam) welcome email!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Greeters:

Phil & Rae Pierce

Liturgist:

Jane Stegemann

Ushers:

Nancy Lightbody, Pam Carroll

Judy Nilsen & Lorraine Bergen

Bus Driver:

Mark Horton



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9), 10-18

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE
IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

**Maureen Grubb
Ginny Hamilton
James Klenk
Rev. Beinema
Don Worthen**



**Joan Bamel
Bee O'Brien
Myron Krueger
Maytha Southard**

Please let the church office know if we have missed someone and please update us so that we may better pray for them. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We **welcome** you to worship and invite you to join us after the service in Fellowship Hall for refreshments. If you are visiting us today, please pick up a **Welcome Bag** in Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex and fill out a **blue Welcome card**.

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Have a good joke, theological question, or just low on caffeine? Drop by for **Coffee with the Pastor**, every **second and fourth Tuesday from 12:30-2:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. **Next Coffee with the Pastor will be January 14 and 28. No Meeting Christmas Eve.**  
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Stewardship 2020 Update:



As of December, we have received 60 pledges which puts us way ahead of last year at this time. Total amount pledged to date is \$168,520 or 84% of our goal of \$200,000!

Thank you all for making the effort to make a pledge before the end of the year so we can develop a budget for all the ministries in January.

If you have not sent in your pledge or do not understand what pledging is all about, email the office at fccoffc@gmail.com and request the letter and pledge card. There are also letters and pledge cards on the table just outside the sanctuary doors.

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**Interested in learning more about membership** at Falmouth Congregational Church? There will be a short meeting on January 12 after worship, and a joining ceremony on January 26.  
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Hospitality table: The Hospitality Table will be set with goodies and available on Communion Sundays and special Sundays. If you would like to contribute to the Hospitality Table, there is a sign-up poster is located in Fellowship Hall!

And anytime you are baking, you may like to save a few extra contributions for our "Feed the Freezer" campaign. We greatly appreciate your assistance.

A car has been donated to the church, and the proceeds of the sale will be shared amongst the church ministries.



This **2010 Toyota Camry LE with 17,580 miles** is in perfect condition but will need snow tires for winter driving. Kelly Blue Book estimates the car to be worth \$8,000-9,000, but we are first offering it to **members of the congregation at \$7,500.**

If the car does not sell, we will advertise outside the church with a price of \$8,000.

Please call the church office if you are interested and would like to see the car.

SALE!

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**The Falmouth Food Pantry is open the following days in January:**

|            |                     |                 |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Mondays,   | January 6, 20:      | 9:00 - 11:00 AM |
| Tuesdays,  | January 14, 21, 28: | 9:30 - 11:30 AM |
| Thursdays, | January 9, 16, 23:  | 4:30 - 6:30 PM  |

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Nursery News: The Children's ministry and Elena Parr are still in need of volunteers to become "on-call" nursery helpers. Please sign up on the volunteer sheet on the CE bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

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**FCC BUS DRIVERS Please call if you need to cancel your ride.** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: Jack Davis, 233-1707 | 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: Paul Davis, 332-7268 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Phil Pierce, 781-3769 | 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Ann Sanborn, 318-6906 | 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Mark Horton, 838-1544

## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

**No Church School or Choir**

**10:00 AM** Worship Service

**11:15 AM** Coffee and Fellowship

**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

**New Year's Eve- Office Closed**

**Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>**

**New Year's Day- Office Closed**

**Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

8:30 AM Ecumenical Clergy  
Meeting

6:30 PM Ministry of Missions  
Meeting

7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting

**Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> Communion**

**No Choir**

10:00 AM Worship Service

11:15 AM Coffee and Fellowship

7:00 PM Scout Committee  
Meeting



### ***Church Office Hours***

***Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed on Friday***

**Church Phone: 207.781.3413**

Reverend Amelia Edson

Pastor

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