



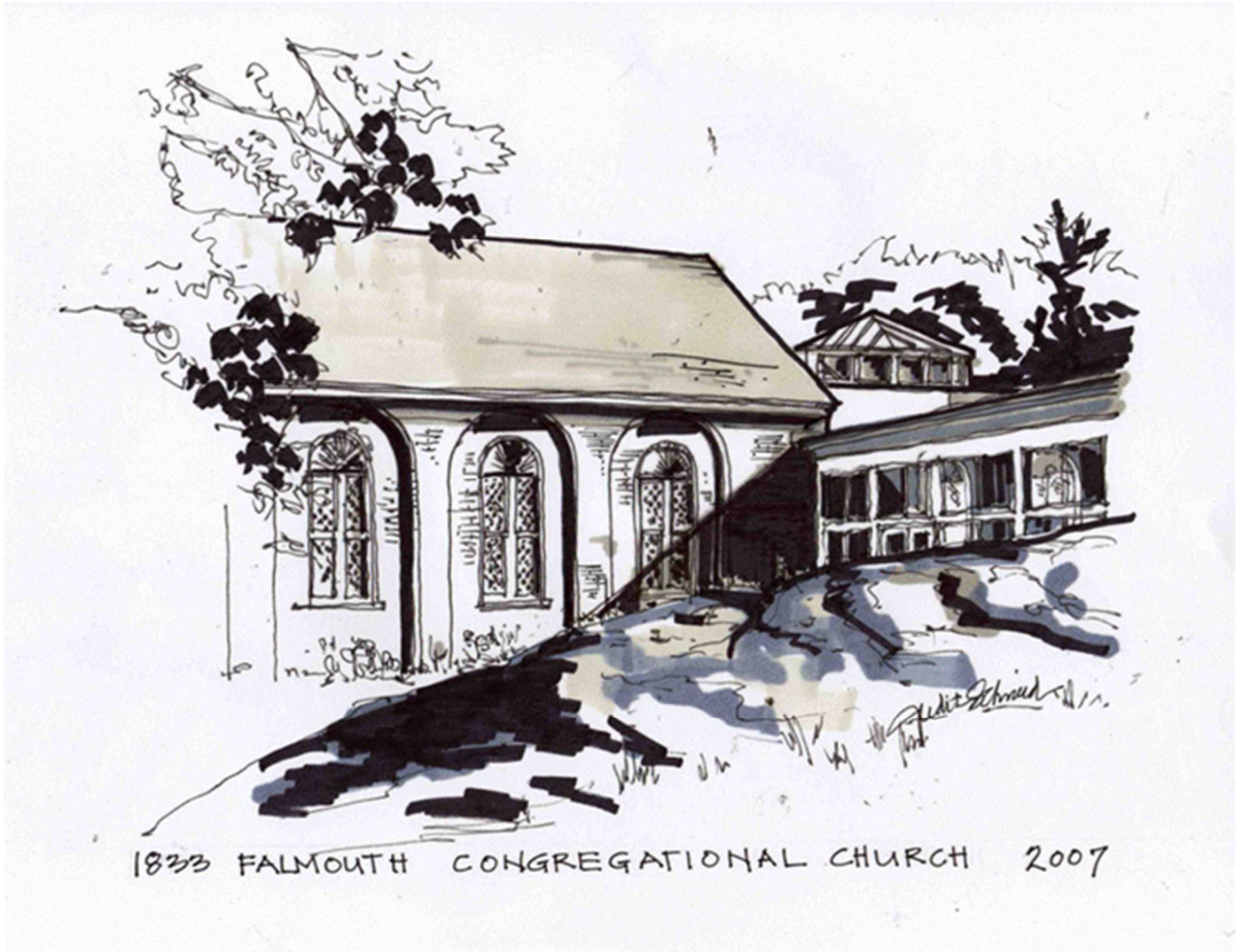
# Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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 Michael H. Richards  
Pastor and Teacher

10:00 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MOTHER'S DAY

MAY 14, 2017



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*We know the way of Jesus through the faithfulness of those who believe.  
Each of us, by word and deed, points out the way of Jesus in the world.*

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

HONORING OUR CALL TO BE PEACEMAKERS

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*(As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, we invite you to turn and greet those around you sharing the peace of Christ saying: "The Peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you.")*

PRELUDE

***"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"***

David Cherwien

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: You can trust God;

**All: in the moments of celebration, at the high points of life, God is there, God celebrates.**

One: You can trust God;

**All: in the dark moments, at the low points of life, God is there, God sustains.**

One: You can trust God;

**All: in the moments of doubt, when decisions fail you, God is there, God clarifies.**

One: You can trust God;

**All: in the certainty of faith, when you are inspired, God is there, God goes with you. Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

***"The Church's One Foundation"***

No. 272

\*OUR 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

A TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: Jesus is the way:

**All: the challenging way discovered by the disciples, the way made glorious by the saints, the way we follow.**

One: Jesus is the truth:

**All: the truth that has stood the test of time, the truth that has empowered and encouraged, the truth we make our own.**

One: Jesus is the life:

**All: the life that combines commitment with adventure, the life that is wholly satisfying, the life we have chosen.**

One: Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

**All: We will be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: When we are caught up in our own importance,

**All: give us a vision of Peter, who was humbled in Pilate's courtyard.**

One: When we are lacking in self-confidence,

**All: give us a vision of the disciples in the Upper Room, revived when Jesus walked with them.**

One: When we will only see one point of view,

**All: give us a vision of Saul on the Damascus Road, encountering Jesus, whose followers he persecuted.**

One: When our loyalty wavers,

**All: give us the courage of Stephen, who knew Jesus was with him when he was killed.**

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Michael

One: A change in attitude, a change in perspective, a change from inaction, are all possible for those touched by the risen Christ.

**All: We are ready for change!**

One: The pardon and peace of Christ are yours!

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### THE WORD OF GOD

#### New Testament Lesson

Acts 7:55-60

(NRSV p. 109; RSV p. 119<sup>†</sup>)

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

#### Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:26-31

(NRSV p. 49; RSV p. 51<sup>†</sup>)

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

### SERMON

**"How Is a Mother Made?"**

Pastor Michael

### \*HYMN

**"Holy Ground"**

No. 112

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### PRAYER RESPONSE

**"Amen"**

Carl Wiltse

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation

The Offertory

**"Because He Lives"**

William Gaither/  
Jack Schrader

**\*Doxology**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

One: We bring You our hope at this Easter season, O God,

**All: that compassion will be encouraged, doubts faced, young persons will be supported, the challenged and distressed upheld, and the saving work of Jesus continued.**

One: Bless these hope-filled gifts, O God, and enliven the spirit of our giving. Amen.

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

***“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”***

**No. 275**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

***Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always. Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new Life! Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.***

**POSTLUDE**

***“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”***

David Cherwien

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

**(\*) Please rise in body or spirit.**

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

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

*Please silence or turn off your cell phone before you enter the sanctuary. Thank you!*

**Worship Participants**

**Greeter:** Nancy Merrill

**Liturgist:** Judy Currier

**Ushers:** Ted Vail, Dolores Vail, Pam Carroll, Judy Nilsen



***The flowers that grace the altar this morning  
are given in loving memory of my husband,  
Harold W. Kauffman, and dedicated to all mothers.***

***From Carol Kauffman***

*(Please take a flower as you leave today in honor or remembrance of our beloved mothers.)*

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. We encourage you to sign the guest book.

Children will be dismissed for Kids' Church following "A Time for the Children." **Visiting children are always welcome!** Kids' Church takes place in the downstairs classrooms, and runs until 11:15 AM. Children in preschool through grade 2 will not be dismissed after class until picked up by a parent.

**Attention Graduating Seniors!** We would like to add a formal congratulations to you in the June edition of the *Congregator*. Please email Gini with your future plans, whether it is to attend college and where, go on to a technical school or pursue a job opportunity. Please email Gini at [gini@maine.rr.com](mailto:gini@maine.rr.com) with the details.

The **Ministry of Community Life** will be meeting **Wednesday, May 17 at 1:30 PM** in the Grant Room. Light refreshments will be served and anyone interested is welcome to attend.

The annual **Spring Plant & Yard Sale** will be held on **Saturday, May 20 from 9:00 AM to noon**. We are accepting yard sale items now. Summer entertaining supplies, kid's outdoor games, bird feeders, vases, planters, garden tools and equipment are popular items at our May Sale. Please leave your items in the stairwell below the office entry. Plant donations - vegetables or flowers - please deliver week of sale.

Interested in volunteering a few hours? We need your help with set up Friday or sales on Saturday. Please contact Eunice Wilcox with your questions. Thank You!

Let us raise our voices and make a beautiful sound! Join us on **Sunday, May 21 at 3:00 PM** for a **Community Hymn Sing**. Invite everyone you know and sing your favorite hymns. All are welcome!

**Let's celebrate! Myron Hager turns 100 years young** on Friday, May 26. To celebrate this momentous occasion, following worship on **Sunday, May 21**, we will have a cake in his honor. Please bring a birthday card with you for him. We would like to fill a basket full of good wishes. Questions? Please contact Barbara Graustein.

The **Falmouth Food Pantry will be open on the following days in May:** Monday, May 15 from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM; Tuesdays, May 16 and 23 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and on Thursdays, May 18 and 25 from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM.



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

**Robbie Coleman  
Charlie Grubb  
Maureen Grubb**

**Mimi Mahirwe  
Joyce Harmon  
Bee O'Brien**

**Paul Varga  
Ted Vail  
Nora VanDusen**

*Please let the church office know if we have missed someone. We will keep people on the prayer list for one month. If you would like them to continue on the prayer list, please update us so that we may better pray for them. Thank you.*



**Next Sunday's Lectionary**

**Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11**

**Church Office Hours**  
**Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed on Friday**  
**Church Phone: 207.781.3413**  
**Visit our Web site: [www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org)**  
**Church Office e-mail: [fccdesk@maine.rr.com](mailto:fccdesk@maine.rr.com)**

Pastor Michael Richards Minister <a href="mailto:pastormichaelfcc@maine.rr.com">pastormichaelfcc@maine.rr.com</a>	Doris Krueger Minister of Music <a href="mailto:dnkrueger@gmail.com">dnkrueger@gmail.com</a>	Gini Medford Office Manager <a href="mailto:ginifcc@maine.rr.com">ginifcc@maine.rr.com</a>
Kristen Coleman Christian Education Coordinator <a href="mailto:fccchristianeducation@maine.rr.com">fccchristianeducation@maine.rr.com</a>	Paul Davis Moderator <a href="mailto:nevis56@gmail.com">nevis56@gmail.com</a>	Marilee Pillsbury Vice Moderator <a href="mailto:bigmarilee@yahoo.com">bigmarilee@yahoo.com</a>
Matthew Strobel Sexton <a href="mailto:mstrobel66@yahoo.com">mstrobel66@yahoo.com</a>		Laurie Logan Office Assistant <a href="mailto:fccdesk@maine.rr.com">fccdesk@maine.rr.com</a>

**This Week's Schedule**

**Sunday      May 14 ~ Mother's Day**  
    **10:00 AM    Worship**  
    **10:10 AM    Kids' Church**  
    **11:15 AM    Coffee Fellowship**  
    **11:30 AM    Council of Ministries (Grant Room)**  
                  **Deadline for June *Congregator* submissions**

**Tuesday      May 16**  
    **10:00 AM    Bible Study (OceanView)**

**Wednesday    May 17**  
    **1:30 PM    Ministry of Community Life (Grant Room)**  
    **7:30 PM    Chancel Choir Rehearsal**

**Saturday      May 20**  
    **9:00 AM    Plant and Yard Sale**

**Sunday      May 21**  
    **9:00 AM    Choir Practice**  
    **10:00 AM    Worship**  
    **10:10 AM    Kids' Church**  
    **11:15 AM    Coffee Fellowship**  
    **11:30 AM    Bible Study (Parlor)**  
    **11:30 AM    Ministry of Christian Education (Grant Room)**  
    **3:00 PM    Community Hymn Sing**

*Falmouth Congregational Church is a fragrance-free environment. Please help us to accommodate our members and visitors who are chemically sensitive to fragrances and other scented products. Thank you for not wearing perfume, aftershave, scented hand lotion, fragranced hair products and/or similar products.*