



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

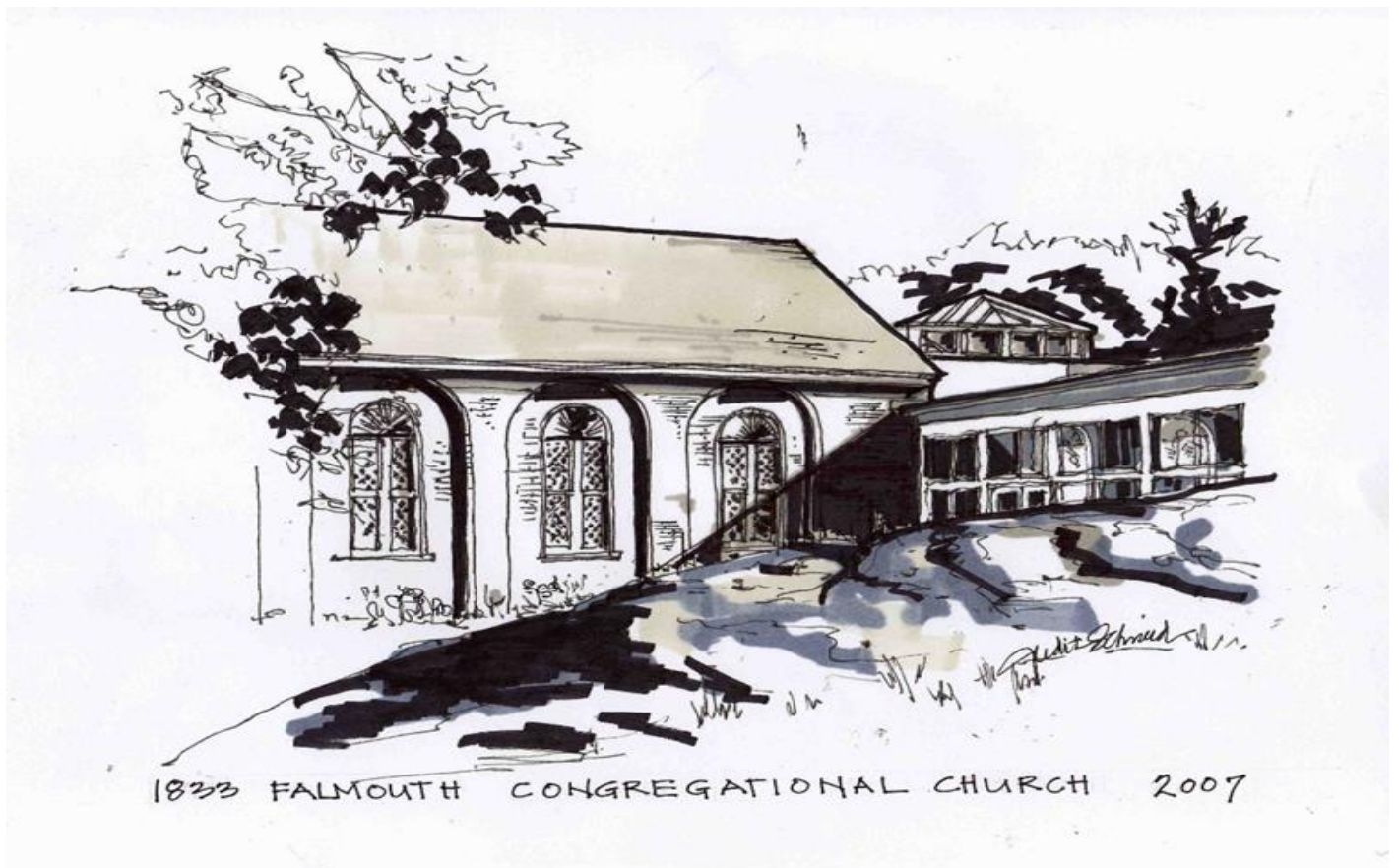
An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

207.781.3413

Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all" (Mk 9:35). In God's eyes, our greatness is determined by our willingness to serve those considered by humankind as the least.



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

The Reverend Michael H. Richards
Pastor and Teacher



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

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*"Prelude"*

Archangelo Corelli

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The casual, thoughtful word of a good friend

All: can open up a way for us to encourage or to forgive.

One: The simple, generous act of a caring neighbor

All: can bring home to us the esteem in which we are held.

One: The carefully phrased note from a family member

All: can be the symbol of a love deep and profound.

One: And this time of worship – familiar, routine, imperfect –

All: can be a faithful reminder of God's wonderful love for us.

HYMN OF PRAISE"Jesu, Jesu"*

No 600, vs. 1,4,5

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Debtors)

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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Michael

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: The hug of a family member joyfully reunited

All: makes clear Your wholehearted love for us, O God.

One: The singer bursting forth into glorious song

All: encourages us to praise and thank You without limit, O God.

One: The reader caught up in the pages of a great novel

All: inspires us to watch for Your word in scripture and to find the message for us.

One: The researcher carefully exploring new territory

All: prompts us to look for fresh spiritual truth, unafraid of what might be revealed.

One: Jesus Christ, full of compassion; with clear intuition; honoring God's word; fearless, forgiving:

All: Jesus is our pattern as we worship. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: "Then He took a child and put it among them."

All: When we use long words and confusing sentences, put a child among us.

One: When we let the cares of the world drag us down, when the demands of life seem overwhelming, put a child among us.

All: When we are tempted to deceive or to selfishly sway an opinion, put a child among us.

One: When we need love, recognition, or a great big hug, put a child among us.

All: When we need to get the values of church, family, or community in proportion, put a child among us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

One: "Then He took a little child and put it among them."

All: The vulnerability and trust of children challenges our attitudes and our lifestyle; we are humbled!

One: Pardon and peace are yours, children of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson Proverbs 31:10-31 (NRSV p.576; RSV p.585 †)

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Lesson Mark 9:30-37 (NRSV p.38; RSV p.42†)

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

"God's Endless Banquet"

Pastor Michael

*HYMN

"The Servant Song"

Back cover, vs. 1,3,4

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Amen"

Dresden

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation

The Offertory

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

John Ness Beck

*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: As You increase our wisdom, loving God, so You increase our vision of need.

All: We see the loneliness of some congregational members; we hear the call of youngsters for a safe and fun place to hang out; we respond to the appeal of those who are sick or housebound for someone to listen to them; we recognize the desperation of refugees and the plight of the homeless.

One: Your gifts will be blessed by God, as they go to work to bring change.

All: Praise be to God! Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

No. 461,
vs. 1,3,4

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Michael

*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

“O Love, How Deep”

Paul Manz

(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.

Worship Participants

Greeter: Judy Currier
Liturgist: Marilee Pillsbury
Ushers: Jack Davis, Ted & Delores Vail

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

**Maureen Grubb
Robbie Coleman
George Sanborn
Bee O'Brien
Myron Krueger
Maytha Southard**



**Kerry Golding
Arthur Westcott
Joyce Harmon
Missy Gage
Pricilla Hobart
Jack Horton (who is serving in Iraq)**

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.

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.

You are invited to attend the **Pine Cone Workshop** immediately following church today. Together, attendees will enjoy fellowship while helping put together the pine cone decorations needed for the Holly Days Fair wreaths. No experience is necessary, materials will be provided, and refreshments will be served.



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29;
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38:50

Mark your calendars! The series on Hospice, *what it is and what it is not*, begins on Tuesday, September 25 at 3 p.m. in Beinema Hall. Details about the series are in the September Congregator. Let Carol Kauffman know if you wish to attend. She can be reached at bearlover12@maine.rr.com or 207-781-4140.

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**Holly Days Fair** is our biggest fund raiser and we need YOU! There are lots of opportunities to join the effort and the fun! For more information, please contact:  
Kathie Sinnett/Coordinator of Volunteers at [kathie.sinnett@gmail.com](mailto:kathie.sinnett@gmail.com).

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The Women's Spiritual Book Group will be meeting on September 26 at 1pm and is hosted by Jane Stegemann at 211 Winn Road in Falmouth. Please join this fun and lively group, all are welcome! Bring ideas and book titles of readings you would like to explore and together we will put together this year's reading list.

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Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> **Wendy Maclsaac and Mac Morin House Concert** in Bowdoin, ME: 5pm Potluck and Jam session; 7pm Concert. Donation requested: \$20/\$10 children. for reservations and directions please contact: Pam Weeks at (207)666-3709 or [pam@pamweeks.com](mailto:pam@pamweeks.com).

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Falmouth Food Pantry hours: 1st & 3rd Mondays, from 9 AM until 11 AM; 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays, from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursdays from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM.

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**Harvest Community Supper:** FREE roast turkey dinner with all the fixings, October 18, 4:30-7:00 PM in Beinema Hall. Volunteer sign up sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Free will donations accepted in support of the Falmouth Food Pantry. For more information contact Nancy Lightbody at (207)781-4670.

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This Week's Schedule

Sunday, September 23 *Neighbors in Need Appeal*

- 9:00 AM Choir Practice
- 10:00 AM Worship Service
- 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship ~ *featuring "Coffee by Design" coffee*
- 11:30 AM Ministry of Education (C.E. Office)

Monday, September 24

- 6:00 PM Fiddle-icious

Tuesday, September 25

- 10:00 AM Bible Study – Ocean View

Wednesday, September 26

- 1:00 PM Women's Spiritual Book Group – Hostess: Jane Stegeman's
- 5:30 PM Pastoral Search Committee – Grant Room
- 7:30 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, September 27

- 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Troop 93 – Beinema Hall

Friday, September 28

- 9:00 AM Choir Practice

Sunday, September 29

- 9:00 AM Choir Practice
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship



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

Church Office e-mail: fccdesk@maine.rr.com

Pastor Michael Richards
Minister
pastormichaelfcc@maine.rr.com

Doris Krueger
Minister of Music
dnkrueger@gmail.com

Mark Horton
Moderator
markhorton@yahoo.com

Kristen Coleman
Christian Education Administrator
fccchristianeducation@maine.rr.com

Matthew Strobel
Sexton
mstrobel66@yahoo.com

Marilee Pillsbury
Vice Moderator
bigmarilee@yahoo.com

Jess Dickson
Office Manager
fccofficemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org

Elaine Lovett
Office Assistant
fccdesk@maine.rr.com

The Servant Song

2222



1., 6. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to - geth - er
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time
4. I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll
5. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such



Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
on this road. We are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

WORDS: Richard Gillard (Matt. 20:26)
MUSIC: Richard Gillard

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THE SERVANT SONG
87.87

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