

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OF ELLSWORTH, MAINE
FOUNDED 1812**



October 2022 - THE STEEPLE NEWSLETTER

First Congregational Church, PO Box 12, 2 Church Street, Ellsworth, Maine 04605 207-667-8321 ellsworthucc.org

From Rev. Keith Bowie, Transitional Minister

Pam and I thoroughly enjoyed the Organ Concert on Sunday afternoon, September 11. It made for a long day for those who attended church that morning, but most were able to get back home for a quick lunch and refresh themselves before returning in the afternoon for the concert. We missed out on the cooler weather that arrived later in the week and thus the church was a bit warm, but I didn't hear anyone complain. Many commented on how nice the steps looked as they entered the sanctuary.



The local organists that performed were excellent and collectively represented many, many years of experience in their skilled artistry and craft. I found myself wondering: How many potential future organists are in the pipeline today? I have no answer and would need to do some research on that, but it seems a lot more young people study piano than the organ. It was a pleasure to partner with Woodlawn and Kathy Young, Executive Director, who shared some amazing historical facts about the Hall pipe organ.

Friendships were made and renewed. One of the first to be seated was Rev. Ruth Martin, Pastor of the Ellsworth Falls Congregational Church. She brought a few of her parishioners with her. There was also a contingent from the Hancock church, including the Revs. Nick & Mary Angela Davis, that came out to support Debbie Riley, one of the local organists who performed. There was a large group of family seated around Peter Haynes who came to support and cheer on Peter. As you may recall, Peter's mother, Hazel, was organist and choir director in this church for many years in the 1940s and 50s. To the great delight and joy of many, there were some of our own people from First Church who had not been seen in quite a while that attended. Finally, there were some people I didn't recognize at all, but were accorded a warm welcome.

It was an afternoon well spent, I think, for those who attended and those who performed. We appreciate all the hard work of those who organized and helped to stage this event. It made the church come alive. Well done, folks!

Blessings,

Keith

Rev. Keith Bowie

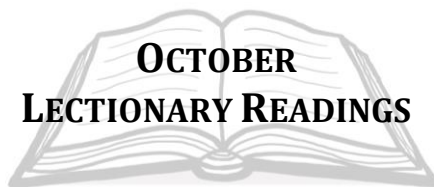
OCTOBER CHURCH MEETINGS

- Adult Forum** – Sundays, 8:30 a.m.
- Busy Bodies** – Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
- Choir** – Tuesdays, 6 p.m.
- Music** – Sunday, Oct 2, 11:30 a.m.
- Missions** – Thursday, Oct 13, TBA
- Deacons** – Sunday, Oct 16, 11:30 a.m.
- Christian Ed** – Sunday, Oct 16, 11:30 a.m.
- Stewardship** – Wednesday, Oct 19, 3 p.m.
- Trustees** – Thursday, Oct 20, 7 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

- **Sunday, Oct 23, 11:30 a.m.**
- Council** – Wednesday, Oct 12, 6:30 p.m.
AND Monday, Oct 24, 6:30 p.m.

Our meetings are hybrid, in person AND Zoom, so that you may participate in the way you are comfortable. **All FCC Zoom events (meetings and worship) use the same meeting number and password.** Please call the church office (T-W-Th) for Zoom instructions.



OCT 2 – 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Lamentations 1:1-6, 3:19-26 OR Psalm 137
Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 & Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

OCT 9 – 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 & Psalm 66:1-12
2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c & Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

OCT 16 – 19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 31:27-34 & Psalm 119:97-104
Genesis 32:22-31 & Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-18

OCT 23 – 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Joel 2:23-32 & Psalm 65
Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 & Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

OCT 30 – 21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 & Psalm 119:137-144
Isaiah 1:10-18 & Psalm 32:1-7
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

ATTENTION:

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**Sunday, October 23, 2022
11:30 a.m.**

Council will report to the congregation their deliberations after having read the Cottage Meetings' notes.



MASKING is OPTIONAL
in the church building.

The Re-Opening Committee suggests you maintain physical distance and respect the space of those who wish to continue to wear a mask.



DEACONS

- Oct 2 - Communion, Rev. David Henry
Oct 9 - Rev. David Henry
Oct 16 - Rev. Keith Bowie, includes
Blessing of the Pets
Oct 23 - Rev. Keith Bowie
Oct 30 - Rev. Keith Bowie

October Deacon: Rev. John Lacey

The Deacons are trying to build the services back and we hope that more of you will want to gather with us on Sunday morning. We know some of faithful folk will continue to watch Facebook or listen to the radio. We would love to know who is listening or watching our services, let us know:

- Call us at 207-667-8733,
- Email us at office@ellsworthhucc.org
- Or drop us a line at
First Congregational Church
PO Box 12
Ellsworth, Maine 04605

We also would love to reach out to more of you, but we don't have some of your contact information. Please provide a phone number or address that we can reach out to you and support your needs. Remember that we are all **NEIGHBORS**. See you in church.

**Here is the command
God has given us.
Anyone who loves God
must also love their
brothers and sisters.**

1 John 4:21 (NIRV)

Prayer Calendar names

In October, please include these names in your daily prayers:

Karen Blaisdell & John Van Pelt
Mike & Sue Fuller
Lillian Katsiaficas
Gil & Ruth McLaughlin
Doug & Mary Smith
John Whitcomb
Jane Alley
Lynne Hundhammer
Nate Stephenson
John Lacey III
Erik Tainter

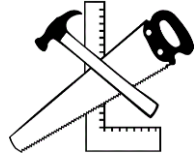


CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Rev. Bowie will restart weekly Bible Study, Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- Adult Forum continues to be well attended and is studying "Holy is a Four-Letter Word". Everyone is welcome.
- We plan to put Christian reading materials in the Little Libraries around town
- The Gideon booth at the Blue Hill Fair handed out 700-800 little New Testaments as an outreach of this church.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees need your help with several fall projects and are looking for volunteers to do drywall, painting, light woodworking, and other indoor tasks. Please contact a Trustee or call the church office to let us know you have willing hands and some time to contribute.



Fall is here and heating season will begin in earnest anytime now. With that in mind, Trustees would like a "Quilting Bee" day in November. There are more than 20 large windows in the education wing. While enjoyable in the summer, it is a large heat loss in the colder months. The Trustees will install hardware, and if the church could put together quilted drapes to hang, it will be a significant savings going forward. Please talk to a Trustee if you would like to help. To iterate, heating season is upon us. Thanks everyone for helping us be mindful of each and every gallon of fuel.

We are addressing electrical issues in the education wing, bathroom renovations are underway, and the basement area is receiving attention.

I would like to thank the Trustees, especially Charlie Sargent and his son for the continued work on the front lawn. Their work has provided some deep roots for the future, both for the lawn, literally, and our church facelift. (And the beautiful autumn foliage will enhance our picturesque building.)

The Trustees care for our place of worship and count our many blessings as we tackle each project. We may face challenges in the future, but we can face them together.

Troy Tainter
Building Maintenance Director

In appreciation

Dear Friends,

Thank you all so much for all the lovely expressions of sympathy—cards, calls, notes and visits.

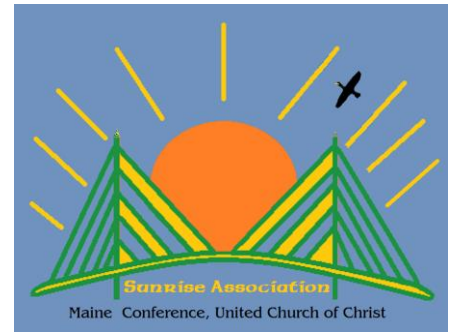
Lewis's long association with our church was a blessing for him and for me: 83 years of service (not so much since 2010) in many venues. He expressed his love and care for all of you (and past members as well), not to mention the great building which he spent many hours working on.

Thank you all and God's blessings.

In Christ's care,
Nita Higgins



Sunrise Association Fall Meeting
Saturday, October 8, 2022
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
at First Church in Belfast UCC
8 Court St, Belfast, Maine
LIVE and on ZOOM



Registrations and continental breakfast begin at 9 a.m. and then we will gather in the sanctuary at 9:25 for worship, a business meeting, and a program presented by Carol Dana, a Penobscot Elder.

THIS WILL BE A HYBRID MEETING ~ Your ZOOM Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81201027193?pwd=R0VGU2duYnVDeDJubWhTU1A2UDR1UT09>

Meeting ID: 812 0102 7193 Passcode: 530693



MAINE CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Official Call of the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ

The 91st Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ (successor to the Congregational Christian Conference of Maine; it being the 111th anniversary of the Congregational Conference and Missionary Society of Maine; the 197th anniversary of the State Conference, the 215th anniversary of the Maine Missionary Society, the 193rd anniversary of the Maine Congregational Ministerial Relief Society, and the 55th anniversary of the Maine Conference as a Conference of the United Church of Christ), will

register & convene via Zoom at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, October 15, 2022.

Items to be voted at this year's meeting will be the:

- Proposed 2023 Conference Budget
- Slate of Officers Elect
- 2023 Clergy Compensation Guidelines
- Resolution of Support for Tribal Sovereignty in Maine

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen L. Hastings".

Stephen L. Hastings, Conference Clerk
Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ

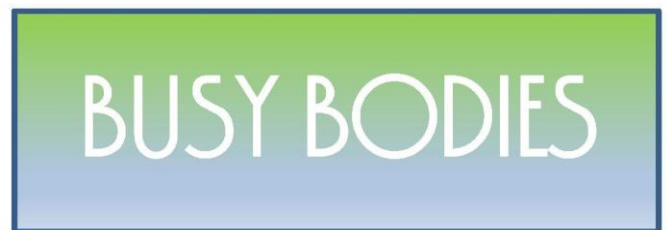
For more information, to register, and to access documents and resources in advance, please [visit the AM91 Website!](#)

OCTOBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Green 8:30 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship Service & Communion	3 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 am Busy Bodies	4 6 pm Choir	5 2:30-4 pm Welcome Table take-out	6 9 am Bulletin deadline	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8 9 a.m. Sunrise Assoc Fall Mtg
Rev. Bowie on vacation through October 15						
9 Green 8:30 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship Service	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11 6 pm Choir	12 2:30-4 pm Welcome Table take-out 6:30 pm Council	13 9 am Bulletin deadline TBA Missions	14 OFFICE CLOSED	15 9:30 am Maine Conference UCC Annual Mtg
Rev. Bowie on vacation through October 15						
16 Green 8:30 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship Service 11:30 am Christian Ed 11:30 am Deacons	17 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 am Busy Bodies	18 6 pm Choir	19 2:30-4 pm Welcome Table take-out 3 pm Stewardship 6:30 pm Bible study	20 9 am Bulletin deadline 7 pm Trustees	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 Green 8:30 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship Service 11:30 am Congregational meeting	24 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 am Busy Bodies 6:30 pm Council	25 9 am Steeple Deadline 6 pm Choir	26 2:30-4 pm Welcome Table take-out 6:30 pm Bible study	27 9 am Bulletin deadline	28 OFFICE CLOSED	29
30 Green 8:30 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship Service	31 OFFICE CLOSED 10:30 am Busy Bodies	Daylight Saving Time ends the first Sunday of November. When you go to bed on Saturday, November 5, set your clocks <u>back</u> and gain an hour of blissful slumber on Sunday morning (to balance the hour taken from us last March 😊.)				



- ♪ The September 11 organ concert was well attended.
- ♪ The choir is sporting new liturgical stoles.



We appreciate all the bowls you have donated to us! We are still collecting if anyone has unwanted bowls to re-cycle. You may leave them in the church office.

