



**First Congregational Church UCC – Founded 1812**  
PO Box 12, 2 Church Street  
Ellsworth, Maine 04605  
207-667-8321 office@ellsworthucc.org  
ellsworthucc.org facebook.com/fccellsworth

*Come with hope or despair, expectation, or disappointment,  
and seek God even as God seeks you.*

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## **ORDER OF WORSHIP PENTECOST**

**June 8, 2025**

**10 a.m.**

*Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available—  
please ask an usher if you require them.*

*Thank you for turning off electronic devices before worship begins.*

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**RINGING THE BELL**

**9:45 a.m.**

**LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

**PRELUDE**

*Spirit Song  
On the Wind of Spirit*

arr. Carter  
Hayes

**WELCOME**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*Together*  
You may follow the text in the hymnal, #496.

Villanueva

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Psalm 104:24, 30, 33-34

One: How manifold are your works, O Lord!

**All: In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.**

One: You send forth your spirit, and they are created;

**All: And so you renew the face of the earth.**

One: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

**All: May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.**

\*HYMN

*Morning has broken*

53

\*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

**Holy Spirit of God, pour upon us your gift of guidance. We live in this day that pursues confusion. We live in this time where your Spirit sounds suspect to rational minds. Confirm in us your courage for faith in this suspicious age. We are your people! Guide us with your renewing Spirit! Set aflame our hearts to awaken us to your wonders. Blow your wind on our faith so we become your signs of hope to others. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES & PRAYER FOR GRADUATES

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**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.**

CHORAL ANTHEM     *Be Present, Spirit of the Lord*     Beall

Be present, Spirit of the Lord. Let sounds of earth be dumb,  
The Father's love be shed abroad, the dew of blessing on us poured,  
Oh, silent Spirit, come.

In power unseen upon us rest, your gracious gifts impart.  
A mind renewed, a Spirit blessed, a life where Christ is manifest.  
An understanding heart. Oh, Spirit come with us stay;  
Make every heart your home. So work in us that we who pray,  
May walk with Christ in wisdom's way. Oh, holy Spirit, come.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Holy God, you are the pillar of fire that leads us into each new moment  
of our lives. By the power of your Spirit, settle now into our hearts and  
illumine your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament

Acts 2:1-21

pew Bible p.103 NT

Gospel

John 14:8-17, 25-27

pew Bible p.5 NT

SERMON

**The Spirit Helps Us**

Rev. Bowie

\*HYMN

*Breathe on me, breath of God*

254

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Juanita, Todd, Ruth

Choral Response

*Almighty Father*

Mendelssohn

Almighty Father, hear our prayer, and bless all souls that wait upon thee.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

*Veni Creator Spiritus*

arr. Hopson

\*DOXOLOGY

46

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**Make us thankful every day, O God, for the gifts that alight upon us from your bounty. Guide us to use these offerings to your glory for the health of your people and this creation. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*Spirit of God, descend upon my heart*

265

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *Mizpah Benediction*

Ungar

May our God watch between us until we meet one another again.

POSTLUDE

*Spirit of the Living God*

Jordan

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*Be present*, text Timothy Dudley-Smith, music Mary Kay Beall © 1991 Providence Press  
CCLI licence # 11546442 Streaming # 20543232

*Almighty Father*, words Anonymous, music Felix Mendelssohn 1809-1840 | Public Domain

*Mizpah Benediction*, words adapt. from Genesis 31:49 | Public Domain  
Music Jay Ungar © 1983, 1990 Swinging Door Music

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Lynn Hall, *Organist*

Nancy Sargent, *Choral Director*

Myrna Vallette, *Liturgist*

Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*

Sue & Mike Fuller, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

Rev. John A. Lacey, *June Deacon*

## **VISITORS, GUESTS, AND SEEKERS ARE WELCOME**

Come with hope or despair, expectation or disappointment, and seek the Lord even as the Lord seeks you. We pray that your experience of worship enriches and sustains you in the week ahead. If you are visiting, we hope you will introduce yourself to those around you and to the Pastor. Please join us for coffee after the service. If you have any questions, please ask an usher.

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**Worship is broadcast live through  
WDEA AM 1370, Facebook, and Zoom.**

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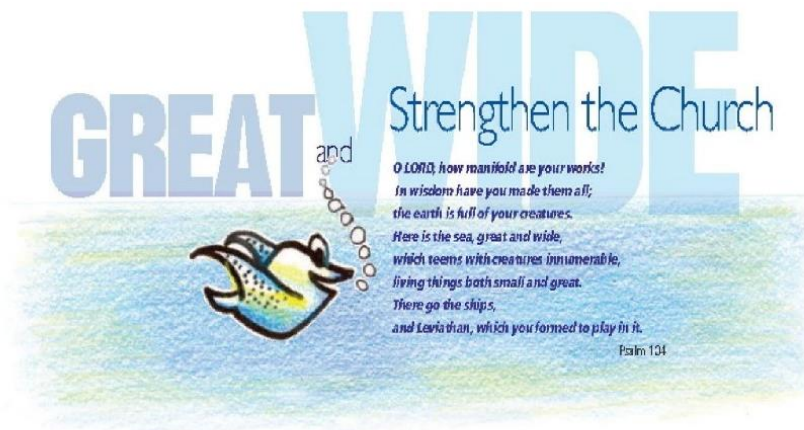
**Thank you for sitting in the front half of the sanctuary today.**

**THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 90 MEALS ON JUNE 4.**

**Serving Wednesdays 2 – 3:30 p.m., take-out only**

WELCOME TABLE, our free community meal, serves take-out only.

Please call the church on Wednesdays **before 11 a.m.**, 667-8321,  
to reserve a meal. Donations always gratefully received.



## Flicker Wild Church

How does the UCC support emerging ministries? The Strengthen the Church Offering is a source of funding for Congregational Assessment, Support, and Advancement Grants. One of these grants helped support the new ministry of Flicker Wild Church.

The Rev. Daniel Cooperrider has always had a passion for connecting spirituality and nature. After watching churches during the pandemic years experiment with how to worship outside the context of the church building, he recognized that others shared a hunger for outdoor, nature-based spiritual community. Alongside his spouse, the Rev. Dr. Julia Burkey, Cooperrider responded to the Spirit's call and decided to invite others to join in this yearning. On the Fall equinox in 2023, Flicker Wild Church gathered for the first time.

This community, found in various outdoor landscapes outside of Madison, Wisconsin, embraces the expansiveness of God's presence in creation, and the movement of Spirit in the movement of the seasons. Scripture, poetry, movement, meditation, and song ground their worship practices, with a "wild wander" in place of the sermon. Flicker Wild Church's invitation to worship not just in nature, but with nature and to be in spiritual relationship with the more-than-human world has offered hospitality to those who might be unlikely to step into a traditional church building.

Your support of the Strengthen the Church offering equips leaders, funds new churches, and fosters innovation. The offering is a celebration of who we are as church together, as money is shared between the National ministries of the United Church of Christ as well as with Conference settings.

Learn more about the offering at [www.ucc.org/stc](http://www.ucc.org/stc).

### **Wild Church Credo**

I believe in the Land, and in the Sky, and in the Call of Wild Geese;

I believe that matter matters—that what is, is not opposed to God, but of God;

I believe that Jesus meant it, saying “consider the birds of the air, consider the lilies of the fields,” Consider, from the Latin *con-sidere*, to think with the stars...

I believe that the kin-dom of God is among us and within us.

I believe that life is not just life and death, but that life is life and death and new life.

I believe that everything is everything else, that all flourishing is mutual, and that sacred presence flickers in the momentary encounters of life with life.

I believe the human and the more-than-human are co-evolved to participate in the creative impulses of earth’s astonishingly generative cosmic perch.

I believe that prayer has roots, that sacred stories have fur and feathers, that landscape is liturgy and soundscape is praise, that religion is an ecosystem.

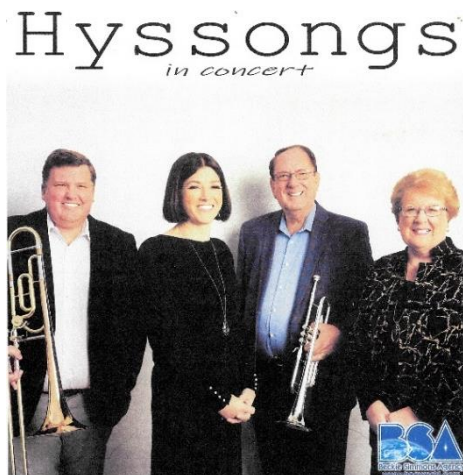
I believe in the Communion of the Clouds, the Forgiveness of the Fungi, the Resurrection of the Leaves, and the Earth Everlasting.

*Written by Daniel Cooperrider, Convening Pastor  
Flicker Wild Church*



## **HYSSONGS in concert at FCC** **Saturday, June 21 at 6 p.m**

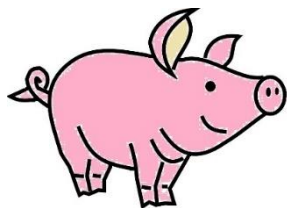
Dell, Susan and Richard Hyssong travel full-time as the award-winning Hyssongs. Their energetic ministry combines family vocal harmony, humor and brass instruments (trumpet and trombone) to delight audiences with their Christ-centered message, shared through the powerful medium of music. The family's classical music background, along with their harmony and specific chord structures, lend them a unique sound that has made quite an impact on audiences. The group has been singing together as a family for more than 28 years. Cost: a free-will offering will be taken.



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## **Roast Pork Supper**

**Saturday, June 28, 2025**  
**5:00 to 6:30 pm**

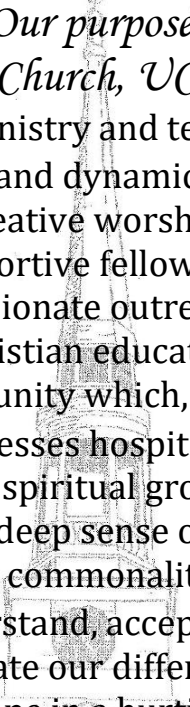


Roast pork, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, green beans, salad, rolls, homemade pies, and beverages (coffee, tea, lemonade)

**\$12 per person ~ \$25 per family (2 adults, 2 children)**

*Take-out available*  
*Handicap accessible at the State Street entrance*  
*For more info, call Lois at 207-669-2028*





*Our purpose,*  
*First Congregational Church, UCC, Ellsworth, Maine:*  
*To embrace the life, ministry and teachings of Jesus Christ*  
In meaningful and dynamic ways through  
creative worship,  
supportive fellowship,  
compassionate outreach, and  
stimulating Christian education for all ages;  
*To be a faithful community which, led by the Holy Spirit,*  
expresses hospitality,  
nurtures spiritual growth, and  
promotes a deep sense of belonging;  
*To strive to build on commonalities while seeking to*  
understand, accept, and  
celebrate our differences;  
*To stand as a beacon of hope in a hurting and troubled world by*  
sharing the Good News of the Gospel, and  
practicing God's love as embodied by Jesus Christ.  
*We welcome all to walk with us on the journey of faith.*

*As adopted by the Congregation at its Annual Meeting – January 22, 2012*