

First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Ellsworth, Maine



*Founded in 1812*

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

*Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available—  
please ask an usher if you require them.  
\*Please stand as you are able.*

***Thank you for silencing electronic devices before worship begins.***

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**August 17, 2025**

**10 a.m.**

RINGING THE BELL

9:45 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

*Morkland  
Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho*

arr. Lasky  
arr. Wagner

WELCOME

INTROIT

*Come, Be Glad!*

Caribbean folk melody

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Let us rejoice, for morning has dawned. A new day is born, and we are newly alive to enjoy it.

**All: We celebrate the beauty of creation and the wonder of human family. We remember those whose love has shaped our lives, surrounded as we are by so great a cloud of witnesses.**

One: We gather to worship God, to share prayers and gifts, to pledge ourselves to God's work in the world.

**All: May God bless us, so that what we do in this time together may be honest, sacred, and filled with hope.**

## \*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

**Gracious and holy God, we come to you because you have first come to us. Give us in this morning hour of worship a new sense of your Spirit breathing through us. Lift our hearts with the wings of song, heal our souls with the balm of prayer, enliven our minds with the words of scripture and interpretation, and enable us to dedicate our strength, our substance, and our service to your work in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME FOR ALL AGES

## \*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.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Hold On to Me*

Daigle

When the best of me is barely breathin'  
when I'm not somebody I believe in, hold on to me  
When I miss the light, the night has stolen  
When I'm slammin' all the doors You've opened, hold on to me  
Hold on to me when it's too dark to see You  
When I am sure I have reached the end  
Hold on to me when I forget I need You  
When I let go, hold me again  
When I don't feel like I'm worth defending  
When I'm tired of all my pretending, hold on to me

When I start to break in desperation  
 Underneath the weight of expectation, hold on to me  
 Hold on to me when it's too dark to see You  
 When I am sure I have reached the end  
 Hold on to me when I forget I need You  
 When I let go, hold me again  
 I could rest here in Your arms forever  
 'Cause I know nobody loves me better, hold on to me

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Holy God, your Word is like fire. By the power of your Spirit, illumine our sight and enflame our hearts, that we may live lives more faithful to your will. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament	Psalm 63:1-8	pew Bible p.490 OT
Gospel	Luke 13:1-9	pew Bible p.66 NT

#### SERMON

**God's Time**

Rev. Bowie

#### \*HYMN

*Breathe on me, Breath of God*

254

#### MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Charlie, Marshall

Response

*Amen*

Carter

#### OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

#### OFFERTORY

*A Good Work*

Mohr

#### \*DOXOLOGY

46

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN                      *Go, my children, with my blessing*                      431

## BENEDICTION

RESPONSE                      *Shalom to You Now*                      traditional

POSTLUDE                      *Nettleton*                      arr. Lasky

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*Hold On to Me*, Lauren Daigle, Paul T. Duncan, Paul Brendon Mabury

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See You At The Pub, Pubalicious, Garage Rock Songs | CCLI license # 11546442 Streaming # 20543232

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Lynn Hall, *Organist*

Mary Morrow, *Liturgist*

Nancy Sargent, *Soloist*

Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*

Anne Bancroft & Ginny Davis, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

Ruth & Troy Tainter, *Facebook, WDEA & Zoom*

Katharine Schrader, *August Deacon*

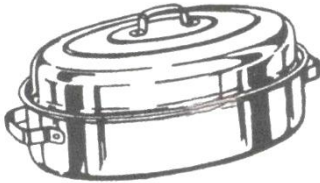
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**Worship is broadcast live through  
WDEA AM 1370, Facebook, and Zoom.**

# Pot Roast Supper

**Saturday, August 23, 2025**

**Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm**



*Beef pot roast, mashed potatoes, carrots,  
green beans, salad, rolls, homemade pies,  
and beverages (coffee, tea, lemonade)*

**\$12 per person**

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

***Great food ~ Great company ~ Great fun***

**We need volunteers to set up, cook, serve, wash dishes, and bake pies.  
Please contact Lois Stevens immediately about the ways you can help.**

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**THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 90 MEALS ON AUGUST 13.**

**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.**



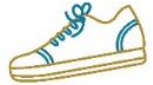
# Kicks for a Cause



Sneaker drive to benefit



**Loaves & Fishes**  
FOOD PANTRY



Deposit your gently used (or new!) sneakers or hiking shoes here to help fight hunger in our community.



In collaboration with

**gotsneakers?**  
A Sneaker Recycling Organization



Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry serving all of Hancock County has found an organization, [gotsneakers?](https://gotsneakers.org), that will pay them for each shoe donation. All monies raised will go for food at the Pantry. Hiking boots and sneakers in good or like new condition are the **only** footwear being accepted. Donations will be gathered from area churches on August 31.

**On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of each month), we ask for donations to the Loaves & Fishes Food pantry.** Your donation may be non-perishable food items or monetary gifts. There are donation and collection boxes at the State Street entrance.

*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*



**First Congregational Church UCC - Founded 1812**

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