



First Congregational Church UCC – Founded 1812

PO Box 12, 2 Church Street

Ellsworth, Maine 04605

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ellsworthucc.org facebook.com/fccellsworth

*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.*

Thank you for silencing electronic devices before worship begins.

****Please stand as you are able.***

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

July 19, 2026

10 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

Monteux musicians

WELCOME

ORGAN INTROIT

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Ivanoff

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Psalm 139

One: You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.

All: You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

One: You are familiar with all my ways.

All: Before a word is upon my tongue, you Lord, know it completely.

One: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty to attain.

All: Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

One: If I go up to the heavens, you are there. If I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

All: For you created my inmost being. You knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

*HYMN

When morning gilds the skies

100

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

Oh Lord, our God, we enter your courts with thanksgiving and praise, humbly acknowledging that it is only by your grace that we are worthy to be here today. Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of the cross. Holy Spirit, come minister to our hearts and minds that we may become more like you, and be strengthened to do the work you've called us to do as we minister your love to the watching world around us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME FOR ALL AGES A Lesson from Playdough

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

Monteux musicians

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Lord, we set our attention on you. Grant us understanding of your word and wisdom to apply it to our lives. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament

Genesis 28:10-19

pew Bible p.23 OT

Epistle

Romans 8:18-26

pew Bible p.138 NT

SERMON

Headed to Bethel

Rev. McDonald

*HYMN

O for a thousand tongues to sing

5

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Belva, Jim, Alan, Cathy, Barry & Marianne

Organ Response

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

Willan

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

Walk with Me

Rice

*DOXOLOGY

46

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN

Just as I am, without one plea

339

*BENEDICTION

Belén Castro & Yasmin Enriquez, *Monteux Festival violinists*

Lynn Hall, *Organist*

Rev. Cassandra McDonald, *Guest Minister*

Mary Turner, *Liturgist*

Anne Bancroft & Ginny Davis, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

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

Anne Bancroft, *July Deacon*

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

VISITORS, GUESTS, AND SEEKERS ARE WELCOME

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.



MONTEUX

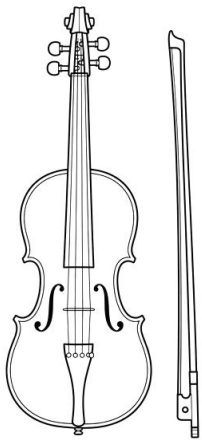
SCHOOL & MUSIC FESTIVAL

It is our great pleasure to welcome these fine musicians
to enrich our worship this morning:



BELÉN CASTRO holds a bachelor's degree in music with a specialization in Performance and an Associate Degree in Music, both from the University of Guadalajara. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in music, specializing in Performance at the University of Maine. At age 10, she began her musical studies at the Zapopan House of Culture, in keyboard and guitar workshops. Later, she started violin studies at the Zapopan School of Music (EMZ). In 2015, she earned an Associate Degree in Music at the University of Guadalajara (UDG), complementing her violin studies with Professor Nicolás Corrales. In 2021, she completed her bachelor's degree in music specializing in Performance at UDG. She is currently a student of Dr. Anatole Wieck. She has participated in several festivals and courses, including the Disciplinary Orientation Course taught by the José White String Quartet, Festival del Lago, Formandi Festival, Baroque Music Interpretation, Sa'Oaxaca Festival, FESMO, Tafelmusik Baroque Summer Institute, and Online Solo Strings Intensive. She has been part of various chamber music ensembles such as the Rapiendo Ensemble and the String Ensemble of the Zapopan School of Music. She has performed violin and piano duos with pianists Vanesa Briseño and Rosa María Navarro. She was

a member of the Zapopan Youth Symphony Orchestra (OSJZ), as well as a violin teacher at the Zapopan School of Music. She has collaborated with the Chamber Orchestra of the Autonomous University of Guadalajara (OCUAG), the Colima Philharmonic Orchestra (OFC), and served as a guest teacher with the Tuxpan Jalisco Chamber Orchestra. As a soloist, she has performed with the Zapopan Chamber Orchestra and the Tuxpan Jalisco Chamber Orchestra. For two years, she worked as a teacher for the Public Education System (SEP) in the state of Jalisco as an Arts instructor with a focus on music. Her main areas of focus are professional instrumental performance, the promotion of music education, and chamber music performance.



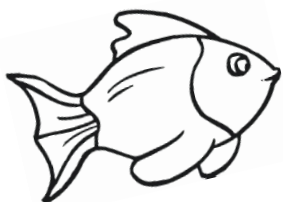
YASMIN ENRIQUEZ began her musical studies in 2012 with the Esperanza Azteca Symphony Orchestra in Monterrey under the guidance of Maestro Miguel Ángel Soto, where she studied music theory and violin. During her time there, she served as Principal Second Violin and later as Concertmaster. In 2016, she was selected to participate in the National Meeting of Esperanza Azteca Orchestras in Puebla, performing alongside renowned cellists Yo-Yo Ma and Carlos Prieto. In 2019, she participated in masterclasses at Texas State University School of Music. That same year, she joined the Nuevo

León Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, an experience that reinforced her decision to pursue music professionally. In 2019, she became a member of the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education Symphony Orchestra. In 2020, she began her undergraduate studies at the Faculty of Music of the Autonomous University of Nuevo León (FAMUS-UANL). In 2021, she took part in masterclasses at Texas State University School of Music and earned first place in the FAMUS internal string competition. Throughout 2022, she was invited to perform in several programs with the UANL Symphony Orchestra, including the Santa Lucía International Festival, Season Programs VIII and IX, the Christmas in Monterrey concert, and a studio recording released by Rovi Records. In 2023, she participated in Sinfónica

Azteca 2023, where she had masterclasses and took part in the orchestra's residency and national tours. She performed with the UANL Chamber Orchestra alongside flutist Horacio Franco. Since 2023, she has worked as an extra musician with both the UANL Symphony Orchestra and the UANL Chamber Orchestra. In 2025, she participated in EIMUC, the International Chamber Music Encounter held in San Luis Potosí. She is currently in her eighth semester of the Bachelor of Music degree at FAMUS-UANL, continuing her technical and artistic development while maintaining an active orchestral and chamber music career.

Baked Haddock Supper

Saturday, July 25, 2026 ~ Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm



*Baked haddock, mashed potatoes, carrots,
green beans, salad, rolls, homemade pies and
beverages (coffee, tea, lemonade)*

\$12 per person

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

This is one of our most popular suppers.

We need volunteers to set up, cook, serve, wash dishes, and bake pies.

Please contact Lois Stevens immediately about the ways you can help.



CHURCH FAIR



Saturday, August 1, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Busy Bodies invite everyone to our Church Fair. We will offer our usual knitted and crocheted items, other crafts, books, delicious food, fudge, antiques and attic treasures.

WE ARE BUSY!

- We appreciate your patience while we replace the front porch deck. Thank you for using the State Street and church parlor entrances. We will remind you to use these doors in the Thursday bulletin emails for the duration of the project. If you have any questions, please speak with Troy Tainter.
- Please excuse the mess in the narthex while we are repainting the historical room.
- While the church steeple is being cleaned and repaired, we are not ringing the bell at the beginning of morning worship. Once this project is completed, we will restore this item to the Order of Worship.



THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 127 MEALS ON JULY 15.

WELCOME TABLE, our free community meal, serves take-out only on Wednesdays from 2-3:30 p.m. Please call the church on Wednesdays **before 11 a.m.**, 667-8321, to reserve a meal.
Donations always gratefully received.

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