

The Congregate Tidings

Volume 40 Issue 6

June 2026

Rejuvenation!

Team Members: Dan Jones, Eryn Morency, Don Ekberg, Karen Umberger and Denise Leighton

On Sunday, June 7th, immediately after worship, there will be a pot-luck lunch and time to work on a Communications/Behavioral Covenant, which will serve as a basis for how we live together into the future.

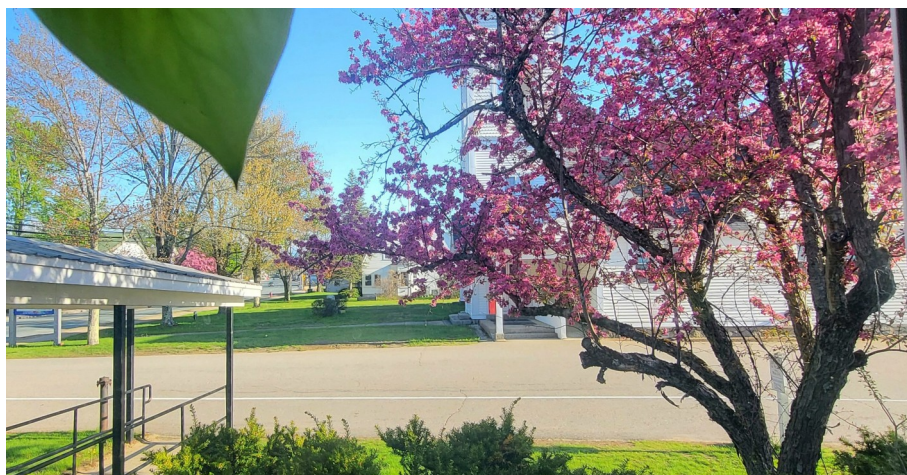
A team of leaders, called the Rejuvenation Team, will lead you through a process of looking at several covenants from other churches, and asking for your input on what would be most helpful for First Church.

In our mass email sent on May 18th, we shared three sample covenants to get us started. If you were not able to receive these, let Denise know in the office and she will share.

From our own Church Covenant we have the following content that can guide us at our meeting:

- **We covenant with God and with one another to live out our Christian discipleship within this body of Christ by loving one another as Christ loves us.**
- **As siblings in Christ, we will treat each other with respect and honesty, open to and tolerant of diverse views and opinions, and will interact with each other in good faith.**
- **We will talk with people, not about people. We will listen without prejudice and speak with care.**
- **When in conflict, we will address each other directly. If direct conversation does not resolve a conflict, we will seek assistance together until the conflict is resolved.**

We need everyone's thoughts, as a step toward healing and moving forward. We hope you will make every effort to attend!



View from the RFL Building looking north. Courtesy photo by Mark Schiller.

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Deacon's Corner

By Helen Goss – Diaconate Chair

Summer has arrived along with the heat, bugs, and dandelions that go along with it! **June** means we are halfway through another year. Time for a bit of reflection on what has been accomplished our path as we look ahead.

Pastor Sue continues to support our ministry both musically and in the pulpit. We would be hard pressed to offer Communion each month and recognize the full meaning of our traditionally observed special Sundays without her leading worship. We will have experienced an intriguing **Pentecost Sunday** on May 24th thanks to Pastor Sue. She continues to answer the call in our time of need.

For those that feel more secure in knowing who will be serving each Sunday, here is the June line-up:

June 07 – Pastor Sue Davidson – Communion Sunday/Rejuvenation Potluck Gathering

June 14 – Faith Led by Steve Woodcock and Helen Goss

June 21 – Faith Led by Helen Goss – Recognizing **PRIDE & Fathers**

June 28 – Pastor Sue Davidson – MUSIC SUNDAY!

I wish to thank those that continue to share a message each Sunday. Hearing another's testimony or take on the scriptures can open oneself up to a new way of thinking. It just might also give you the courage to share your story as well. Gathering in our faith community is all about the stories told—ancient to present. This is how our faith spreads into the future. I know that some feel, and have expressed, that we are fighting a losing battle; but I don't find anywhere in the Bible where Jesus gave up. Instead he presented the tough choices we would be asked to make, and so we carry on, not wanting to see this church fail.

A special note of thanks...to Eryn Morency and Chris DeVries for sharing their messages on **Kairos Inside/Outside Prison Ministry and Christian Aftercare Ministry**. It was personal, heartfelt, and open sharing of each of their experiences serving in these ministries. I believe there is future opportunity for this church to support the mission of these caring individuals involved in these programs.

It's PRIDE Month! Time to make our welcome heard loudly so that everyone knows we welcome them at First Church of Christ! We will once again be participating on **June 27th in the White Mountains Pride Festival** at the park of the North Conway Community Center from 10am-4pm. This is the same day as **Vaughan's Strawberry Festival**, and it is possible to help at both events. It can be a full day of sharing in our community our warm welcome and devotion to the local mission of this church. We will be promoting the open and affirming belief of our church, where you are loved and supported just as you are. There will be fun swag to give away and an abundance of temporary tattoos to share that are always a hit! If you can help us under our tent, please let **Helen or Eryn** know. There will be a sign-up sheet to cover the **Pride Festival** hours in the Fellowship Hall.

The month will wrap-up with **Music Sunday on June 28th** and many, many plans are underway to make this unforgettable! Pastor Sue will be in the pulpit, Anne and Patrick will be in their respective positions conducting and providing musical amazement as the Chancel Choir and Handbell/Chime Choir prepare to "WOW!" you all! The **All-Church Picnic** will follow under the shade of the Strawberry Festival tents. You are asked to bring a salad, side, or dessert to share. We pray for a glorious sunny day, but will break bread (burger buns or dog rolls) no matter the weather. It's a perfect way to send the choirs off on their summer sabbatical. **Please plan to join us and bring your neighbors!** There is always plenty of food to go around!!!



PRAISE GOD FOR THE GIFT OF MUSIC

By Muriel Magg - Music Team Chair

CELEBRATING MUSIC SUNDAY - JUNE 28, 2026



In preparing for Music Sunday this year, I thought about the tremendous impact of music in the past and present of First Church of Christ, Congregational. Music is more than just notes. It's people, emotion, commitment, it's power.

It has become very clear that music holds a high value in our church's life and in our own lives. On Sunday morning, June 28th, at 10 am. there is an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of music and for the dedication of all our musicians who praise the Lord and bless the hearts of our congregation through their Music Ministry. It's a day set aside to celebrate and express our appreciation to these treasured people who faithfully and consistently provide quality music to enhance the worship experience at First Church of Christ, Congregational in North Conway, New Hampshire.

How many people have graced our organ or piano bench? How has their music moved us at church services, weddings, baptisms, funerals and concerts? How many powerful postludes have we heard at the conclusion of worship services? How many instrumentalists such as pianists, flautists, trumpeters, guitarists or a bassoonist also contributed? How many who sang in the choir or played handbells contributed?

How many hymns have congregation members sung? How many songs do we associate with a favorite person, a special event or a time in our lives? "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" has multiple associations for me. Music is a connection with other people, with our inner selves, with past experiences and with God.

Visitors to First Church of Christ often mention the high quality of our music in worship. Long time members of the congregation consider music one of the top three factors that keep them engaged in worship at First Church of Christ.

THANK YOU PATRICK! You are AWESOME! as your fingers expertly glide across the piano keys each week along with the reflective preludes you play on our pipe organ. You bring an outpouring of melody and harmony that resonates throughout the sanctuary bringing our convictions of faith deeper into our hearts and lives. You are truly our treasure!

THANK YOU ANNE! Your skills in directing and selecting the appropriate choral anthems and handbell music bring the most beautiful, amazing, and inspiring sounds to us. Thank you for your patience! You are a blessing, a gift, and a friend to us!

THANK YOU CHANCEL AND HANDBELL CHOIRS! Your faithfulness is astounding and is a testament to your commitment to provide music of amazing beauty to the glory of God and who inspires and helps us to worship God in the beauty of holiness. Wait until you hear our lovely sounding hand chimes. We thank God for you all!

THANK YOU INSTRUMENTALISTS! To ALL of our musicians, you also bring a skill and the gift of music into the worship. From guitar, flutes, piano, drum, tambourine, finger cymbals, oboe and trumpet, we are blessed by your music that speaks to our hearts. Thank you! And thank you to everyone at First Church of Christ for your support of our Music Ministry.

Music is not about performing and repeating what we already know, but exploring and discovering what is yet to be. In music we share a faith that binds us together as one, connects us with faithful people from generations past, and with generations yet to come. Join us on Music Sunday. It will be an awe-inspiring morning! Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to share the celebration.

Music Sunday



Vaughan Learning Center

By Heather Ouellette, Director

Warmer weather is here, and the children are so happy to be outside without snow suits.

Graduation is a short few weeks away on June 12th at 5pm. It is bittersweet as many have been attending the Learning Center since they were babies.

We want to thank the Ham and Pequawket Foundations for the funds to build a gross motor room for those days when we just cannot get outside. What a world of difference this room has made.

As always, we are seeking donations of Paper goods (plates, bowls, spoons, and forks), sunblock, unscented baby wipes, and Lysol spray.



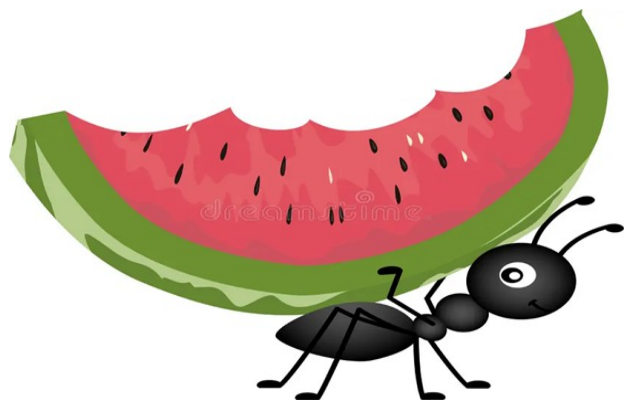
LET'S HAVE A PICNIC!

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28TH
FOLLOWING
WORSHIP
UNDER THE TENT AT
FIRST CHURCH**

RAIN OR SHINE

**BRING A FRIEND – GROW
THE CHURCH!**

**Please bring a salad, side or
dessert to share!
(Sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall)**



“The View from My Window”

By Jennifer Perkins, Administrator

June is an exciting month for Vaughan with **Vaughan Learning Center Kindergarten Graduation being held on Friday, June 12, 2026** in the church. The **Strawberry Festival is on Saturday June 27, 2026** in front of the church! Whatever the weather, both will happen regardless, but let's hope and pray for bright, sunny skies.

Again, I must report usage of the Vaughan Food Pantry is up as prices at the grocery stores and gas pumps continue to climb. We remain blessed to be able to meet the needs of our members, due in large part to the generous financial gifts we continue to receive from our numerous supporters.

NH Gives will be running its campaign to help nonprofit organizations on **Tuesday June 9th at 5:00 PM through Wednesday June 10th at 5:00 PM**. This is a 24-hour event and an opportunity for people to donate money on line, to an organization of their choice or choices. Vaughan Community Service, Inc. is registered and we hope you will consider donating. Once again, it is **NH Gives.org** and look for us at **Vaughannh.com** or **Vaughannh.org**.

After a long stretch of winter, our Valley is looking green and lush these days. A welcome change for certain! Get out and enjoy all that life has to offer for we are truly blessed!

LECTIONARIES

JUNE 7, 2026

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Communion Sunday

Genesis 12:1-9 and Psalm 33:1-12

Hosea 5:15-6:6 and Psalm 50:7-15

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

JUNE 14, 2026

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-15 (21:1-7) and

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

Exodus 19:2-8a and Psalm 100

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35-108, (9:23)

JUNE 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Father's Day

Genesis 21:8-21 and

Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Jeremiah 20:7-13 and

Psalm 69:7-10, (11,15) 16-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

JUNE 28, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Music Sunday

Church Picnic

Genesis 22:1-14 and Psalm 13

Jeremiah 28:5-9 and Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18






Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42



JUNE 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31 10:00am Worship Celebration - Faith Led 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship</p>	<p>1 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 6:30pm - 8:00pm Scouts of America Troop 150 and Pack 150</p>	<p>2 11:30am - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>3 9:30am - 2:30pm WIC Program 12:00pm - 2:15pm Food Pantry Open 1:45pm Music Team meeting 3:00pm - 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm - 5:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>5 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 10:00am Communion Worship Celebration - Pastor Sue Davidson, preaching 11:00am Meeting for Communication Covenant and Potluck Luncheon 2:00pm - 5:00pm Revolving Closet-Teens</p> 	<p>8 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 6:30pm - 8:00pm Scouts of America Troop 150 and Pack 150</p>	<p>9 11:30am - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>10 9:00am - 11:00am Senior Non-Food Pantry</p>	<p>11 12:00pm - 2:15pm Food Pantry Open 3:00pm - 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm - 5:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p> 	<p>12 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 5:00pm - 6:00pm Vaughan Learning Center Graduation</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 10:00am Worship Celebration - Faith Led 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship</p> 	<p>15 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 6:30pm - 8:00pm Scouts of America Troop 150 and Pack 150</p>	<p>16 11:30am - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open 4:00pm Trustees meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 12:00pm - 2:15pm Food Pantry Open 3:00pm - 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm - 5:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 10:00am Worship Celebration - Faith Led 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship 2:00pm - 5:00pm Revolving Closet-Teens</p>	<p>22 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 6:30pm - 8:00pm Scouts of America Troop 150 and Pack 150 July Congregate Tidings Articles due</p>	<p>23 11:30am - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open 5:00pm Diaconate meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 12:00pm - 2:15pm Food Pantry Open 3:00pm - 4:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm - 5:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>27 10:00am - 4:00pm White Mountain Pride Festival 11:00am - 4:00pm Vaughan Strawberry Festival</p> 
<p>28 Music Sunday and Church Picnic 10:00am Worship Celebration - Pastor Sue Davidson, preaching 11:00am Coffee Hour After Worship</p> 	<p>29 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting 6:30pm - 8:00pm Scouts of America Troop 150 and Pack 150</p>	<p>30 11:30am - 1:45pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 9:30am - 2:30pm WIC Program 12:00pm - 2:15pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>3 12:00pm - 1:00pm AA meeting</p>	<p>4</p>



- 06-01 Peter Magg
- 06-01 Trina Jones
- 06-03 Madilynn Putnam
- 06-04 Roger Babcock
- 06-05 Dana Russian
- 06-06 Ron Kratt
- 06-11 Jennifer Terry
- 06-15 Peggy Light
- 06-27 Frank Polak
- 06-30 Chris Strout




- 06-17 Robert and Sharon Seaman
- 06-18 Steve and Karen Cameron
- 06-24 Bob and Sara Bechtold



Sunday, June 14th, is Flag Day. Please bring your old, torn, or tattered American Flag to the 10am church service, and it will be collected and disposed of correctly at a later date.

Remember

IN PRAYER



Please pray for those dealing with illness, surgery or recovery, especially:
Jodie Neal, Lee Coffield, Evelyn Porter, Deb Smith, Mike James, Corrine Vermouth (Denise Leighton's sister), and Frances Richardson.

Remember those in our extended care facilities:

Mineral Springs: **Liz George-Hussey**

Mountain View: **Jean Smykla**

Please call the church office with prayer concerns if you wish names to be listed in the next *Congregate Tidings*.

The Congregate Tidings
First Church of Christ, Congregational
United Church of Christ
PO Box 401
N Conway, NH 03860-0401



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



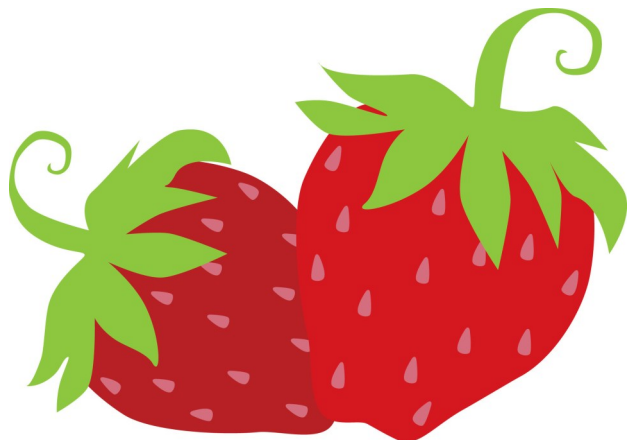
TO:

Vaughan Community Service, Inc.

By Denise Leighton, Chairperson Strawberry Festival

We are in the process of getting ready for our
Strawberry Festival on June 27th.

I will need more volunteers for trash removal and to clean tables during the event. Then at 4pm, I will need many able bodies to clean-up at the close of the festival. If you are able to help, please give me a call at (603)356-2324.



CHURCH & VAUGHAN STAFF

Church Administrator/Editor: Denise Leighton

Pianist/Organist: Patrick Speckamp

Associate Organist: Muriel Magg

Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir Director:

Anne W. Polak

Vaughan Administrator: Jennifer Perkins

Vaughan Learning Center Director:

Heather Ouellette

Church Sexton: Mark Schiller

Worship Service at 10am

Church Office (603)356-2324

Denise Ext. #1

Fax Number (603)356-2106

Vaughan Food Pantry (603)602-1801

Vaughan Learning Center (603)356-5213

E-mail addresses:

churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com

Church Website: www.firstchurchnc.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstchurchncnh