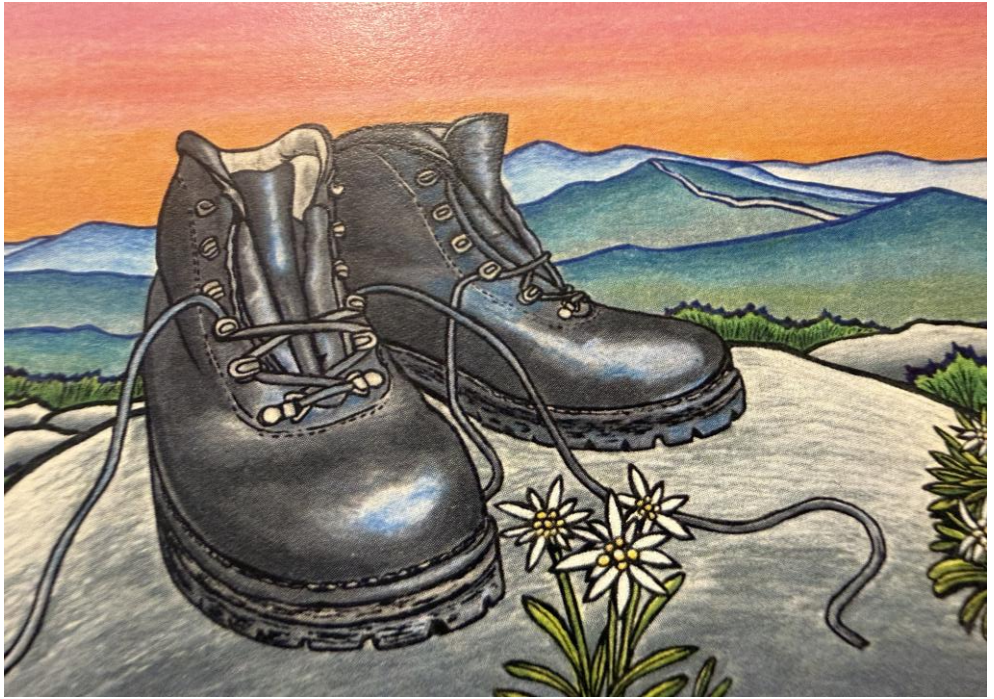


First Church of Christ, Congregational, United Church of Christ

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost



(Artist, Hanna Lucy)

October 25, 2026

CCLI #292978, and #20547245

CHURCH ORGANIZED ON AUGUST 18, 1778

Present building erected in North Conway Village 1884

**"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are
welcome here!"**

"Blessed is the one who chooses their trail wisely—every path leads somewhere."

~Contemporary reflection inspired by Psalm 1

WE GATHER

*Rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE

Lighting of the Worship Candles - We invite you to use this time for silent prayer and reflection as we prepare for worship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING SONG

CALL TO WORSHIP

Introduction

Leader: People of God, come and worship the Lord who is our dwelling place in every generation— the eternal God who numbers our days and establishes the work of our hands.

People: We turn our hearts to the One who plants the righteous like trees beside living waters.

Leader: Let us hear His call: *"Be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy."* He teaches us justice, shapes us in love, and forms us in His likeness.

People: We desire the way of the righteous—to delight in His Word, to walk in His ways, to bear His fruit.

Leader: Remember Moses, who walked with God and saw the land of promise; remember Paul, who served with integrity, courage, and gentleness. Their lives testify that God knows the way of the righteous.

People: We come to follow that way—to please God, not people; to love as Christ loved; to live as those rooted in His truth.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who watches over the way of the righteous and whose steadfast love satisfies us morning by morning.

People: We worship with joy, for the Lord is our life, our holiness, our hope, and our reward.

MORNING PRAYER

(adapted from Matt Boga)

One: Let us pray together.

All: Lord, plant me in your word. Abide in me that I may abide in you. Give my roots depth so that the wind won't blow me over. When you take me through tough seasons of life, may the depth of my roots keep the fruit of my life ripe. Keep me by your stream, and keep my eyes on my prosperity ahead which is you. You know my ways and my heart of hearts. Bless you, Lord, for keeping me. Because of your sustaining grace, I will not perish, but will be held in your congregation! With your help, oh Lord, I will continue on this journey with faith, hope, trust, and love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #41**

We Gather Together

Red/Brown Hymnal

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE IN UNISON

Psalm 1

(OT pew Bible p. 489)

The Two Ways

Happy are those
Who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
or sit in the seat of scoffers,
but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.
They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

**The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,
For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.**

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Helen Goss

THE WORD IN MUSIC

Amani Utupe

Chancel Choir

By Patsy Ford Simms

MESSAGE

Empty Boots

Steve Woodcock

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Old Man

Richard P. Goss, III, Soloist

By Phil Coulter

WE RESPOND

PRAYER WITH JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Sung*)

One: Let us sing together.

All: Our Father which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO GIVING

***DOXOLOGY**

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above ye Heavenly Host; Praise Father, Son, and
Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE GO FORTH

***HYMN #43**

Amazing Grace

Red/Brown Hymnal

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

Paul Burtis

May God's blessings twine around you,
Perfect love, and healing calm;
May God's radiance shine upon you; may it guide you,
Stay beside you; watch and keep you safe from harm.

POSTLUDE

The altar flowers are given by Don & Laurel Ekberg in celebration of her daughter Tracey's birthday this week. All to the glory of God.

Greeter: Helen Goss

Ushers: Trina Jones and Jay Donabedian

Faith Leader: Steve Woodcock

A friendly reminder to silence your cell phone upon entering the sanctuary, and please wear your name tag so that we may extend a warm welcome to one another.

Thank you!

Welcome to First Church of Christ! If you are visiting with us today, please note that there are two fire exits at the rear of the sanctuary and one at the back of the church through the kitchen. There are two unisex bathrooms; one downstairs off the front entrance and one off the kitchen at the rear of the building.

The doors to the church are locked at 10:10am on Sundays for everyone's safety. One of the doors in the back of the sanctuary is kept open for the Ushers to keep an eye out for any latecomers. Please knock on the glass if you need to get their attention.

Evelyn Porter is designated as The Coordinator of the Diaconates' Ministry of Greeting. If you would like her to send a card from the church to someone who is ill, grieving, celebrating, or who just needs a "pick-me-up" note; please call her at (603) 356-2881 or send her an email at hambru35@yahoo.com.

Mission Corner:

- **The Noisy Offering for November/December** will go to the **Vaughan Food Pantry**.
- **The 4th Quarter Mission Collection** is to support **Heifer International** which works to end world hunger and poverty in sustainable ways.
- **The Food Pantry welcomes non-perishable food and monetary gifts are most appreciated as they can be stretched further.** Pantry hours are shown in our *Week of Activities*. Checks can be made payable to: *Vaughan Community Service, Inc.* and placed in the collection plate.

Week of Activities:

Today: **Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

Faith Leader – Steve Woodcock

Monday: AA Noon-1:00pm

Tuesday: Food Pantry Open 11:30am-1:45pm;

Diaconate Meeting 5:00pm

Wednesday: **VLC Trunk or Treat 5:00-6:00pm**

Thursday: Food Pantry Open Noon-2:15pm;

Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00pm;

Bell Choir Rehearsal 4:00-5:00pm;

Scouts of America Troop 150 & Pack 150 6:00-7:30pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Sunday: **Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Faith Leader – Helen Goss

Revolving Closet – Free Teen Clothing 2:00-5:00pm

Our **November** Newsletter is full of good stuff and important dates! You'll find it in your mail, if requested, or by going online to our website at:

<https://firstchurchnc.com/Newsletters/November2026.pdf>

Church Address and Information

First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC
2521 White Mountain Highway
PO Box 401
North Conway, NH 03860

Music Director: Laurie Turley

Church Administrator/Bookkeeper: Denise Leighton

Vaughan Administrator: Jennifer Perkins

Vaughan Learning Center Director: Heather Ouellette

Vaughan Bookkeeper: Denise Leighton

Church Sexton: Mark Schiller

Church Phone: 603-356-2324

Church Fax number: 603-356-2106

Vaughan Food Pantry: 603-602-1801

Vaughan Learning Center: 603-356-5213

Church Office Email: churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com

Church Website: www.firstchurchnc.com

YouTube: <https://firstchurchnc.com/service-videos/>

Thank you for worshipping with us today!



To make giving even easier for those who don't carry cash or use checks, we've started using QR Code, in the bulletin. Just scan the code with your phone like you would in a restaurant!