



STEEPLENOTES

A Newsletter of
The Foreside Community Church

February 2020



“Come inside, join us, you are welcome here!”

Connecting to God

Nurturing Community

*Discovering
how our Lives*

Make a Difference

THE FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH
 340 Foreside Road
 Falmouth, Maine 04105-1428

Pastor: The Reverend Geoff Parker
Choir Director: Trevor Lavenbein
Organist/Accompanist: David Bartoletti
Sunday School Administrator: Laura Rodas
Sunday School Teacher: Beth Penrose
Nursery Care Provider: Madison Nash
Office Manager: Christina Sklarz-Libby

Office: 207-781-5880 **Fax:** 207-781-9055
E-mail: info@foresidechurch.org **Web:** www.foresidechurch.org

PASTOR'S COVER LETTER	2
MAINE SCHOOL OF MINISTRY SPECIAL WORSHIP	3
WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYERS & COMMUNION	3
UPDATES, REPORT OUTS, & UPCOMING EVENTS	
The Foreside Book Club Announces Next Reading	4
“My Sister’s Keeper” Collection Continues	4
February Mission Moment Announcement	4
February 23 is Mardi Gras Breakfast!	4
Women’s February Breakfast Announcement	4
Men’s February Breakfast Announcement	4
PARENTING WORKSHOP SET FOR FEBRUARY 9	5
MARCH 2020 RETREAT FOR EVERYONE~PLEASE RSVP	6
A 3-PART MOSIAC WORKSHOP PLANNED	7
TWO COMMUNITY EVENTS ANNOUNCED	8
FEBRUARY CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE	9
FEBRUARY DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS	11

Notes from Reverend Geoff Parker

Teaching and Turning with Jesus

Dear Foreside Friends,

Through the season of Epiphany, we listen to the preaching and ministry of Jesus as he grows in wisdom, in his following of disciples and friends, in his sense of calling, and the calling he offered to others to see the reign of God drawn near.

In a "season of Light," this is an invitation to see clearly... to lift the veil from knowledge and learning which might set us free. This month in worship, we will spend time with the spiritual genius of Jesus: reading through the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew. The world that Jesus presents in his most famous collection of sayings is one in which his followers are invited to see the world turned upside down: the hungry will be filled, the mourners will be comforted, the persecuted will receive a home in the world transformed by God's love.

So much of our faith journey is learning how to "see" the world through this new lens, and to become the "salt" and "light" to the world to participate in God's work to make it real.

I am so thankful for all the ways in which we teach and learn together as a congregation... For the ways that we share our gifts and skills with one another: helping us to discover new ways of understanding community, compassion, and justice.

So, as we listen to Jesus's teaching this season, what do you want to learn? Is it something you can read or hear to gain a new insight? Is it a new practice of prayer or care that may open your heart in new ways? Is it an increasing comfort in quiet and stillness to hear God's calling?

In this month's newsletter, you'll see opportunities for parents to gather to learn and share wisdom here in a parenting workshop. You'll see opportunities to register for our annual retreat: *Rest, Reflect, Pray, Serve* coming up in March. You'll see neighbors coming to share their experiences in finding a new home in Maine, and the programs that help extend welcome and help to them. In all, you will see the curiosity of Spirit and of mind which marks a community alive and seeking to follow Jesus.

This learning and growing in the Spirit is not just "head knowledge," it is "heart wisdom," connecting our understanding of the world and our neighbors to new life and service together. This growing understanding and opening of understanding brought to mind this prayer and reflection from the monastic spiritual guide and author, Joyce Rupp:

- > Ever-Present Opener,
- > you offer me your love and strength.
- > You can help me open any door.
- > Lead me to where my truest self dwells.
- > I reach out to receive the freedom and courage
- > you extend to me at this very moment.
- > Transform my life into one that reflects your love.
- > I open the door of my heart to you.
- > I open the door. [^1]

As we walk together as a community and individuals with Jesus through this season, may we find our way to "where our truest self dwells."

Peace,



[^1]: Joyce Rupp, *Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self*

On the road and missing a sermon? Want to go back and revisit any one sermon? Want to share a sermon with a friend or family member? Reverend Geoff's sermons in both written and audio form, from May 2019 to the present, can be viewed and/or heard on FCC's website at <http://www.foresidechurch.org/index.php/category/sermons/>

Special Worship and Offering for the Maine School of Ministry

March 1, 2020

On Sunday, March 1, we'll join with other churches of the Maine Conference, UCC in learning about and supporting the work of the Maine School of Ministry (MESoM), our denomination's state-wide program for education and ministry formation through a special offering. We hope you'll come and learn about the program, and consider making a gift to offer important training for leaders in our Maine UCC churches!

MESoM courses are taught by highly qualified faculty, designed for adult students who are exploring their own spiritual formation, exploring a call to ministry, and even for ordained clergy seeking quality continuing education. Classes are open to all persons seeking spiritual and educational and enrichment.

A MESoM student who is discerning her call to ministry, Jessie Crabtree, will be joining us to preach and share in worship. Jessie currently serves as the Office Administrator and Ministry Assistant of First Parish Church, UCC of Brunswick. Jessie's prior work was in the Adult Education field, and she is delighted now to be serving the lifelong learners of an intellectually active and spiritually nurturing community as she discerns her future in ministry.

Thank you for considering a gift to support the Maine School of Ministry and the formation of new leaders in our churches!

Geoff

Jessie Crabtree, Office Administrator
First Parish Church, UCC of Brunswick



Wednesday Evening Prayers and Communion

Come bring what light you have to share,
or receive the light you need,
in this quiet service of candle-lighting, prayers, and communion
at the end of day.

Come and find a quiet center in our busy lives
in which we may be still and rest in God's presence.

All are welcome each Wednesday from 6-6:30pm.



UPDATES, REPORT OUTS, AND UPCOMING EVENTS AT FCC

~ *The Foreside*

Book Club ~

For our next meeting on **Tuesday February 11 at 3:00 p.m.** we will talk about Olive, Again by Maine author Elizabeth Strout. This is a sequel to her Pulitzer prize winning novel Olive Kitteridge, but it is not necessary to have read that first. In Olive, Again she resurrects the cantankerous and prickly yet ruthlessly honest and deeply empathetic curmudgeon of a school teacher from Crosby, Maine. In thirteen interconnected stories that remind us that you're never too old to grow up, Olive continues to struggle to understand not only herself and her own life but the lives of those around her in the small town. Whether with a teenager coming to terms with the loss of her father, a young woman about to give birth during a hilariously inopportune moment, a nurse who confesses a secret high school crush, or a lawyer who struggles with an inheritance she does not want to accept, the unforgettable Olive will continue to startle us, to move us, and thus to teach us about human nature. Hope you can all join us on February 11. FMI: mimi-hinkel@gmail.com



Let's do Breakfast Ladies!

Women of the church, members and friends

are invited to breakfast on

Saturday, February 8 @ 8:30 a.m.

in the FCC coffee area,

we'll provide the food,

you bring your appetite.

~ good food, good conversation ~

it's a great way to start your day!

Please RSVP to cslib-by@foresidechurch.org

or 781-5880 by Monday, February 3

so we can plan accordingly.

See you there!

~ *My Sister's Keeper* ~

From January 12 until February 9 we are asking members of the church to donate hygiene supplies that will be used to fill backpacks for each woman being released from jail as part of the **My Sister's Keeper** ministry operating from Cape Elizabeth's United Methodist Church. During this month please bring in the following backpack sized items: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, feminine products, bars of soap, hand and body cream, and Chapstick. All items will be delivered to the program in Cape Elizabeth. There will be a collection bin in the Narthex. Thank you.

~ *February Mission Moment* ~

On February 23 we will hear from an asylum seeker recently arrived from Angola who will share part of the reasons for fleeing and how the Supporting Immigrant Tenants program has provided invaluable assistance and support. S.I.T. is the result of the hard work of staff at Hope GateWay in Portland is now under "Prosperity Maine-The center for Financial Education. Our guest speaker will be accompanied by her S.I.T. partner Sue Rudalevige.

~ *Mardi Gras Gala Breakfast* ~

Be sure to mark the date and hold the time after worship on **Sunday, February 23** and join everyone for a hardy breakfast. More details to follow shortly.



FCC's Men's Monthly

Breakfast Group

cordially invites all gents to join them

in the FCC coffee area

Saturday, February 1

for great morning fare &

an energizing thought exchange

helpers should arrive @ 7:00 a.m.

breakfast served @ 8:00 a.m.

for more information

please contact John Bischof

@ jegbischof@gmail.com / 781-2391

Setting Limits: A Parenting Workshop with Marjie Longshore, Ed.M

Sharpen Your Parenting Tools & Add to Your Toolbox

All are welcome!

Date: Sunday, Feb. 9, 4:30-6:30 PM

Location:

Foreside Community Church
340 Foreside Road, Falmouth

Cost: \$10 donation suggested to cover speaker cost



RSVP: Encouraged to cslibby@foresidechurch.org or (207) 781-5880

Light refreshments will be served.

This 2-hour workshop includes:

- Fresh ideas, new skills for how to lead your family in an encouraging & truly powerful way
- Proven tools and strategies for setting limits with children that are clear and successful and, at the same time, build a child's responsibility muscles
- Bonus byproducts: reduce daily struggles with chores, homework, bedtime routines

About Marjie:

Marjie Longshore is the mother of two teenage children and the founder of Family Leadership Center, a non-profit organization in Yarmouth, Maine. With a Masters in Education from Harvard, she has devoted her career to education as a teacher, curriculum developer, consultant and parent educator. Her courses and workshops at Family Leadership Center support parents, grandparents, caregivers, and teachers who want to raise the bar for their families in an encouraging, supportive environment.



Sponsored by
Foreside Community Church



FAMILY LEADERSHIP CENTER
encourage. grow. lead.

~ FCC Retreat 2020 ~

Please consider registering early in order that appropriate arrangements can be made!

RSVP deadline is February 28, 2020

Rest, Reflect, Pray, Serve, our second retreat will be held March 13-14, 2020 at Camp Pondicherry in Bridgton. Participants can attend Friday or Saturday or stay overnight. To register please use the following link: <http://tiny.cc/FCCRetreat2020>.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Geoff gparker@foresidechurch.org, or Wendy Tracy wendyrtracy@gmail.com.



Join us for FCC's 2nd InterGenerational Retreat: Rest, Reflect, Pray, Serve

Date: Friday, March 13th (4:30 PM) - Saturday, March 14th (4:30 PM)

Location: Camp Pondicherry 85 Camp Pondicherry Rd, Bridgton, ME

Hosted at the beautiful Chalet at Girl Scout Camp Pondicherry, we will gather Friday evening for supper and activities before retiring in bunk-style facilities. Saturday will provide plenty of options for folks of all ages to gather together, have quiet time, get to know one another and have delicious meals together. There will be specific activities for the youth, as well as time for us all to gather together. You are welcome to attend one or both days.

There is a suggested donation of \$20 per individual and \$40 per family for the retreat, if you have any questions/concerns please contact Pastor Geoff.

We hope you will join us.



**PLEASE RSVP
NO LATER THAN
FEBRUARY 28, 2020**



Mosaic Workshop!

*Creating Unique Mosaic Art on Wooden Objects
as a Church Fair OR Personal Project*

- Leader:** Kathie McCatherin
Cost: \$25*
When: Sunday, March 8, 15 & 22 from 11:30am-1pm
Description: We will create one-of-a-kind functional artwork on wooden objects to grace your home or that of a church fair goer. We will discuss the use of color, design and how to use tesserae (items to adhere to your object- stone, tile, ceramic) to make our creations.

What to bring:

- ◆ Safety glasses- required
- ◆ Leather work gloves-required
- ◆ Hammer
- ◆ Mallet
- ◆ Chisels
- ◆ Large towel- one that you don't care about destroying!
- ◆ Tesserae- small stones, ceramic, tile, buttons, dominoes, scrabble pieces, beads etc.

NOTE: Kathie will be providing TONS of tesserae and the wooden objects. You may bring your own but it's not necessary.

To register or FMI ~ Kathie McCatherin
kathiejoy@maine.rr.com / 272-4364

***If you choose to keep your mosaic piece, rather than donate it to the church fair, there will be an additional cost for supplies.**



Faith Community Connecting for Substance-Free Youth

8th Annual Forum



Wednesday, February 5, 2020
8:30 - 10:30 am
Pineland Farms, Conference Center

Free Event
Light Breakfast
Provided

The Role of Faith Communities in Addressing Substance Use:
How Science & Kindness Help People

Guest Speaker: Doug Griffin - New England Regional Director of the *Addiction Policy Forum* and Co-Founder, *Good Samaritan Network, New Hampshire Chapter*

Join faith community representatives in the Casco Bay region to learn:

- How to build resilience for healthy and thriving children and communities
- Brain science of addiction
- Practical tips to foster a supportive community

Casco Bay CAN
CREATE AWARENESS NOW
TOGETHER, PREVENTING YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

*Please RSVP to Beth at beth@cascobaycan.org

www.cascobaycan.org



Mornings With Friends

February 19, 2020

10:00-11:30

Tuttle Road United Methodist Church



SEEDS OF PEACE

inspires and cultivates new generations of global leaders in communities divided by conflict by equipping exceptional youth and educators with the skills and relationships they need to accelerate social, economic, and political changes essential for peace. **Falmouth nurse Lois Myers** will share her life-changing experiences volunteering at the Seeds of Peace International Camp in Maine.

FMI: Deborah.gray48@gmail.com or AIPCumberland.org




AIP: 207-829-2205 For Rides, call 829-3367

Free and Open to the Public * Coffee, Tea & Goodies

FCC'S LOIS MYER WILL BE PRESENTING!

FEBRUARY 2020

Be sure to check the calendar at
Foreside Community Church's website
www.foresidechurch.org for any updates or changes.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>The Stewardship Ministry will not be meeting in February.</p> <p>2 9:30 a.m. Worship & Communion ~ANNUAL MEETING~ 4-6:00 p.m. youth group</p>	<p>3 9:30 am Tues Study Group 10:30 am Office Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Knitters 6:20 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm Lrg AA Mtg 7:20 pm Bell Rehearsal</p>	<p>4 9:30 am Tues Study Group 10:30 am Office Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Knitters 6:20 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm Lrg AA Mtg 7:20 pm Bell Rehearsal</p>	<p>5 9-12 noon Rug Ladies 1-3:30 pm Painting w/ Murad 5:00 pm Women's Mtg 6:00 pm Evening Prayer</p>	<p>6 4:30 p.m. Meditation</p>	<p>7 Women's Monthly Breakfast (see pg. 4 for details)</p>	<p>8 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Women's Monthly Breakfast (see pg. 4 for details)</p>
<p>9 9:30 a.m. Worship MOW Ministry Mtg. following service 4:30-6:00 p.m. Parenting Workshop (see pg. 5 for details)</p>	<p>10 9:30 am Tues Study Group 10:30 am Office Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Knitters 3:00 pm Book Group see pg. 4 6:20 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm Lrg AA Mtg 7:20 pm Bell Rehearsal</p>	<p>11 9:30 am Tues Study Group 10:30 am Office Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Knitters 3:00 pm Book Group see pg. 4 6:20 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm Lrg AA Mtg 7:20 pm Bell Rehearsal</p>	<p>12 9-12 noon Rug Ladies 1-3:30 pm Painting w/ Murad 5:00 pm Women's Mtg 6:00 pm Evening Prayer</p>	<p>13 1:30 p.m. Youth Grp. Ministry Mtg. conference call 4:30 p.m. Meditation</p>	<p>14 4-6 p.m. Guiding Eyes For The Blind Puppy Training</p>	<p>15 Guiding Eyes For The Blind Puppy Training</p>
<p>16 9:30 a.m. Worship ~ No Church School ~</p>	<p>17 </p>	<p>18 9:30 am Tues Study Group 10:30 am Office Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Knitters 6:20 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm Lrg AA Mtg 7:20 pm Bell Rehearsal</p>	<p>19 9-12 noon Rug Ladies 1-3:30 pm Painting w/ Murad 5:00 pm Women's Mtg 6:00 pm Evening Prayer</p>	<p>20 4:30 p.m. Meditation</p>	<p>21 Deadline for March Steeplenotes submittals</p>	<p>22 Deadline for March Steeplenotes submittals</p>
<p>23 Mardi Gras Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Worship ~ Mission Moment ~ 4-6:00 p.m. Youth Grp Labyrinth Walk @ Tuttle Rd. Methodist</p>	<p>24 </p>	<p>25 9:30 am Tues Study Group 1:00 pm Knitters 6:20 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:45 pm Lrg AA Mtg 7:20 pm Bell Rehearsal</p>	<p>26 </p>	<p>27 4:30 p.m. Meditation</p>	<p>28 4:30 p.m. Meditation</p>	<p>29 4:30 p.m. Meditation</p>

This page left intentionally blank.

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

Sat., Feb. 1

Psalm 15
Micah 3:1-4
John 13:31-35

Sun., Feb. 2

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Mon., Feb. 3

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 1:1-18
Philemon 1-25

Tues., Feb. 4

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 2:1-16
James 5:1-6

Wed., Feb. 5

Psalm 37:1-17
Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22
Luke 6:17-26

Thurs., Feb. 6

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
Deuteronomy 4:1-14
1 John 5:1-5

Fri., Feb. 7

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
Isaiah 29:1-12
James 3:13-18

Sat., Feb. 8

Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
Isaiah 29:13-16
Mark 7:1-8

Sun., Feb. 9

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
Matthew 5:13-20

Mon., Feb. 10

Psalm 119:105-112
2 Kings 22:3-20
Romans 11:2-10

Tues., Feb. 11

Psalm 119:105-112
2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25
2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Wed., Feb. 12

Psalm 119:105-112
Proverbs 6:6-23
John 8:12-30

Thurs., Feb. 13

Psalm 119:1-8
Genesis 26:1-5
James 1:12-16

Fri., Feb. 14

Psalm 119:1-8
Leviticus 26:34-46
1 John 2:7-17

Sat., Feb. 15

Psalm 119:1-8
Deuteronomy 30:1-9a
Matthew 15:1-9

Sun., Feb. 16

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or
Sirach 15:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Mon., Feb. 17

Psalm 119:9-16
Exodus 20:1-21
James 1:2-8

Tues., Feb. 18

Psalm 119:9-16
Deuteronomy 23:21—24:4, 10-15
James 2:1-13

Wed., Feb. 19

Psalm 119:9-16
Proverbs 2:1-15
Matthew 19:1-12

Thurs., Feb. 20

Psalm 2
Exodus 6:2-9
Hebrews 8:1-7

Fri., Feb. 21

Psalm 2
Exodus 19:9b-25
Hebrews 11:23-28

Sat., Feb. 22

Psalm 2
1 Kings 21:20-29
Mark 9:9-13

Sun., Feb. 23

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-91

Mon., Feb. 24

Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55
Exodus 33:7-23
Acts 7:30-34

Tues., Feb. 25

Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55
1 Kings 19:9-18
Romans 11:1-6

Wed., Feb. 26

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or
Isaiah 58:1-12
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thurs., Feb. 27

Psalm 51
Jonah 3:1-10
Romans 1:1-7

Fri., Feb. 28

Psalm 51
Jonah 4:1-11
Romans 1:8-17

Sat., Feb. 29

Psalm 51
Isaiah 58:1-12
Matthew 18:1-7

STEEPLENOTES

A Newsletter of
The Foreside Community Church



*The Foreside Community Church, UCC
340 Foreside Road
Falmouth, ME 04105- 1428*