



*Connecting  
to God*

*Nurturing  
Community*

*Discovering  
how our Lives  
Make a  
Difference*

**A late summer walk at the Audubon. (See page 4 for more!)**

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**340 Foreside Road**  
**Falmouth, Maine 04105-1428**

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## Notes from Pastor Geoff

### Rooted in Love

*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. - Ephesians 3:16-19*

What grounds you—what gives you life—in changing seasons?

Every fall, even as leaves turn, and the sun fades, and cool air return, our congregation and many others like it turn our attention to giving.

As is right, we spend a lot of time giving thanks for those things that ground us each year:

- For the renewed energy of the congregation in worship, prayer, song, and community as we return from the summer.
- For the presence of children in our lives as they return to patterns of school and Sunday school.
- For the practices of service which call us to feed our hungry neighbor.

For the delight of a holiday season to come, with all its traditions, and all that will be new in it.

Of course, this fall is not like many others. Maybe like me, in these challenging days, it takes a little longer for you to access gratitude. The swirl, upheaval, uncertainty, and anxiety can make it challenging to connect to it.

But there is a deep well of thanksgiving accessible to us... there are so many blessings, even as so much in our days threatens to cover them up... thanks be to God, with a little quiet, some time, and the Holy Spirit, we can still work our way to them. We may need to focus on that central *tap root*, that part of the plant which goes deep and sustains, but we can still be fed and grounded by these blessings.

I remember in an uncertain time, a spiritual director giving me simple (too simple?) advice: “When you feel unsteady, in mind or spirit, actually ground yourself. Put your feet on the floor. Let tension you are carrying fall

down. Deep breaths that go all the way to your core. Imagine yourself rooted into the soil beneath you.”

What can I say? It has worked in storms much worse since then.

If we, as a community, root ourselves and pause to listen to the “heartbeat” of this congregation, we are very much still vibrant and living in our corner of the Foreside, and the world. If you read into this newsletter you will find we are still a church learning and growing with young people, still worshipping and making music to God together, still serving neighbors near and far, and still celebrating time honored traditions and practices of joy. More of it may be outside, more of it may be across distance, or even time as we find our way... but the roots that hold us and sustain us are here.

This month begins our Annual Appeal, *Rooted in Love*. As we turn our hearts and minds to giving thanks in this season, we are also reminded of the opportunity and importance of giving and sharing our gifts in this community for the work of the church’s ministry. I would ask you to reflect some on the ways in which this congregation’s life has been a centering place for you, a “root” for your family, for friends, neighbors, and strangers in the past year, and consider how you might support that wonderful gift we share in the coming year. For the work of sustaining a community like ours *is* a gift, and it is worthy of giving.

You’ll be hearing more from Eric Tracy and others in the coming days about how you can participate in gratitude and generosity through the Appeal. I hope you know that here every giver and every gift is worthy of rejoicing and thanksgiving to God, the giver of all life, and that to share in ministry with you in each season is a gift I treasure every day.



## *Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.*

worship in person by first registering at  
[www.foresidechurch.org](http://www.foresidechurch.org) or calling 781-5880

or online



By joining us through [our YouTube channel](#). \*

**Coffee hour on Sunday following Worship at 10:15 a.m.**  
**And can be joined by accessing [this link](#)**

***Grab a cup and join your friends, family, and fellow members!***

*In person coffee hour to resume after Labor Day so stay tuned!*

\* As we continue on in hybrid worship, we will be moving away from Facebook live as a streaming platform in the coming months. You can be ready for this transition by visiting our YouTube Channel page and clicking the red "Subscribe" button. You will need to sign in or create an account. (If you already have a Google (Gmail) account, you can sign in that way.) Thank you for your help with this change to make it easier for us to share our worship!



*I am fully vaccinated and am available for times to visit, sit, or pray together as you would like. If you would like to schedule a meeting, [you can do so here](#), or by contacting me [by email](#).*

*Blessings of the Spirit to you.*

**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 and can be viewed and/or heard on FCC's web-site at:**

<http://www.foresidechurch.org/index.php/category/sermons/>.

### **Supporting the Ministry of FCC**

As we work to continue to offer ministry inside and out of our congregation in a time of so much instability, we would invite you consider how you can continue to support our work in the world. Please know that if you would like to mail a gift or regular pledge payment to the church office, the office will be open to receive that gift.

**If you would like to make a one time gift online, or if you would like create an account for a monthly recurring gift,** you may do so through PayPal by going to our [giving page](#) and clicking the "Donate" button.

Thank you for the ways you share from your lives and empower the ministry of the church, offering connection, nurturing, and support here and in the wider world!



**UPDATES, REPORT OUTS, AND UPCOMING EVENTS AT FCC**

**Welcome Back Tea a Great Success!**

Over 25 of us gathered during the Welcome Back Tea. Rev. Geoff welcomed us back with a big smile and some welcoming words. We then shared some our concerns tand prayed together.

Hot and cold teas were served along with lemonade and water with lemon. The goodies were plentiful with chocolate cupcakes, brownies both chocolate and butter-scotch, lemon squares, a couple of types of cookies and lemon honey cake as well as fruit for those of us looking for a healthy snack. Of course a tea at FCC would not be complete without scones. There was a choice of flavors: blueberry, apple cranberry and ginger apricot. Thank you to all who made and brought refreshments. Many brought their own cups, plates and napkins. To those, a special thank you as we try to wean ourselves off paper products.

The weather held off so it was pleasant outside. There were a number of semi-circles of chairs for those who did not wish to stand. Some families joined us and lots of corn hole was enjoyed by the kids of all ages. We were all so happy to be able to visit that none of us thought to take a picture. However, the conversations were flowing freely and lots of goodies were consumed.

**SAVE THE DATE!  
Friday November 12th 7-8 pm**

To piggy back of the success of the tea and to provide another COVOD safe and all age friendly activity, Fellowship is planning gatherings around several fire pits. Fellowship will provide the s'more fixings and participants will bring their own s'more stick as well as their preferred hot beverage.

If you are worried about being cold, several of our youth are working with Jill Fox to make corn filled bags which you can put in your microwave to make them hot and then place them in your lap under a blanket. Or you can fill a hot water bottle and bring that. I put them in a small cooler to keep them warm until I need them

We are hoping you will dress warm and join a fire pit and start your weekend off right. Please email Liz Ventre at [eventrel@maine.rr.com](mailto:eventrel@maine.rr.com) if you wish to join us. Let her know if you need the easiest accessible fire pit as those who have volunteered to host are letting her know accessibility. If you would be willing to host and have

not let her know yet, please do that as well. Liz will be dividing us up into groups of 6-8 so we can enjoy a smaller group setting and get to know better some other members of our community.

**Ministry of Christian Education Hosts  
Another Family Gathering**

A group of 15 FCC members and friends gathered in late August for an early evening walk at the Maine Audubon in Falmouth. The gathering was brought together with a moment of reflection by Pastor Geoff and then all attendees enjoyed the abundant sunshine, gorgeous views and a chance to be together.



The members of CE look forward to continuing to bring future monthly gatherings such as this walk, and the past Easter gathering and egg decorating, CE youth group movie dates, and family bowling with FCC, just to name a few.



Stay tuned!

**The Men's Breakfast**  
Meets every other Saturday.  
**The next virtual gatherings  
are scheduled for October 9 &  
October 23 @ 8:30 a.m.**  
Join the gents here ([Zoom](#))

**UPDATES, REPORT OUTS, AND UPCOMING EVENTS AT FCC (cont.)**



**It's fair season again!** And because Covid is still lurking, we're doing it outside again...

**Like last year, the in-person fair will be divided up into two largely outside events, 10/23 and 2/4, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.** for maximum warmth, and masked and distanced for personal safety.

**Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup>**, (rain date the 24<sup>th</sup>) will be knitting, sewing, baking, and many sign-up sheets, for wreathes, candy, boxwood trees, chili, whole dinners, and many pies for the holidays. We may have a table or two of housewares, if we think they will sell, and we don't have to move a lot back inside. We may have jewelry. We will certainly have surprises!

**Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup>**, (rain date the 5<sup>th</sup>) will be wreath, boxwood, candy and chili pickup, more baked goods, more knits and fabric items, more signup sheets for pies and such, amaryllises, and small green arrangements. We may have housewares available inside, for masked AND vaccinated shoppers only.

**An on-line branch of the fair for silent auction and larger items is in development.**

**Are you a baker, or knitter, or seamstress? We have a way YOU can contribute!** And donation of household items and treasures may be done at any time this fall and left on the stage for sorting and pricing.

**Larger items to donate?  
Call Carol Ward – 207-838-8235**

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

- Christina Sklarz ~ 1**
- Beth Shaw ~ 5**
- Adrienne Shetenhelm ~ 7**
- Dorothy Eckhardt ~ 14**
- Dotty Blanchette ~ 21**

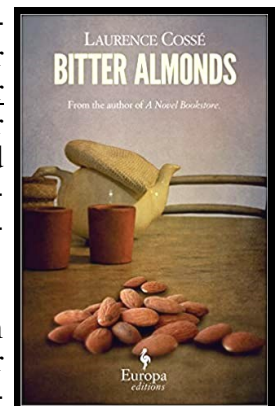


- Margaret Perkins ~ 28**
- Tyler Lacombe ~ 30**

**Mbabaali Orphanage Collection Update**

To date a total of \$3,375.00 has been collected to support the Mbabaali Orphanage which continues to be affected by the global pandemic, including severe food shortage and the death of several of the children. Dotty Blanchette has facilitated the wiring of the donations to the orphanage's director James, who is grateful beyond words and includes the FCC congregation in his daily prayers. The collection will be ongoing for the next several weeks. Please contact the FCC office ([csklarz@foresidechurch.org](mailto:csklarz@foresidechurch.org) or 781-5880) if you wish to assist in this humanitarian effort. If you are so moved, checks should be made payable to the church with "Mbabaali" written on the lower left memo line. Thank you.

**The Foreside Book Club** started its new season off in September with a lively discussion of The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah. After considerable discussion, we decided to choose Bitter Almonds by Laurence Cosse for our October meeting. A review follows:



"Edith can hardly believe it when she learns that Fadila, her sixty-year-old housemaid, is completely illiterate. How can a person living in Paris in the third millennium possibly survive without knowing how to read or write? How does she catch a bus, or pay a bill, or withdraw money from the bank? Why it's unacceptable! She thus decides to become Fadila's French teacher. But teaching something as complex as reading and writing to an adult is rather more challenging than she thought. Their lessons are short, difficult, and tiring. Yet, during these lessons, the oh-so-Parisian Edith and Fadila, an immigrant from Morocco, begin to understand one another as never before, and from this understanding will blossom a surprising and delightful friendship."

We are planning that this will be another **Zoom meeting on Wednesday, October 20 at 4:00 p.m., link to follow.** We welcome anyone who is interested in sharing their thoughts and ideas to join with us. FMI: [mimihinkel@gmail.com](mailto:mimihinkel@gmail.com)



**COMMUNITY UPDATES**

**Southern Maine Agency on Aging**

Southern Maine Agency on Aging (SMAA) is the focal point in Cumberland and York counties for resources, services and information for older adults and their caregivers.



Founded in 1973, SMAA provides many services and programs on a variety of issues---financial, health and wellness, the latest COVID-19 information, support groups, and referral assistance. Virtual classes are offered on Yoga, Tai Chi, Gentle Exercise, A Matter of Balance. Trained health insurance counselors are available to help navigate the many Medicare choices during the October 15 to December 7 Open Enrollment period.

SMAA also has numerous interesting and worthwhile volunteer opportunities in the southern Maine area, including Meals on Wheels Packers and Drivers, Phone Pals, Tech Support, Vets to Vets, and Money Minders to name just a few. Putting their own professional and personal skills to work benefits others and enriches volunteers' lives as well.

For more information on SMAA's many program offerings, visit <https://www.smaa.org/> or call 207-396-6500.



*The Falmouth Land Trust is pleased to announce the following upcoming events this month:*

**Sunday October 10 at 2 p.m.**

Short, easy walk to the memorial for Abanaki chief Polin, who walked, or paddled, to Boston and petitioned the Governor of Mass. Bay Colony in 1739 for a fishway to be built around the first mill on the Presumpscot River in Falmouth. The dam became the Smelt Hill Dam, and it was finally removed in 2003 to allow for fish passage upriver. Parking for the event is at Ernie's Cycle Shop on Conant Street in Westbrook. Led by Clifford Gilpin, board member of the Falmouth Land Trust, and others.

**Monday October 11 at 10 a.m.**

Hike along the Presumpscot River to the site of the former Smelt Hill Dam in Falmouth. Learn about the Presumpscot fishery and its place in Wabanaki history and culture. This walk has many ups and downs and takes over an hour. Park at the end of Overset Road in Portland. Led by Susan Gilpin, Maine Master Naturalist, and others. Dry weather only.

**FYI Susan Gilpin @ 310-0329 or [susanogilpin@gmail.com](mailto:susanogilpin@gmail.com).**



**Mornings With Friends**

**October 20, 2021**

**10:00-11:30**

**Cumberland Fire Station Community Room**

**Have you been dreaming about travelling again?**



**Come learn about Road Scholar, the world leader in educational travel for adults, with programs in all 50 states and more than 100 countries.**

**ROAD SCHOLAR**

Learning - It's a Trip

FMI: [Deborah.grav48@gmail.com](mailto:Deborah.grav48@gmail.com) or [AIPCumberland.org](http://AIPCumberland.org)

AIP: 207-829-2208 For Rides, call 829-3367

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

# MAINEDOT ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE



## YOU CAN'T GET THERE FROM HERE



**CLOSING I-295 PORTLAND-FALMOUTH**  
10/22 AT 7 PM — 10/25 AT 11 AM

— [VERANDAPLAN.ORG](http://VERANDAPLAN.ORG) —

### VERANDA STREET CLOSURE

**MAINEDOT WILL CLOSE VERANDA STREET UNDER THE VERANDA STREET BRIDGE FOR ONE WEEK IN OCTOBER.**

**WHY?** To reconfigure the intersection.

**WHEN?** Monday, October 18, 2pm — Monday, October 25, 2pm

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FALMOUTH?** Getting into Portland from Route 1/Veranda Street will require a significant detour. Traffic congestion and delays are anticipated.

### I-295 VERANDA STREET BRIDGE CLOSURE

**MAINEDOT WILL CLOSE I-295 FOR ONE WEEKEND IN OCTOBER.**

**WHY?** To replace the aging 60-year-old Veranda Street Bridge.

**WHEN?** Friday, October 22, 7pm — Monday, October 25, 11am

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FALMOUTH?** Traffic. Lots of it. On Route 1, Bucknam Road, and Middle Road. All northbound and southbound interstate traffic will be routed through Falmouth during this closure.

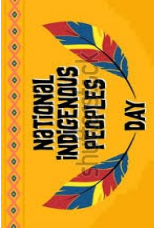


MaineDOT is working on the Veranda Street Bridge Project and resultant road closures. Interstate 295 will be closed from 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 22 to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 25. This closure is expected to significantly increase traffic in Falmouth, especially along Route 1, Route 88, Middle Road, and Bucknam Road, as well as on the Maine Turnpike and in Portland. All northbound and southbound traffic on I-295 will be diverted to the Spur or through Falmouth during the closure weekend.

In the case of a severe weather event, the I-295 closure will take place over the following weekend, October 29-November 1.

# October 2021

Be sure to check the calendar at [Foreside Community Church's website](http://ForesideCommunityChurch.org)  
[www.foresidechurch.org](http://www.foresidechurch.org) for any updates or changes.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 <b>Marathon Sunday</b> 5:00 p.m. Ecumenical Worship w/ St. Mary's @ FCC	4	5 9 a.m. Tues Morn Book Club 1 p.m. Knitting Group-lrg clsrn 6:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:45 to 9 p.m. Large AA Group 7:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal	6	7	8	9 <b>Men's Breakfast</b> (see pg. 4 for details)
10 9:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship (see pg. 3 for details) <i>The Rev. Susan Gilpin in the pulpit</i> <b>Annual Appeal Kick Off</b>	 7:00 p.m. Stewardship Monthly Mtg.	12 9 a.m. Tues Morn Book Club 1 p.m. Knitting Group-lrg clsrn 6:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:45 to 9 p.m. Large AA Group 7:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal	13	14	15	16
17 9:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship (see pg. 3 for details)	18 7:00 p.m. Governing Board Monthly Mtg.	19 9 a.m. Tues Morn Book Club 1 p.m. Knitting Group-lrg clsrn 6:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:45 to 9 p.m. Large AA Group 7:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal	20 4:00 p.m. Foreside Book Club (see pg. 5 for details)	21 <b>November Steeplenotes Deadline</b> 6:00 p.m. Baysite in Fellowship Hall	22	23 <b>Men's Breakfast</b> (see pg. 4 for details) <b>12 to 2:00 p.m.</b> <b>Fair Day!</b> (see pg. 5 for details)
24 9:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship (see pg. 3 for details) <b>4:00 p.m. Family Church</b> <b>More details to follow.</b>	25	26 9 a.m. Tues Morn Book Club 1 p.m. Knitting Group-lrg clsrn 6:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:45 to 9 p.m. Large AA Group 7:30 p.m. Bell Rehearsal	27	28	29	30
31 9:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship (see pg. 3 for details) <b>New Members Sunday!</b>						



## Daily Lectionary Readings for October 2021

**Fri., Oct. 1**

Psalm 26  
Job 4:1-21  
Romans 8:1-11

**Sat., Oct. 2**

Psalm 26  
Job 7:1-21  
Luke 16:14-18

**Sun., Oct. 3**

Job 1:1; 2:1-10  
Psalm 26  
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12  
Mark 10:2-16

**Mon., Oct. 4**

Psalm 55:1-15  
Job 8:1-22  
1 Corinthians 7:1-9

**Tues., Oct. 5**

Psalm 55:1-15  
Job 11:1-20  
1 Corinthians 7:10-16

**Wed., Oct. 6**

Psalm 55:1-15  
Job 15:1-35  
Matthew 5:27-36

**Thurs., Oct. 7**

Psalm 22:1-15  
Job 17:1-16  
Hebrews 3:7-19

**Fri., Oct. 8**

Psalm 22:1-15  
Job 18:1-21  
Hebrews 4:1-11

**Sat., Oct. 9**

Psalm 22:1-15  
Job 20:1-29  
Matthew 15:1-9

**Sun., Oct. 10**

Job 23:1-9, 16-17  
Psalm 22:1-15  
Hebrews 4:12-16  
Mark 10:17-31

**Mon., Oct. 11**

Psalm 39  
Job 26:1-14  
Revelation 7:9-17

**Tues., Oct. 12**

Psalm 39  
Job 28:12—29:10  
Revelation 8:1-5

**Wed. Oct. 13**

Psalm 39  
Job 32:1-22  
Luke 16:19-31

**Thurs., Oct. 14**

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b  
Job 36:1-16  
Romans 15:7-13

**Fri., Oct. 15**

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b  
Job 37:1-24  
Revelation 17:1-18

**Sat., Oct. 16**

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b  
Job 39:1-30  
Luke 22:24-30

**Sun., Oct. 17**

Job 38:1-7 [34-41]  
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b  
Hebrews 5:1-10  
Mark 10:35-45

**Mon., Oct. 18**

Psalm 75  
Job 40:1-24  
Hebrews 6:1-12

**Tues., Oct. 19**

Psalm 75  
Job 41:1-11  
Hebrews 6:13-20

**Wed., Oct. 20**

Psalm 75  
Job 41:12-34  
John 13:1-17

**Thurs., Oct. 21**

Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]  
2 Kings 20:12-19  
Hebrews 7:1-10

**Fri., Oct. 22**

Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]  
Nehemiah 1:1-11  
Hebrews 7:11-22

**Sat., Oct. 23**

Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]  
Job 42:7-9  
Mark 8:22-26

**Sun., Oct. 24**

Job 42:1-6, 10-17  
Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22]  
Hebrews 7:23-28  
Mark 10:46-52

**Mon., Oct. 25**

Psalm 28  
Isaiah 59:9-19  
1 Peter 2:1-10

**Tues., Oct. 26**

Psalm 28  
Ezekiel 18:1-32  
Acts 9:32-35

**Wed., Oct. 27**

Psalm 28  
Ezekiel 14:12-23  
Matthew 20:29-34

**Thurs., Oct. 28**

Psalm 146  
Ruth 1:18-2  
Hebrews 9:1-12

**Fri., Oct. 29**

Psalm 146  
Ruth 2:1-9  
Romans 3:21-31

**Sat., Oct. 30**

Psalm 146  
Ruth 2:10-14  
Luke 10:25-37

**Sun., Oct. 31**

Ruth 1:1-18  
Psalm 146  
Hebrews 9:11-14  
Mark 12:28-34



**S**TEEPLENOTES

A Newsletter of

**The Foreside Community Church, UCC**

*"Prayer is a Wireless Connection!"*

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**E-mail: [info@foresidechurch.org](mailto:info@foresidechurch.org) Web: [www.foresidechurch.org](http://www.foresidechurch.org)**

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