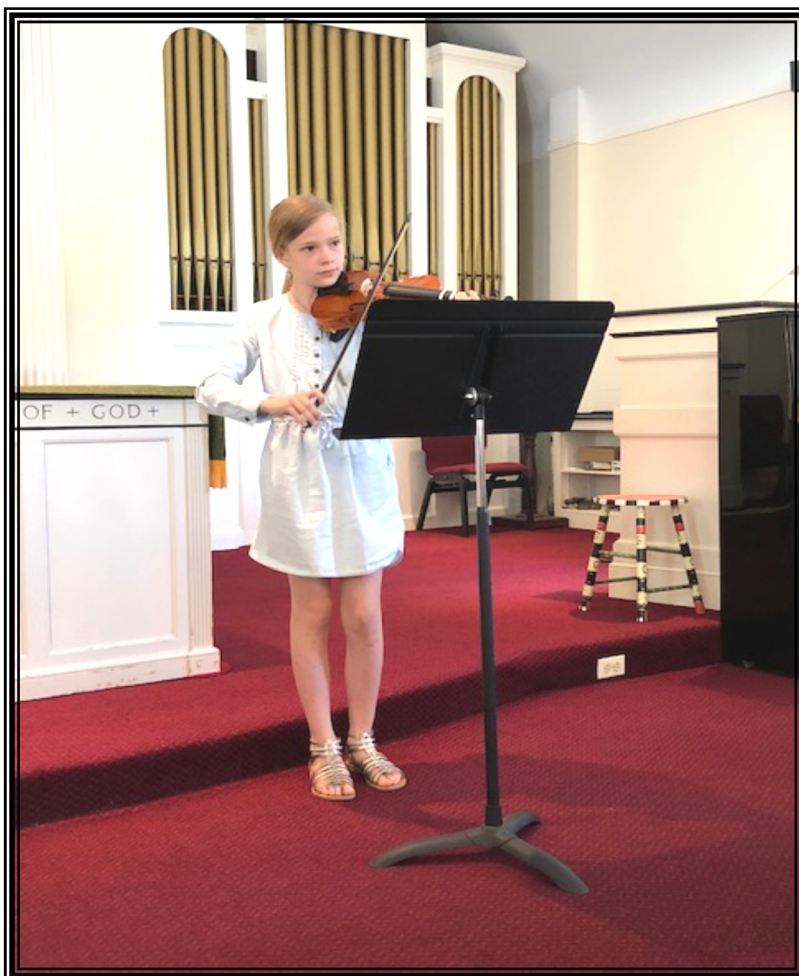


# STEEPLENOTES



*A Newsletter of  
The Foreside Community Church  
United Church of Christ*

*July/August 2018*



*Connecting to God*

*Nurturing Community*

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

*Discovering how our lives  
make a difference*

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

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**Choir Director:** Trevor Lavenbein  
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## **GOOD TIMES AND HARD TIMES**

### ***The Reverend David Butler***

First, I offer a big thank you. The day I arrived here as the “Bridge” pastor for the first time, I was welcomed warmly and felt thoroughly embraced by this church community. I am so grateful to all of you who have helped me to feel welcome and increasingly at home here. My time may be brief, but it will be memorable for me. I wasn’t completely sure that I wanted to “come out of retirement” and start preaching again, but this community has made me very much want to be here. Please be encouraged to call on me at any time. I am in the office every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from nine until three, so please come by with any needs you may have or simply to talk.

It seems an odd time to start preaching to a congregation again. These times have become strange and our country so deeply divided. “To preach the good news when times are not good at all.” That is the way my old friend, now deceased, William Sloan Coffin, once described the church’s vocation. And this summer, we have to start by recognizing that these times “are not good at all.”

I won’t go into all of the things that make for our “hard times.” Most people in this community are doing very well in material ways. The economy is good and many of our personal lives are just fine. This church is without a settled pastor, but a new pastoral leader will, no doubt, be along shortly and this church community will, no continue to thrive. But our country, as a whole seems broken. Our society has become so much more divided and so much uglier of late, no matter what one’s political persuasion. This last week’s crisis at our southern border, which saw little babies being held in cages, seems to embody so much of the problem. Our country seems to have become a harder, colder, more mean spirited sort of nation. Sometimes, I feel like I don’t even recognize the hearts of the people of the nation that I have loved so well. I know that we all share great anxieties about the future.

This may be a depressing way to begin my first letter to all of you, but it is in times like these that a church like ours really matters. The growing polarization of our public lives, the stress and anxiety that is now a part of the national fabric, the mean-spirited leadership (or lack thereof) that we are subjected to; all these things make what we can do here and offer here more crucial and more urgent than ever. These are times when the message of hope and faith needs to be shout-

ed from the rooftops. These are times when people need a community that makes them feel embraced and cared for. These are times when our children need the support of people beyond just our immediate families and when they need a safe and secure place to be and belong. These are times for us to preach the good news—that no matter how difficult things are on the outside, it is the inside that matters; that no matter how ugly our national malaise may be, it is the spiritual heart of life that is the meaning and the center of who we are; that even when things are going badly, the gifts of God abound and can still be savored and celebrated.

In short, hard times are what we are here for. Our church community may have more money or more members or be more fun when times are good and safe and secure, but it is in the hard times that we need to be reminded that this church has, down through dozens of generations, helped to give people the strength, the courage, the support, the faith and the hope that has gotten them through. It is in hard times that we can rediscover the urgency and the importance of what we are here for. There is no more vital role to be played by any community or institution or group of people than the mission to which we are together called—to speak a word of love when hatred holds sway; to speak a word of comfort when lives are dislocated; to speak a word of hope when people are cast down; and to speak a word faith when lives feel empty. And then to find the ways to live out that love and comfort and hope and grace in who we are to each other and our neighbors.

It is time to get back to the work of being the church together, with a renewed sense of urgency and purpose. It is also time to discover again the joy, fellowship, fun and grace that we find together in that task. You are part of a great and important enterprise here at FCC and we need all of you to gather round now and be the church when it is urgently needed. Thanks for your welcome. Our time together may be brief, but let us make the most of it.

In Faith,

*David*

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATES FOR JULY 2018

July means a **paint job** for the sanctuary! We're not sure when that will happen, but we will keep you notified.

July also means **cleanup in the cemetery**, the Falmouth side of which is owned by the church, John Kipp has determined. In cooperation with the Falmouth 300<sup>th</sup> activities, the boy scouts and a stone-righting company, we hope to make the Falmouth side look almost as good as the Cumberland side. We are also investigating creating a memorial wall back there somewhere, with niches for cremains, or a columbarium, where ashes may be strewn. It's a lovely serene spot to spend eternity, especially in spring.

We are lagging behind in **donations** so far this year – not surprising for a church looking for a settled pastor, but our interim pastor is awesome, so you should come, listen, and enthusiastically fill the collection plate. And remember the church in your wills. Remember – a simple line like “After my final expenses are paid, I wish \_\_\_% of my estate to go to FCC” should do the trick. You will be blessed!

Peter Esterquest, who is our new treasurer (Thank you, Peter!) and is working on getting the Square system of accepting credit card payments up and running. This will be very helpful during the Christmas Fair, but also useful at other times during the year as needed.

Speaking of the Fair, if you are thinning out possessions, remember the church. We can always find a spot somewhere for nice items!

Respectfully submitted,  
**CAROL WARD**

## FCC MEMBER IS CLIMBING MOUNTAINS WITH “TRI FOR A CURE”

Last summer, Audrey, Nick and I climbed Mt. Washington. It's a beautiful hike, but was not an easy one for us. We climbed along streams and through clouds, fog and light rain. But when we got above tree line, the clouds cleared and the sun came out, and we could see for miles. When we reached the summit, we felt like superheroes (hence, the Wonder Woman pose to the right!).

Cancer, too, is a mountain - one that too many people I know and love have had to climb. That climb requires resources, a support system, and the courage to forge ahead down a forbidding path. The Maine Cancer Foundation blazes new trails every day. 100% of its funds are invested in Maine, to provide grants for cancer prevention, early detection and screening, and access to care.

To honor the friends and loved ones impacted by cancer, I'll be participating in the Maine Cancer Foundation Tri for a Cure on July 22. **Will you please help me reach my fundraising goal of \$1,000?**

Here's the Link to my fundraising/donation page:

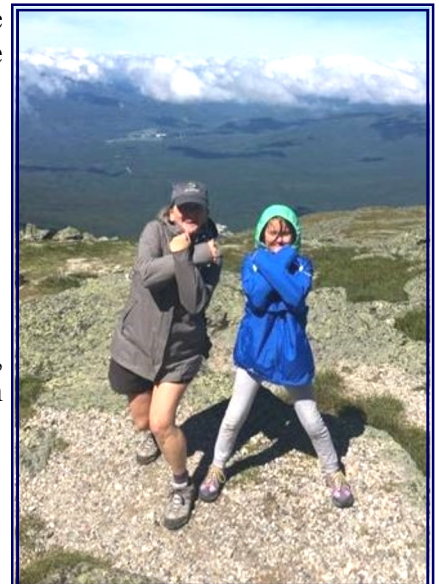
<https://mainecancer.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.participant&participantID=14694>

You also can search for “Kristen Farnham” on [www.triforacure.org](http://www.triforacure.org)

Every dollar counts and no gift is too small. I can't promise that I'll swim, bike or run like Wonder Woman, but I will give it my all! Thanks for joining me in supporting the real superheroes: those affected by cancer.

My best,

*Kris Farnham*





## MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

Susan Clark

### Geoff Gattis: "It's a Wonderful Life"

When asked about a motto for living, Geoff Gattis recites the adage that "people will forget anything you say, may recall what you do but will never forget how you make them feel." The phrase has helped guide him as a parent, husband, active community volunteer and world traveler and through a long career in business and banking.

Newly retired, Geoff is sporting his first beard, acquired as he and his wife Betsy took an 8,000-mile, five-week road trip through 26 states this spring, visiting eight national parks.

The trip included a chance meeting in Arizona with one of the ten remaining World War II "code talkers" who helped transmit secret tactical messages that eluded the Japanese. The U.S. Marine veteran and former president of the Navajo Nation Peter MacDonald Sr., now 90, was honored at the White House last fall. He shared his dream with Geoff and Betsy about creating a museum to honor the remarkable story of the Native Americans who served as "code talkers".

Geoff's passion for traveling was planted early by his own parents' family road trips which introduced Geoff to forty of America's fifty states by the time he was 14. So far, he has journeyed to 42 countries and toured every state except Alaska. Geoff wanted to pass along this zest for learning and exploration to his own sons Bryan, now 33, and Barton, 30. Family vacations always involved journeying to new places and still do.

With his son Bryan (who himself spent one year on his own traveling the globe), Geoff climbed the 8,835-foot Mt. Huayna Picchu in the Andes while touring six countries in South America. Other rich memories include meeting Masai tribesmen in Kenya, helping equip schools in Uganda and South Sudan with computers and driving fourteen hours north of the Arctic Circle to Nordkapp in Norway to stand atop the most northern bluff in continental Europe.

Spending most of his childhood in Fort Lauderdale, Florida meant growing up without snow-related adventures or "the inconveniences of winter," Geoff describes. After meeting Betsy at Lynchburg College in Virginia, graduating from George Washington University and later American University with an MBA, Geoff moved to Maine in 1981. He spent the past 26 years at Bath Savings as a commercial lender. The "quiet" Maine bank, founded in 1852, underwent rapid growth during much of his tenure, opening new branches along the coast of Maine every two or three years.

"I sometimes feel my career was like being George in 'It's a Wonderful Life,'" he says with a smile. Geoff was able to oversee loans and expansions for many businesses and organizations including churches, retirement homes,

affordable housing projects, breweries, hon-profits and initiatives to support homeless teens. "It was a tremendous privilege."

As a community volunteer, Geoff is presently involved with the Maine Board of Accountancy, the Ocean View Residence Assistance Fund and Foreside Community Church's current Search Committee. At church, he has served in many leadership roles including the previous search committee that hired the Rev. Janet Dorman and the Council of Ministries. He especially loves running the children's store at FCC's holiday fair each December.

With good health and a sense of new freedom, Geoff and Betsy plan to spend three weeks this summer exploring England and Scotland and attending the wedding of his great niece at Hengrave Hall, a Tudor mansion in Suffolk. Next winter's adventures will include several months in Asia and Australia.

While at home, Geoff is enjoying being able to focus more on his coin and stamp collections, family memorabilia projects, gardening, hiking, reading and playing the guitar and piano. He and Betsy will celebrate their 40th anniversary on August 12.



(above photo) Geoff and Betsy during their 5 week, 2018 park odyssey travels. (below photo) Geoff with Navajo Nation President Peter MacDonald, Sr.



## Teacher Appreciation/Youth Sunday/Bible Sunday and Food Pantry!

We were blessed to have the Youth of the church leading the service on June 10<sup>th</sup>, under the guidance of Laura Rodas and Beth Penrose. Theo Demetriou began the service with a lovely piano prelude, and the youth rang the bells, lit the candles, help with the offering and shared the message. All the children provided a wonderful song complete with signs and a full congregation sing-along at the end. The service ended with a fiddle song by Adey Wrona whose photograph graces the front of this newsletter.

This service was also the time where 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students received their Bibles from the church, engraved with their name. The children who received Bibles were: Julia Tracy, William Jeffrey Rodas, Elliot Knudsen, Adelaide Yancey Wrona, Penelope Johnson, Natalie Rae Skillin, Moses Augustus Padwe, Charles Wyman Padwe, Audrey Jane Farnham, Theodore Hopkins Demetriou and Abigail Bixby.

Laura Rodas thanked those who helped teach Sunday School throughout the year by presenting a plant, a symbol of their part in fostering the growth of the young people of our congregation. The teachers recognized were: Emily Demetriou, John Kipp, Lisa Nash, Wendy Tracy, Janet Wrona, Jill Fox, Nicole Bezanson, Beth Penrose and Laura Rodas.

In addition, Wendy Tracy took a moment to thank David and Trevor for their work with the children- the beautiful music during this service spoke to their talent. Madison Nash's dedication to helping in the nursery every week was recognized with a card. Members of Youth Group thanked John Kipp and Lisa Nash for their dedication and commitment to the middle schoolers in of FCC. And finally, Wendy shared quotations from the children about Sunday School to thank Laura Rodas and Beth Penrose for their hard work and dedication to the youth of the church as they teach Sunday School, plan the pageant and organize the Food Pantry outreach every year. We are so blessed to have a dedicated group of caring individuals working with our youth.

Following the service, families and members of the church went to the Falmouth Food Pantry to stock the shelves with the more than 450 items collected during the Sunday School's food pantry drive. Many thanks to the congregation for the donations- we exceeded our goal by over 150 items!



(above) Sunday School Administrator Laura Nash join Skye and Lindy Glover in the reading of a prayer.



(above) Natalie, Moses and Charlie facilitate in the reading of the sermon's message.



(above) Fourth and fifth grade students received personally engraved Bibles in celebration of their graduation. See article for names of graduates.

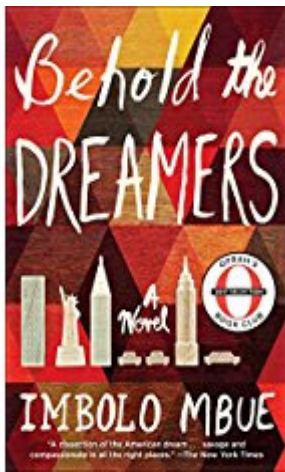


(above) FCC members, youth and old, stock the shelves of the Falmouth Food Pantry with the generous food donations received during the prior weeks by friends and members of FCC.



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

**The Foreside Book Club** is taking a summer vacation and hopefully everyone is enjoying the time off for rest, relaxation, and pleasure reading. It is such a short but sweet time here so make the best of it! We will be resuming on Tuesday, September 18 at 3:00 to discuss Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue, a compulsively readable debut novel about marriage, immigration, class, race, and the trapdoors in the American Dream. This is the unforgettable story of a young Cameroonian couple making a new life in New York just as the Great Recession upends the economy.



It is a relatively new book, so you may want to get your name on the list at the library now. I just finished it and give it 2 thumbs up- a great summer read and very pertinent to today's issues. Plan to join us in September to kick off another great year of reading. FMI contact Mimi Hinkel. [mimi-hinkel@gmail.com](mailto:mimi-hinkel@gmail.com) or 829-3578.

**Sing This Summer** offers exceptional week-long programs for young singers grades 2-12. This summer new and returning attendees will be welcomed to the beautiful Bowdoin College campus (in Brunswick, ME) from **July 22-27** and to the wonderful Amherst College campus (in Amherst, MA) from June 24-29. Students can now register online at [www.singthissummer.com/register-now](http://www.singthissummer.com/register-now). The programs provide a carefully balanced mix of musical, social, and recreational experiences, where participants explore the full range of their musical abilities in a fun and welcoming environment. Offered are three packages: a day option, day & evening option or overnight option. SING! (grades 7-12) offers daily classes in musical theater, choir, individual and group voice lessons, musicianship, movement and collegiate-style a cappella with recreational activities interspersed throughout the day for a balance of intensive music and fun. SING! Jr. (grades 2-6) features all of the same classes and recreational activities as SING! while focusing on helping younger students explore their vocal skills and build musicianship skills.

### SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATES

**Interviews continue, with some good prospects. Please keep this committee in your prayers as they continue this most important work. If you have any further questions, etc. you may contact either co-chair, Deb Gray at [Debrah.gray48@gmail.com](mailto:Debrah.gray48@gmail.com) or Laura Rodas at [LNash8@aol.com](mailto:LNash8@aol.com).**



**The Men's Breakfast Group will be taking the summer off and not meeting again until Saturday, September 8.**

**The Prayer Shawl Knitters will be ending their Tuesday afternoons on June 26 and will reconvene on Tuesday, September 11.**

**Meditation has ended for the summer and will announce start up date prior to reconvening in September.**


**The deadline for the September edition of *Steeplenotes* is Friday, August 24.**

**Don't forget to photo your summer events to share in the September newsletter!**

# JULY 2018

## Foreside Community Church UCC

Be sure to check our website for changes/updates/additional scheduling at [www.foresidechurch.org](http://www.foresidechurch.org).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 a.m. Worship Service & Communion	2 <b>Office Closed</b>	3 <b>Office Closed</b> 7:30 p.m. Lrg AA Group	4 <b>HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!!</b> 	5	6	7
8 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	9	10 7:30 p.m. Lrg AA Group	11 5pm Women's Group	12	13 4 to 6:00 p.m. Guiding Eyes for the Blind Puppy Training	14
15 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	16	17 7:30 p.m. Lrg AA Group	18 5pm Women's Group	19	20	21
22 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	23 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	24 7:30 p.m. Lrg AA Group <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	25 10 a.m. Communion @ OceanView 5pm Women's Group <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	28
29 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	30	31 7:30 p.m. Lrg AA Group				



## DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY 2018

Sun., July 1  
2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27  
Psalm 130  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
Mark 5:21-43

Mon., July 2  
Psalm 18:1-6, 43-50  
1 Samuel 23:14-18  
2 Corinthians 8:16-24

Tues., July 3  
Psalm 18:1-6, 43-50  
1 Samuel 31:1-13  
2 Corinthians 9:1-5

Wed., July 4  
Psalm 18:1-6, 43-50  
1 Chronicles 10:1-14  
Mark 9:14-29

Thurs., July 5  
Psalm 48  
2 Samuel 2:1-11  
1 Corinthians 4:8-13

Fri., July 6  
Psalm 48  
2 Samuel 3:1-12  
2 Corinthians 10:7-11

Sat., July 7  
Psalm 48  
2 Samuel 3:31-38  
Matthew 8:18-22

Sun., July 8  
2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10  
Psalm 48  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10  
Mark 6:1-13

Mon., July 9  
Psalm 21  
2 Samuel 5:1-10  
Corinthians 11:16-33

Tues., July 10  
Psalm 21  
2 Samuel 5:11-16  
James 5:7-12

Wed., July 11  
Psalm 21  
2 Samuel 5:17-25  
John 7:1-9

Thurs., July 12  
Psalm 24  
Exodus 25:10-22  
Colossians 2:1-5

Fri., July 13  
Psalm 24  
Exodus 37:1-16  
Colossians 4:2-18

Sat., July 14  
Psalm 24  
Numbers 10:11-36  
Luke 1:57-80

Sun., July 15  
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19  
Psalm 24  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
Mark 6:14-29

Mon., July 16  
Psalm 68:24-35  
2 Samuel 6:6-12a  
Acts 21:27-39

Tues., July 17  
Psalm 68:24-35  
2 Samuel 3:12-16  
Acts 23:12-35

Wed., July 18  
Psalm 68:24-35  
2 Samuel 6:16-23  
Luke 7:31-35

Thurs., July 19  
Psalm 89:20-37  
1 Chronicles 11:15-19  
Colossians 1:15-23

Fri., July 20  
Psalm 89:20-37  
1 Chronicles 14:1-2  
Acts 17:16-31

Sat., July 21  
Psalm 89:20-37  
1 Chronicles 15:1-2, 16:4-13  
Luke 18:35-43

Sun., July 22  
2 Samuel 7:1-14a  
Psalm 89:20-37  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Mon., July 23  
Psalm 61  
2 Samuel 7:18-29  
Hebrews 13:17-25

Tues., July 24  
Psalm 61  
2 Samuel 8:1-18  
Acts 20:17-38

Wed., July 25  
Psalm 61  
2 Samuel 9:1-13  
Luke 15:1-7

Thurs., July 26  
Psalm 14  
2 Samuel 10:1-5  
Colossians 1:9-14

Fri., July 27  
Psalm 14  
2 Samuel 10:6-12  
Colossians 3:12-17

Sat., July 28  
Psalm 14  
2 Samuel 10:13-19  
John 4:31-38

Sun., July 29  
2 Samuel 11:1-15  
Psalm 14  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-21

Mon., July 30  
Psalm 37:12-22  
2 Samuel 11:14-21  
Philippians 4:10-20

Tues., July 31  
Psalm 37:12-22  
2 Samuel 11:22-27  
Romans 15:22-33

# AUGUST 2018

## Foreside Community Church UCC

Be sure to check our website for changes/updates/additional scheduling at [www.foresidechurch.org](http://www.foresidechurch.org).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 9:30 a.m. Worship Service and Communion	6	7	8	9	10 4 to 6:00 p.m. Guiding Eyes for the Blind Puppy Training	11
12 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	13 7 p.m. Governing Board Mnthly Meeting	14	15 10 a.m. Communion at OceanView	16	17	18
19 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	20	21	22 6:15 p.m. Fellowship Ministry Mnthly Meeting	23	24 September <i>Steeplenotes</i> article submittal deadline!	25
26 9:30 a.m. Worship Service AND Sunday School Back in Session!	27	28	29	30	31	

## DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR AUGUST 2018

Wed., Aug. 1  
Psalm 37:12-22  
2 Chronicles 9:29-31  
Mark 6:35-44

Thurs., Aug. 2  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Exodus 32:19-26a  
1 Corinthians 11:17-22

Fri., Aug. 3  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Joshua 23:1-16  
1 Corinthians 11:27-34

Sat., Aug. 4  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Judges 6:1-10  
Matthew 16:5-12

Sun., Aug. 5  
2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Ephesians 4:1-16  
John 6:24-35

Mon., Aug. 6  
Psalm 50:16-23  
2 Samuel 12:15-25  
Ephesians 4:17-24

Tues., Aug. 7  
Psalm 50:16-23  
2 Samuel 13:1-19  
1 Corinthians 12:27-31

Wed., Aug. 8  
Psalm 50:16-23  
2 Samuel 13:20-36  
Mark 8:1-10

Thurs., Aug. 9  
Psalm 130  
2 Samuel 13:37—14:24  
Romans 15:1-6

Fri., Aug. 10  
Psalm 130  
2 Samuel 14:25-33  
Galatians 6:1-10

Sat., Aug. 11  
Psalm 130  
2 Samuel 15:1-13  
Matthew 7:7-11

Sun., Aug. 12  
2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33  
Psalm 130  
Ephesians 4:25—5:2  
John 6:35, 41-51

Mon., Aug.  
13 Psalm 57  
2 Samuel 15:13-31  
Ephesians 5:1-14

Tues., Aug. 14  
Psalm 57  
2 Samuel 18:19-33  
2 Peter 3:14-18

Wed., Aug. 15  
Psalm 57  
2 Samuel 19:1-18  
John 6:35-40

Thurs., Aug. 16  
Psalm 111  
1 Kings 1:1-30  
Acts 6:8-15

Fri., Aug. 17  
Psalm 111  
1 Kings 1:28-48  
Romans 16:17-20

Sat., Aug. 18  
Psalm 111  
1 Kings 2:1-11  
John 4:7-26

Sun., Aug. 19  
1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14  
Psalm 111  
Ephesians 5:15-20  
John 6:51-58

Mon., Aug. 20  
Psalm 101  
1 Kings 3:16-28  
Acts 6:1-7

Tues., Aug. 21  
Psalm 101  
1 Kings 7:1-12  
Acts 7:9-16

Wed., Aug. 22  
Psalm 101  
1 Kings 8:1-21  
Mark 8:14-21

Thurs., Aug. 23  
Psalm 84  
1 Kings 4:20-28  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Fri., Aug. 24  
Psalm 84  
1 Kings 4:29-34  
Romans 13:11-14

Sat., Aug. 25  
Psalm 84  
1 Kings 5:1-12  
Luke 11:5-13

Sun., Aug. 26  
1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11] 22-30, 41-43  
Psalm 84  
Ephesians 6:10-20  
John 6:56-69

Mon., Aug. 27  
Psalm 11  
1 Kings 5:13-18  
Ephesians 5:21—6:9

Tues., Aug. 28  
Psalm 11  
1 Kings 6:1-14  
Ephesians 6:21-24

Wed., Aug. 29  
Psalm 11  
1 Kings 6:15-38  
John 15:16-25

Thurs., Aug. 30  
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9  
Song of Solomon 1:1-17  
James 1:1-8

Fri., Aug. 31  
Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9  
Song of Solomon 2:1-7  
James 1:9-16



# **S**TEEPLENOTES

*A Newsletter of  
The Foreside Community Church  
United Church of Christ*

A decorative border featuring the stars and stripes of the American flag, framing the text on the left and bottom of the page.

**THE FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
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**Falmouth, Maine 04105-1428**