



### The Foreside Community Church United Church of Christ



*Connecting  
to God*

*Nurturing  
Community*

*Discovering  
how our Lives  
Make a Difference*

Church member Adrienne and Jason Shetenhelm celebrate the September baptism of Audrey Rose by Pastor Geoff. Brother Theodore, also baptized here at FCC five years ago, holds up the ceremony's bulletin.

**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  
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## Notes from Reverend Geoff Parker

### *The Foundations*

I have to admit, when I first arrived here at Foreside Community Church, I did not spend a lot of time thinking about the patio. I had been here to visit a few times before, and really it didn't even register as it's own space... it was just space before I reached the office door. I remember the day I was called to serve here: Susan Gilpin graciously hosting Julia and I as the congregation discerned the call... it was a delightful visit... Yet I had no idea how central this place would become to my ministry... Not surprisingly, at this point: COVID-19 has drastically altered our spaces, our gatherings, and our patterns for ministry.

Each week now, I record some of our worship service here, encouraged by the work of Susan Gilpin and Carol Ward, who helped "set the scene" for me this summer with a simple birch cross and flowers to add some life besides the pastor! I gather with church members, staff, and others to talk... I'll sometimes sit and write, sometimes take in the sound of trumpets or piano wafting from inside the sanctuary.

Among all the other gratitudes of a day being your pastor, and enjoying the beauty of our little spot on the Foreside (though not the drought conditions that have made for so many beautiful days!)... I find myself giving thanks from time to time for the stones on the far side of the patio.

I confess, I do not yet know the story of these stones, how they came to define the rough seating of my little chapel which is suddenly so central to my—and our—worship lives. I can only tell that they are not there by accident: rough hewn, certainly, but neatly formed into two semi-circular rows to be able to seat visitors and shape the space.

As we journey into another season of being church you could do worse for a foundation: a sign of someone offering a simple gift of earth to welcome and center people for worship. I wonder if the donor of these stones could have imagined what they would come to mean to us in the midst of a pandemic in the year 2020. Someday, I invite you to come have a seat for a moment, and give thanks for the grounding, the "foundation" which has been laid, and which we now build on in our sudden need to use outdoor spaces differently.

This is the way of the life of faith, of gratitude, and of giving: we offer what we can to God with thanksgiving, in the hopes of strengthening our common life and ministry. Frequently we are unaware of what those gifts will mean to others... and to those who will come after us.

On October 4th, we'll launch our annual appeal for pledges for the coming year of our life together as a congregation. This year, our theme is *\*How Firm a Foundation\**, as we give thanks for the solid grounding of connection and care, and shared talents and skills which have allowed our ministry to not just survive, but in many ways thrive, in this challenging time for many of us, and for our nation and world. In the year to come, we hope to build on that foundation: to reconnect with our cherished traditions while not losing sight of the valuable things we have learned. When the time is right, we will share worship and programming where we might gather, yes!, but also continue to serve "alongside" people far off from us, and reach our own congregation when we cannot otherwise be together.

I hope you will pause in this month to give thanks for those who have laid foundations for our community in the past, and prayerfully discern how you might be able to share gifts from your life as we continue to build beloved community here. We know that the fullness of the gift given is not its size, but its spirit, and trust that—like the stones which I visit with each week—our gifts find purpose and meaning we cannot even imagine. Above all, I hope you know how much I give thanks to God for the gift of community which holds us close, even in these days, and which sustains us as we rejoice in the Holy Spirit in our church.

Blessings,

*Geoff*





*Worship Online*

Sunday worship at **9:30 a.m.**  
Join us through our [Facebook page](#)  
(more interactive), or through [our webpage](#)

*Morning Prayers*

Starting September 1 at **8:30 a.m.**  
every Tuesday and Thursday  
Join Pastor Geoff for a brief time of  
readings, prayer, and reflection  
*watch weekly updates for Zoom link*

*Coffee hour on Sunday following Worship at 10:15 a.m.*  
*Zoom link to be provided in weekly updates email or call office.*  
*Grab a cup and join your friends, family, and fellow members! .*



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 website at <http://www.foresidechurch.org/index.php/category/sermons/> Or clicking on the logo to the left of this text box.

*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

### *It's Fair Season!!*

This year, the Famous FCC Fair will be presented in two pieces – the first piece will be **October 17<sup>th</sup>**, the second **December 5<sup>th</sup>**, all outdoors on a few tables. The October event **WILL include** baked goods, knitting, some lovely framed David Clough art, and miscellaneous items. It **WILL NOT** include antiques, housewares, jewelry, and the treasures that bring out the jostling crowds. We want to maintain distance, and masks will be required. Church members will be behind the tables, customers in front. Payment will be taken in cash or by credit card. **Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** and we hope you all drop by during the morning! *We will have a coffee pot going, to go with the baked goodies!*

Orders may be taken for Thanksgiving PIES, and Phil's famous chili, and possibly Deb's famous butter crunch. If we have run out of either in previous years, you are in luck – You can be sure with a solid pre-paid order this year!

Finally, we have another unique participation option this year – If you would have made a pie, but just can't bring yourself to do it this year, you can just send in a check for \$15, with "I don't want to bake!" in the memo line! Similarly, if you don't want to knit a hat and scarf, send in a check for \$50! And if you don't want to donate or buy a sailboat ride, send in \$100! How easy could that be.....

**See you from 6 feet away - Oct 17<sup>th</sup>!!**

Carol W.

**Claudia Kinnear and Margaret Perkins** are organizing the baking for sale at the two Christmas Fair events AND pies that can be ordered for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. The ladies are sending out two requests:

Are you willing to bake **APPLE, PUMPKIN, or PE-CAN** pies for Thanksgiving pickup? You would deliver your pie(s) to the church between 8 and 10AM on Tuesday, November 24. Those who have purchased your pies in advance will pick them up from the church between 10 AM and noon on the 24<sup>th</sup>. If you are willing to do this, please contact Margaret Perkins (767-1183 or [mar-garetperkins1028@gmail.com](mailto:mar-garetperkins1028@gmail.com)) or Claudia Kinne-

ar (781-2477) with the kind of pie(s) you will make. From this, we will create a list of pies available for purchase. Buyers can then sign for the pies and pay for them at the October 17 outdoor sale.

*Please also consider baking something for the baked goods table at the October 17 sale.* Individually wrapped items such as hand pies, whoopie pies, brownies, seasonal cookies, small plates of baked goodies, and homemade breads would work well. We will need to have things properly wrapped so that no hands touch the food. We also won't be able to handle anything that requires refrigeration. **Contact either Claudia or Margaret if you plan to contribute.** You can simply bring your contributions to the church the day of the outdoor sale. You can price your contributions yourself or have us do that.



*The Falmouth Food Pantry* will continue to serve clients but will not reopen the physical facilities in the foreseeable future because the space is too confined to be safe during the Pandemic. Distributions to cars will continue to take place from 9:00-10:30 a.m. the first and third Friday each month until November 20. The pantry will also continue to deliver food supplies to dozens of individual homes. Arrangements for these deliveries are made in advance and the food is delivered to the doorsteps, not into the homes. **Because it is anticipated that winter weather will not allow for the Friday car distributions we will go to an entirely home delivery service and will need volunteers willing to assist with our expanded home delivery program starting in December.** If you are interested please contact Dorothy Blanchette: [dorothyb@maine.rr.com](mailto:dorothyb@maine.rr.com), and your name and contact information will be added to our volunteer list. Thank you.

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

### *Welcome Fellowship Card Writers!*

The Fellowship Ministry co-chairs Liz Ventre and Pete Ventre are pleased to announce that members and friends Chuck Erb, Claudia Kinnear, Janet Clough, Jean Hubbell, and Robin Singer have banded together to form the "*Fellowship Card Writers*" Committee. The committee will work with staff to acknowledge in writing those events in the lives of FCC congregants that could use the support and words of the larger body of our church. Like the Prayer Chain Request activation process, permission will be acquired prior to the sharing of any information disclosed. Both the Card Writers and the Prayer Chain are here to compassionately encourage any and all in need of the strength of numbers. Please contact the office at 781-5880 or [info@foresidechurch.org](mailto:info@foresidechurch.org) if you wish to utilize these folks. You do not need to be a member to be supported.

### *Updates from the Music Ministry*

Greetings FCC and welcome back to my favorite time of the year: Fall. Once we get past the last warm spells and get into that crisp air with the hint of leaves, can't really beat that. However, that's not the only thing in the air these days, we have welcomed back our very own bell choir, having started rehearsals a couple of Saturdays ago. We have some familiar faces in the group as well as a few new ones! It's fun and exciting to be back making music together albeit differently. We are outside, spread out, and having some long rehearsals. You will see us before too long in our Sunday services and look forward to presenting our gifts.

Speaking of gifts! If you ever feel inclined to share your musical gifts with us, please get in touch with your music team. We would love to have you play, sing, recite with accompaniment. Your music team has enjoyed making and editing videos for our Sunday services, but we want YOU to be involved too. Let us know and we will start to work with you.

Singing. Singing. Singing. This is a hard one for us. We shouldn't be singing together for the time being and that means we need to do something virtual. The music ministry team is slowly programming but it has taken much longer than anticipated. If you are interested in joining the choir, you will be doing individual work at home (helped out by David and Trevor), recording at home,

then sending us your recorded work and we'll do all the rest. Easy!

The music team is also looking for folks to participate in a new way in our music ministry. We would like to start having hymn leaders. Though we love hearing Geoff and Julia help us out with our hymn singing Sunday mornings, we would love to hear you and help us out. What this would mean listening to a recording of the hymns we're doing, recording yourself singing them, and sending us your finished project.

A lot of what we are doing requires some technological prowess. If you are interested in being involved but feel like you can't handle all the technology bits, please let us know and we'll try to problem solve and teach!

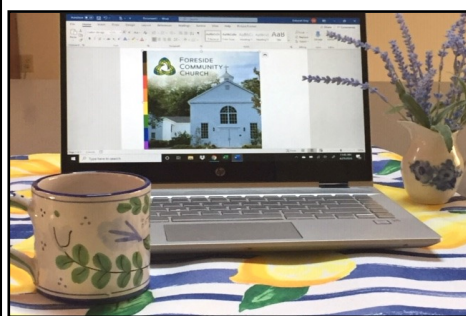
Do you have any favorite Christmas hymns, songs, pieces of any kind? We are in the planning stages for the musical part of the Christmas season and would love to have your input. If there's a piece of Christmas music that hasn't been heard in a long time or ever, let us know about. Thanks for your help.

*Trevor*





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



### *The Women's Breakfast*

gatherings via Zoom will resume on **Wednesday, Sept. 9th at 9:00 a.m.** through and including October 21st. Please drop in and [Join](#) us! (Meeting ID: 811 3379 8782 Passcode: 813778)

### *The Men's Breakfast*

group meets every other Saturday. **The next gathering is scheduled for October 3rd at 8:30 a.m.** Join the gents here ([Zoom](#))

Don't forget to join Carrie and the *Prayer Shawl Knitters* every Tuesday, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. via Zoom [through this link](#). Please feel free to contact Carrie if you have any questions at 415-5513 or [carriepenrose@gmail.com](mailto:carriepenrose@gmail.com). This gathering is for knitters of all levels, including beginners! (Meeting ID: 957 287 7496 and Passcode: 985716 )

### *Face Masks Available*

Jill Fox has had crafted a collection of masks which can be viewed on her deck if you first give her a call at 781-5144 or 808-9750. In exchange, donations to the Christmas Fair fund is hoped for.

Carol Ward has stitched up new face masks as well. These masks are offered to everyone and anyone and are located in a green plastic bag hanging to the right of the exterior office door.

*"Hate to bake? Intimidated by the church coffeemakers? Have a hard enough time getting to church on time so getting there earlier is out of the question...?" .....well NOW is the time to host coffee hour. None of these issues are a concern anymore! What is required:*

- Spend 45 minutes after church on Sunday and host the Zoom Coffee hour.
- Put people into virtual breakout rooms if the number of participants warrants.
- Get the meeting link to Christina by Tuesday evening so it can be put into the weekly update on Wednesday.

It can't get much easier. If this sounds like something you could do to facilitate more community at the FCC, please let Christina know via email or phone call. If you have a specific Sunday ~~Or~~ Sundays you want, let her know that as well. I am hoping there are many of us who are willing to do a Sunday or two. If you are willing to do this, but don't know how to host a Zoom meeting or put people in breakout rooms, let Christina know that as well and I will get some training/instructions put together. It is never a bad time to learn something new. This is a great skill for getting together with friends and family.

Thanks!

**Liz Ventre**  
([eventrel@maine.rr.com](mailto:eventrel@maine.rr.com) or 653-4117)

**DEADLINE FOR  
NOVEMBER STEEPLENOTES  
Is  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23**

## COMMUNITY UPDATES

Leader Wendy Tracy and Girl Scouts from Troop 1431 enjoyed a late summer morning on the outdoor patio at FCC for a Sunday meeting.

The scouts worked on their community service project - making cards for the upcoming **2020 Falmouth Community Supper** (see announcement on next page). They were grateful and thank the church for allowing them to use the property and meet outside.

Building girls of  
courage, confidence,  
and character,  
who make the world  
a better place.



*Is the pandemic taking its toll on you, your colleagues, or people you love?*

*Are you feeling anxious about the coming winter?*

*Are you caring for people at work or home, but feeling trapped out?*

*Are you hearing about self-care but finding it hard to fit it in?*

You are invited to a free webinar: **Self-Care for the Caregiver**

Tuesday, October 6, 2020 | 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Via Zoom [Register Here](#) (Pre-registration is required.)

### Join us to talk about:

- The ongoing nature of the pandemic and the challenges of uncertainty
- Mental health, the impact of stress on the body, and resiliency
- Concrete strategies for taking care of yourself and others
- Moderated by Eric Meyer, LCSW, MBA, President & CEO, Spurwink

### Panelists:

- ♦ Amy Cohan, LCSW, Vice President of Outpatient & Community Services (OCS)
- ♦ Abbey O'Connor, LCSW, Regional Director, OCS
- ♦ Shari Crowell, LCSW, CADC, Associate Director, OCS
- ♦ Nora Morse, LCSW, Associate Director, OCS

### Questions?

Please contact

Kristen Farnham,

VP of Development

[kfarnham@spurwink.org](mailto:kfarnham@spurwink.org)

# **YOU ARE INVITED TO FALMOUTH'S VIRTUAL COMMUNITY SUPPER "SHOW"!**

**WHEN:** OCTOBER 22, 2020, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**WHAT:** A ONE-HOUR SHOW OF RESIDENTS' MUSIC, STORIES,  
TOWN HISTORY, TEEN PERFORMANCES, ART, AND PHOTOS

**HOW:** Watch on the Internet or on the Town's Cable TV Channel 2

**WHERE:** In your own home!



**WHAT TO EAT DURING THE SHOW:** Your "take-out" from a Falmouth restaurant, or your own home-cooking!

This year, because of the pandemic, Falmouth's churches and faith communities are hosting a different kind of Falmouth Community Supper:

-- We are partnering with **Rivalries** restaurant to deliver 200 specially made dinners by its Chef, free, to homebound Falmouth residents,

**AND**

--We invite you to buy your own take-out from any Falmouth restaurant (including Rivalries);

**AND**

--We invite you to watch, while eating supper at home, the 1-hour show about our Town with many performances by our local talent!

**Hope you can join us on October 22!**

If you have questions, please e-mail Nancy Lightbody at [nancylightbody@hotmail.com](mailto:nancylightbody@hotmail.com). And if you would like to donate to the Falmouth Food Pantry, you can, by sending a check to the "Falmouth Food Pantry" at 271 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, ME 04105, or by an online PayPal payment at <https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/1807575>



# OCTOBER 2020

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1-3:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Knitters (see pg. 8 for details)  7:00 p.m. Stewardship Monthly Mtg.	<<OCTOBER 12 <<SCHEDULE << LISTING		1	2	3 8:30 a.m. Men's Break- fast (see pg. 6 for details)
4 9:30 am Online Worship w/ coffee hr. to follow	5	6 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)  4:00 p.m. Staff Meeting	7 9:00 am Women's Break- fast (see pg. 8 for details)  6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Service Outside	8 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)	9	10
11 9:30 am Online Worship w/ coffee hr. to follow  4:00 p.m. Youth Group details to follow	12 THE OFFICE IS CLOSED IN OBSER- VATION OF INDIGE- NOUS PEOPLES DAY	13 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)	14 9:00 am Women's Break- fast (see pg. 8 for details)	15 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)	16	17 8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast <i>Christmas Fair Event #1!</i> (see page 4)
18 9:30 am Online Worship w/ coffee hr. to follow	19 1-3:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Knitters (see pg. 8 for details)  7:00 p.m. Governing Board Monthly Meeting	20 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)  4:00 p.m. Staff Meeting	21 9:00 am Women's Break- fast (see pg. 8 for details)	22 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)  5:00 p.m. Falmouth's Commu- nity Supper (see pg. 8)	23	24
25 9:30 am Online Worship w/ coffee hr. to follow  4:00 p.m. Youth Group details to follow	26 1-3:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Knitters (see pg. 8 for details)	27 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayers (see pg. 3 for details)	28	29 	30	31

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**DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER 2020****Thurs. Oct. 1**

Psalm 19  
Exodus 23:1-9  
Colossians 2:16-23

**Fri., Oct. 2**

Psalm 19  
Exodus 23:14-19  
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

**Sat., Oct. 3**

Psalm 19  
Exodus 23:10-13  
John 7:40-52

**Sun., Oct. 4**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
Psalm 19  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

**Mon., Oct. 5**

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 5:1-21 1  
Peter 2:4-10

**Tues., Oct. 6**

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 5:22—6:3  
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**Wed., Oct. 7**

Psalm 119:49-56  
Deuteronomy 6:10-25  
John 11:45-57

**Thurs., Oct. 8**

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:1-8  
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-15

**Fri., Oct. 9**

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:9-11  
James 4:4-10

**Sat., Oct. 10**

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Exodus 24:12-18  
Mark 2:18-22

**Sun., Oct. 11**

Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

**Mon., Oct. 12**

Psalm 97  
Exodus 32:15-35  
Jude 17-25

**Tues., Oct. 13**

Psalm 97  
Exodus 33:1-6  
Philippians 3:13—4:1

**Wed., Oct. 14**

Psalm 97 2  
Kings 17:7-20  
John 6:25-35

**Thurs., Oct. 15**

Psalm 99  
Exodus 33:7-11  
3 John 9-12

**Fri., Oct. 16**

Psalm 99  
Exodus 31:1-11  
1 Peter 5:1-5

**Sat., Oct. 17**

Psalm 99  
Exodus 39:32-43  
Matthew 14:1-12

**Sun., Oct. 18**

Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

**Mon., Oct. 19**

Psalm 63:1-8  
Exodus 40:34-38  
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

**Tues., Oct. 20**

Psalm 63:1-8  
Numbers 12:1-9  
Revelation 18:21-24

**Wed., Oct. 21**

Psalm 63:1-8  
Numbers 13:1-2, 17—14:9  
Matthew 17:22-27

**Thur., Oct. 22**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 31:14-22  
Titus 1:5-16

**Fri., Oct. 23**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18  
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

**Sat., Oct. 24**

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Deuteronomy 32:44-47  
John 5:39-47

**Sun., Oct. 25**

Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

**Mon., Oct. 26**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Numbers 33:38-39  
James 2:8-13

**Tues., Oct. 27**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Exodus 34:29-35  
James 2:14-26

**Wed., Oct. 28**

Psalm 119:41-48  
Deuteronomy 26:16—27:7  
Matthew 19:16-22

**Thurs., Oct. 29**

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
Joshua 1:1-11  
Romans 2:17-29

**Fri., Oct. 30**

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
Joshua 2:1-14 2  
Peter 2:1-3

**Sat., Oct. 31**

Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
Joshua 2:15-24  
Matthew 23:13-28



# ***S*TEEPLENOTES**

A Newsletter of

**The Foreside Community Church, UCC**

**"Prayer is a Wireless Connection!"**

***The Foreside Community Church, UCC***

***340 Foreside Road***

***Falmouth, ME 04105- 1428***



Life withers life.  
Change transforms change.  
But You God, are the replenishing light...  
Delivering life to my veins.