



First Congregational Church of Wilmot, UCC

An Open and Affirming, Racial Justice Church

October 21, 2022 Newsletter

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Reflection from Rev. Sara

Dear Friends,

This Sunday we have a very special service for you. After a new vision for a new space, a successful fundraising campaign, and construction which included raising the building, moving it to the side, and placing it back on a new foundation, ten years ago our church renovation project was blessed and dedicated. This Sunday we will remember all that went into that amazing project. Through a plaque that will be hung, the words of Ed Weaver, and a fun presentation after church we'll give thanks for our beautiful building and the people who helped make it.

We know that projects like this, as well as the day to day running of our church, simply would not be possible without the hands and hearts of so many people. It feels appropriate that this anniversary also is the kick off of our Stewardship Campaign. On Sunday we will hear from our committees on the ways to be involved and to give through our time. In the mail you will be receiving a letter that describes how you can be involved through your financial contributions.

And don't miss out on seeing the Sacred Allies Quilt Display this week. Wednesday through Sunday they will be available for viewing in our Fellowship Hall, along with the film describing their creation which will be available in the Sanctuary. This is open to the public so bring your friends! Sunday, October 30th we are honored to welcome Dr. Harriet Ward to our service. Dr. Ward was one of the founding creators of this quilt project and will share her inspiration and insight.

In the bounty of fall we receive the bounty of God's love through our beloved community!

In God's love,

Rev. Sara

Sunday, October 9, 2022

Sunday Worship

10:00 am

Rev. Sara Marean Preaching

Worship - In Person or On-line

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88243169266>
Meeting ID: 882 4316 9266
One tap mobile
+19292056099,,88243169266# US

[Download Order of Worship](#)

Assisting with Worship Kin Group IV, Lucy Mueller Deacon
Charlie Foss reading the scripture



Honoring Our Ancestors

Sunday, October 23, 2022

10:00 am

Bring a photo of a person (or pet) who is no longer alive and bring a device on which you can access the internet.

As we celebrate All Saint's Day, the holiday from which Halloween comes, we'll explore some of the ways that people around the world connect spiritually to the wisdom of their ancestors. We'll have a chance to work in teams to look back on our own families through an on-line genealogy site.

Special guests **Kay and Ron Clark** and **Michiko Yamaguchi** will lead the class in a pre-All Saints Day activity this Sunday, exploring our spiritual ancestry, and honoring those from whom we descend! Michiko and Kay will give us an important window into how people honor ancestors in Japan and Malaysia, and Ron is an expert in genealogy research.

Church on the Rise Presentation





Tenth Anniversary of the Church on the Rise Project

Presentation and Dedication of Plaque

October 23, 2022

11:00 am During Fellowship Hour

Church on the Rise was an amazing endeavor. Don't miss this special program that tells the history of Church on the Rise with pictures and words.

A plaque commemorating the 10th anniversary of Church on the Rise will be dedicated during worship.

This Week's Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 23

10:00 am - Worship in Person and Zoom

10:00 am Sunday School - Honoring our Ancestors

11:00 am - 10th Anniversary Presentation of the Church on The Rise

Tuesday, October 25

2:00 pm - Transition Team

3:00 pm - Pastor Parish Relations Committee

6:00 pm - Confirmation Class for Adults

Wednesday, October 26

6:00 pm - Sacred Ally Quilt Display

Thursday, October 27

12:00 - Sacred Ally Quilt Display

Friday, October 28

6:00 pm - Sacred Ally Quilt Display

7:00 pm - AA Meeting

Saturday, October 29

9:00 am - Sacred Ally Quilt Display

Sunday, October 30

10:00 am - Worship in Person and Zoom

10:00 am - Sunday School Remains in Worship

11:30 am - Sacred Ally Quilt Display

It's Stewardship Time!

It's that time of year when we start thinking about how we want to steward our resources and support our church! You should be receiving a letter in the mail asking you to prayerfully consider your contribution this year. And in worship on Sunday we will fill out our Time and Talent sheets. (You can download them here or fill them out online) We thank you for all the many ways you continue to make FCCW the very special place it is!

[Stewardship Letter](#)

[Time and Talent Form](#)

[If you wish to fill out your form electronically, click here](#)

Next Session on the Course About our Faith and Denomination!

Our next "Confirmation Class for Adults" session will take place at church on **Tuesday, October 25 at 6 p.m.** **You are welcome to come even if you were not able to attend the first session.**

Throughout the year, these sessions will explore some of the major themes and ideas in our religion and denomination. Sessions will focus on: God in Three Persons, The Bible, Christian History, UCC History, Polity, Theology, Worship, The Church in the World, and Other Faith Traditions.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Sara at revsara@wilmotucc.org

To see a reading list for the course ***click here!***



...And Justice for All

The Quilts Are Coming!

The Sacred Ally Quilts will arrive at our doorstep next week! The quilt display will be open to the public each day for 5 consecutive days:

Wednesday evening, October 26 from 6-8

Thursday afternoon, October 27 from 12-3

Friday evening, October 28 from 6-8

Saturday morning, October 29 from 9-12

Sunday, October 30 from 11:30-2:00

Special thanks to all of those who have volunteered to help with the display!

A documentary film about the making of the quilts, “Stitch Breathe Speak: The George Floyd Quilts” can be viewed by anyone in the church community on their home computer from October 23 through October 31. To register for the film ahead of time, go to this link:

<https://watch.showandtell.film/watch/first-congregational-church-of-wilmot>

You will be asked to submit your name and email, and a reminder will be sent to you when the film becomes “live” for viewing. You can choose to watch it with closed captions, and view it more than once.

Ukama Greetings!

We received this message from our friends at Eastlea Church in Harare! And here is the greeting we sent in return! **[Eastlea Church Greeting](#)** & **[FCCW Return Greeting](#)**

Climate Ambassador Training



How do we link our faith to the climate crisis? How do we effectively talk about climate change with others? What opportunities do we have to make a difference in our local churches and communities?

These questions and more will be addressed in the Blessed Tomorrow Ambassadors Training Program that is being offered by the United Church of Christ and ecoAmerica. This free, virtual, interactive training will take place on Saturday, November 5th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm ET. Featured presenters include the Rev. Carol Devine, the Rev. Dr. Brooks Berndt, the Rev. Emma Brewer-Wallin, the Rev. Michael Malcom, and Andrew Wells-Bean. Training participants will receive a free copy of Berndt’s book, *Cathedral on Fire: A Church Handbook for the Climate Crisis*. [Learn more and register here!](#)

October 29th Milk with Dignity Action in New London

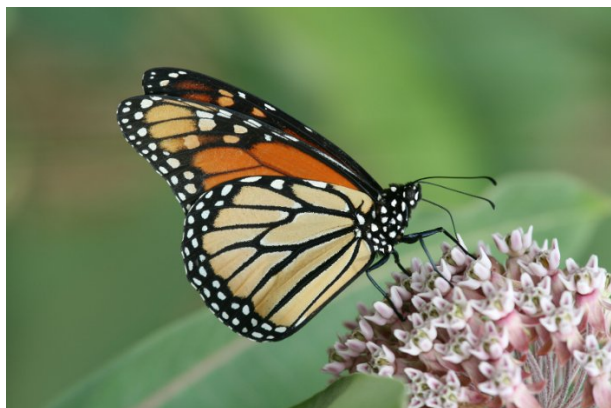
To continue to implore Hannaford to get on board for dairy worker rights, please join in a sign-holding rally along Newport Road near the New London Hannaford for any/all of the noon-2pm period on Saturday, October 29.

We’ll be showing Hannaford that we community members/customers care about migrant dairy farm workers in their supply chain—and that we want Hannaford to do the same by joining the Milk With Dignity program.

- Pay below minimum wage
- Unsafe working conditions
- Substandard housing

At the rally, we'll have a selection of signs available to hold. (If weather is terrible, we'll hold off until another time. Text Karen Zurheide at 603-545-1280 if in doubt.)

Save the Monarchs – Plant Some Milkweed Seeds



Yes, the monarch is slip-sliding toward being endangered, but we can do something about it.

One problem is habitat loss, the key feature being the loss of milkweed plants. Milkweed is the one plant crucial to monarchs thriving.

At the back of the sanctuary in coming Sundays, you'll find a box of milkweed pods, which can be planted by you, your neighbors, or your friends. Each pod contains quite a few seeds, so a pod can go a long way.

Grab a few (bags are provided) and a list of pollen-rich flowers which monarchs love. We loosened 1-2" of soil and made sure the seeds were covered, which gave good results for us. You can no doubt find more specific planting instructions online or in a recent article in both the Concord Monitor and Valley News. God's creation will take it from there.

Because we planted with intention last fall, we still have more to harvest, so we'll replenish the box as best we can. As we've learned, a newly-hatched monarch is a pleasure to behold.

Allan & Marie MacDonald

Calendars for Prisoners

It's that time of year when calendars for 2023 have begun arriving in the mail. Please don't throw them out!

Over 3000 inmates at the Phoenix Facility outside Philadelphia are extremely grateful to have a calendar of their choosing on which to mark the passing of their days during the coming year. Calendars and pocket calendars (very popular!) are permitted as long as they **do not have a spiral binding, and do not have pictures of children or weapons.**

Collection boxes are now at the rear of the sanctuary, and downstairs by the fellowship hall entrance. Thank you!

If you'd like to pray for a few of these men, please take a few of the Prison Prayer Partner slips from the envelope on the back rail of the sanctuary.

Songs from Eagle Pond

Coming Up on **Saturday, October 29 – 7 p.m.**
at Proctor Academy Theater in Andover
“Songs from Eagle Pond.”

Graham Sobelman, pianist, and Maggie Hollinbeck, soprano

Concert is free – no reservations required.

There will be a Planning Board hearing on October 25th at 6:30 at Whipple Hall, 375 Main Street **New London**, to hear the presentation of Twin Pines on the proposed housing project called Long Meadow Commons, and to take comments from the community. Because this project complies with existing zoning, it is not something that will be voted on, but public support would be appreciated. For more information see this fact sheet.

NHCUCC Annual Meeting

Rev Sara Marean

On Saturday, October 16, Rev. Sara Marean was officially voted to serve as the Associate Conference Minister of the NHCUCC. **Attached is the YouTube link to the meeting.**

NHC UCC Environmental Justice Award



Three members of the NHCUCC Environmental Justice Mission Group gathered at the Annual Meeting to present one of five Environmental Justice Awards to Youth Delegate Lydia Hansberry. They are (l to r):

Zeph Marean, Susan Moore and Rev. Rob Grabill. The other awards will all be given out in person in worship services (Keene and Durham). Lydia is also the winner of a \$2,500 Climate Justice Fellowship from the UCC' national Climate Justice Council.

Horton Center Reunion



Horton Center Campers and volunteers reunited at the Annual Meeting last Saturday.

Merrimack Association Hosts Church World Service

Merrimack Association Hosts Church World Service November 13th @ 2 PM

Save the Date

CWS will be presenting about their work and conditions in Ukraine

**Meeting will be held at:
Sanbornton Congregational Church UCC
21 Meeting House Hill Rd. Sanbornton**

Celebrate with Sanbornton Congregational Church UCC the completion of
250 years of Ministry, Music and Mission.

uccsanbornton.org

pastorpaula1980@gmail.com

Register Now for the UCC New England Women's Celebration

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Celebration XI



register online
www.uccwc.org

Register Here

Rev. Sara's Office Hours

Rev. Sara will be in the office Tuesday and Wednesday this week, and available via email or phone.

Church Office Hours

Janet Howe and Michiko Yamaguchi are in the church office on Fridays, 9 - 11 am

Links to UCC, NHCUCC and Wilmot UCC Resources

[Online Giving](#)



[Document Library for Members and Friends](#)

[Pictorial Directory](#)

[Log into Password Protected Document Library](#)



[UCC | NEWS](#)

[The Pollinator:
UCC Environmental
Justice Blog](#)

[Join the Movement
UCC - Stories about Reality](#)

Church emails: revsara@wilmotucc.org; office@wilmotucc.org; news@wilmotucc.org; trustees@wilmotucc.org; treasurer@wilmotucc.org; collector@wilmotucc.org

First Congregational Church of Wilmot, UCC

603.526.7715 - wilmotucc.org

PO Box 204, Wilmot, NH 03287
Located at: 19 N. Wilmot Road, Wilmot

