



First Congregational Church of Wilmot, UCC

An Open and Affirming, Racial Justice Church

November 4, 2022 Newsletter

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Daylight Savings Time Ends
This Sunday, November 6st at 2:00 am.
Remember to change your clocks back 1 hour

FALL BACK 1 HOUR

Reflection from Rev. Sara

Dear Friends,

At our Deacons meeting on Tuesday Marie MacDonald shared the following words from Abraham Lincoln:

(Our nation) has grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand that preserved us, enriched us, and sustained us. In the deceitfulness of our hearts, we have imagined that all our blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and energy of our own. Intoxicated

and too proud to pray to the God who made us.

Then Marie led us into this prayer...

Gracious and Everlasting God,

Thank you for your presence in our lives and in our community of faith.

We acknowledge that the many accomplishments of our church family – Church on the Rise, becoming Open & Affirming and a Racial Justice Church – were accomplished by your grace, not just by our wisdom and courage alone.

Continue to teach us how to be your servants, that we may pass on your abundant love to the world. Amen

As we head to the polls on Tuesday, many of us hold deep worries and anxieties at what the outcomes of the elections could bring to our state and nation. Many of us are filled with fear that voices purporting to speak for our faith and our God, will instead enact measures that divide, distort and marginalize those already at risk in our communities. Many of us feel this weight on our hearts and minds and a troubling in our souls.

The words of Abraham Lincoln remind us that even in the midst of our worries, God's grace, God's love, protection and care, is with us. In the midst of both blessings and fears sometimes we forget to rely upon this grace, to look for it, open our hearts to it, lean on it as a rock beneath our feet. We forget to call upon it both in times of promise and need. Then not only do we claim to be more self-sufficient than we really are, we also fall into despair.

As we enter those polling booths on Tuesday, let us take God's grace and our prayers with us. Let this grace strengthen us that we might remember and be lifted by it. Let us be recall with inspiration and wonder that God is working with us and through us. Let our hearts cry out, in the words of Marie's prayer, "*Continue to teach us how to be your servants, that we may pass on your abundant love to the world.*" Let us know in our hearts that this is true.

May you know God's love and strength with you on Tuesday and everyday,

Rev. Sara

Sunday, November 6, 2022 - All Saints Sunday

Sunday Worship

10:00 am

Worship with Comunion - In Person or On-line

Rev. Sara Marean, Preaching

Isa Rex, Visiting Musician

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

Download Order of Worship

Youth will remain in church during worship

This Week's Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 6

10:00 am - Worship and Communion
in Person and Zoom

10:00 am - Sunday School Remains in Worship

Daylight Savings Ends

Wednesday, Nov. 9

11:00 am - Justice and Witness via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88118830683>

Meeting ID: 881 1883 0683

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,88118830683# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,88118830683# US

Dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Thursday, November 3

6:30 pm - AA Beginners Step

Saturday, November 5

7:30 pm - AA Meeting

Sunday, November 13

10:00 am - Worship in Person and Zoom

10:00 Sunday School

Special Thanks to the Terrific 21!!

The Justice and Witness and Religious Education Committees worked hard to bring the Sacred Ally Quilts to our church. But the success of the exhibit was entirely due to the twenty one dedicated members of our congregation who volunteered their time and talents while the quilts were here. Generous members of our congregation put up and broke down the exhibit, welcomed visitors to the exhibit, showed the film upon request, monitored the quilts, and even drove Dr. Ward to and from our church from her home in Exeter!!! We are all certainly blessed to be part of this extraordinary congregation!!



Dr. Harriet Ward was the guest preacher October 30, 2022. She is pictured here with the quilt she made for the Sacred Ally Quilt program.

More pictures of the Sacred Allies Quilts and other programs held at the church can be found on [the website](#).

A Note from our Moderator

This is a brief update to let you know what has been going on during this transitional period since Sara's promotion was announced.

the steps our children would need to take over the next several weeks.

The first was to appoint a small committee to prepare a "Request for Pastoral leadership" for our time in transition. This is a 5-page form which formally launches the process. Upon receipt the conference would post the requisition nationwide.

This small committee was formed three weeks ago and consists of the Pastoral Relations Committee, Paul Fenton, Janet Howe and Jane Norman and the Moderator, Charlie Foss.

We have met the past three weeks and will continue meet each Tuesday until we complete the requisition. I expect we will complete this in the next one to two weeks.

Next, we will hopefully receive some applications and start interviews. Ideally, we will receive an acceptable "transitional minister" who can guide us through the rest of the process. Gordon Rankin will assist us in this work.

Charlie Foss
Moderator

Stewardship Pledge and Time and Talent!

It's that time of year when we start thinking about how we want to steward our resources and support our church! You should have received a letter in the mail asking you to prayerfully consider your contribution this year. If not, you can click on the tab below to read it. You will also see a pledge form. This can be downloaded here or paper copies are available at church.

Time and Talent sheets, the form that helps our Nominating and other committees know how you would like to be involved with our church community, are available in church and in another tab below. (You can download them here or fill them out online)

Sunday, Nov. 20 is Stewardship Sunday when your pledge form will be collected during worship. If you can't make it to church that Sunday, feel free to mail your pledge or bring it in any time! 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

Pledge Form

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



...And Justice for All

JOIN US FOR A BLESSED TOMORROW AMBASSADOR TRAINING

FREE WEBINAR
Saturday, November 5 | 11 AM - 3 PM Eastern



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!](#)

New England Environmental Justice Youth+ Summit

November 17, 2022 7-9 pm

November 19, 2022 9 am - Noon

Topics include:

- "Use What You've Got - in the Fight for Community and the Cosmos"
- "Confronting Fossil Fuel Company's lies and destruction from the Front Line"
- "Uprooting Racism, Seeding Sovereignty"
- "Mni Waconi: Cries for Justice at Standing Rock"
- "Indigenous Sovereignty"
- "Rights of Nature Movement"
- "Nature as Property and Nature of Proper"
- Toppenish Farms, WA - Sustainability and Regenerative Agriculture"
- Climate Justive Fellowship"

This webinar is open to all

[For more information click here](#) [To register now Click here](#)

Calendars for Prisoners

The first box of 90 calendars has been mailed to the inmates at the Phoenix Facility outside of Philadelphia.

Do you have 2023 Calendars you aren't using? Bring them to the church and place in the collection boxes at the rear of the sanctuary or downstairs by Fellowship Hall. **(Calendars cannot have a**

Inmates 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!)

Religious Education

Next Session on the Adult Course About our Faith and Denomination!

Faith and Denomination

Our next "Confirmation Class for Adults" session will take place at church on

Tuesday, November 22 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!***

Faith Formation/Sunday School K-7 Gathering

One Sunday a month - 2 - 4 pm

Children from throughout the Merrimack Association and beyond are invited to come together for a few hours of fun activities, like a scavenger hunt, bible stories, snacks and service. We will be meeting at the **Laconia Congregational Church**, 18 Veteran's Square in Laconia.

Many of our churches have just a few children who attend Sunday School or Faith Formation gatherings, so the Merrimack Association is hosting monthly regional gatherings so that children can learn and grow their faith together in a large group.

Please email [Rev. Paula Gile](mailto:pastorpaula1980@gmail.com) or [Diane Tinkham](mailto:tinkhams@metrocast.net) if you have children who wish to attend this fun event.

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

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