



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

Third Sunday after Pentecost • Father's Day • Shelter Sunday

June 21, 2020

“God’s omnipotence means power to do all that is intrinsically possible, not to do the intrinsically impossible. You may attribute miracles to him, but not nonsense.”

–C. S. Lewis

All hymns are included after the order of worship, on pages 5-9.

Call to Worship (*Unison*; Psalm 86:1-5)

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long. Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.

Hymn 378 (*See below, p. 5*) *We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom*

Merle’s Tune

Prayer of Invocation

God, who joins us together in and through your Spirit, we lift up our worship to you. Inspire our prayers and infuse all we do and offer with your grace, your love, and your power. Be with us during this service, we pray, in the name of your Son. Amen.

Gloria (*Unison*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

During this time, we are not meeting in person. All are encouraged to stay in touch with one another by phone, email, or written cards. If you would like to organize a Zoom teleconference or telephone meeting, please be in touch with the Rev. Steve Silver (603-448-4281/silver@fccleb.org), and he’ll get you set up and ready to go.

Children’s Moment

Jesus knew that we wouldn’t always agree, that sometimes we’d have different opinions. We will argue and even fight. We’ve been taught to believe that we should

all get along—and that’s true. But that doesn’t mean staying silent when we see something happening that is wrong. We need to speak up, we need to defend what is right. And that may make us feel lonely, especially if we have to dispute something that someone we love says. Jesus calls on us to get along—but he also expects us to step up for what is right. With God’s help, we will.

Hymn 97 (See below, p. 6) *God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years* Sandon

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 10:24-39. ²⁴[Jesus said to the disciples,] “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Sermon “*Matthew’s Dumpster Fire*” (See separate document) Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 435 (See below, p. 7) *Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor* Rhuddlan

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

Note: As we hold our community members in prayer, please help us ensure that our weekly prayer list is current by contacting Rev. Silver or the church office with any changes.

On this day we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Jessica, Martha, Micah, Joanne, Max, Kelee, Tammy, Arlene, Ruth, Ryle, Emily, John, Shirley, Dan, Roger, Jim, Beth, Evelyn, Susan, Barbara, Max, Greg, Terry, Larry, Bryan, and Pat.

We pray for all those struggling with financial challenges, reduced hours and unemployment, and fears about the future.

We pray for the healthcare workers and first responders who are on the front line dealing with this pandemic.

We pray for wisdom and humility from all our leaders.

Today we offer the following prayer:

God of the nations, God of our community, you have made each of us unique and wonderful, meant to be distinctive but called to live in harmony with others. Often we behave as if being together should not require work. But you have shown us that love requires and deserves effort. Help us accept this high calling, regardless of the cost and grateful for the blessing, and give us the courage to create a world in which all may live in your joy, your peace, and your grace.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your son, the Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*Unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering of Gifts

Doxology (*Unison*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (*Unison*)

Bountiful God, you have blessed us with gifts, great and small, individually and collectively. Empower us, encourage us, inspire us to use what you have so graciously given to us in the service of your people, our sisters and brothers, whoever, wherever they may be. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Benediction

My friends, life is short. We do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

Now go forth with the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, this day and forevermore. Amen.

Joys, Concerns, and Prayer Requests

If you wish to have a **joy, concern, or prayer request** lifted up in the service, or if you know of anyone who may need special prayers, a card or phone call, or some other form of pastoral care, please email prayer@fccleb.org, or contact the church office or the Rev. Steve Silver directly.

TODAY IS SHELTER SUNDAY

Every Father's Day, FCC makes a commitment to the work of **Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity**, the local affiliate of an international, ecumenical ministry. Since 1976, Habitat has provided decent, affordable housing and home ownership for deserving families who could not otherwise afford to buy a home. Houses are built by community volunteers, with many local vendors providing free or deeply discounted materials and services. Each selected family contributes at least 500 hours of labor in the construction of their own house, which they can then purchase at cost with a zero-interest mortgage, at no profit. (See dedication list on page 10.)

While it is too late to submit dedications for Father's Day, you may still contribute to our Habitat donation. Any amount is welcome, and thanks! (Payable to FCC, memo "Shelter Sunday")

Fellowship Through Food—Sharing Meals in Tough Times

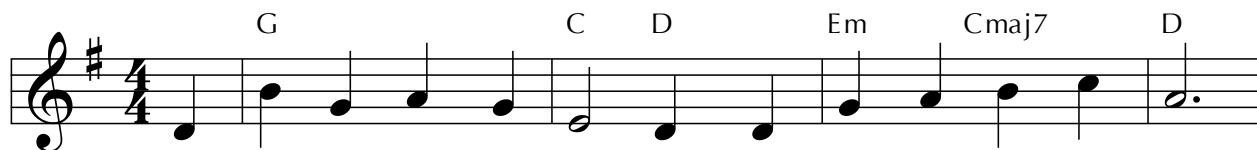
Would you enjoy having a meal provided by a friend? If you're weary of adding dinner to your to-do list, are overwhelmed with your child's home-schooling, or are experiencing a loss of income, we'd like to help by dropping off a meal. If any of these scenarios speaks to you—or if you enjoy cooking and would like to provide a meal—the Deacons invite you to email Steve Silver (silver@fccleb.org) or call the church office (603-448-4281). **Let's help each other!**

MSA Needs Your Input for Its Upcoming Congregational Survey

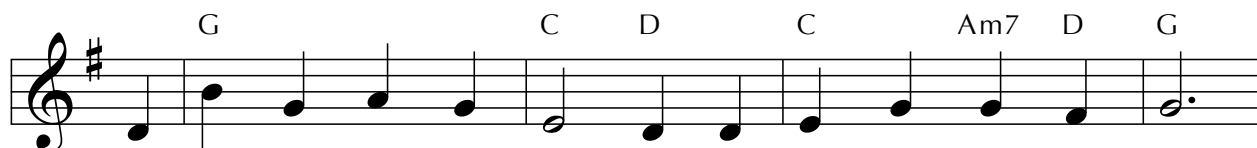
The Mission and Social Action Committee seeks everyone's input about the mission partners that FCC supports, in order to update our priorities. An MSA survey will soon be distributed.

To help us prepare the survey, we invite your suggestions of local, national, and global organizations that you feel FCC seems most naturally suited to support. Please submit your suggestions to the church office. Thanks!

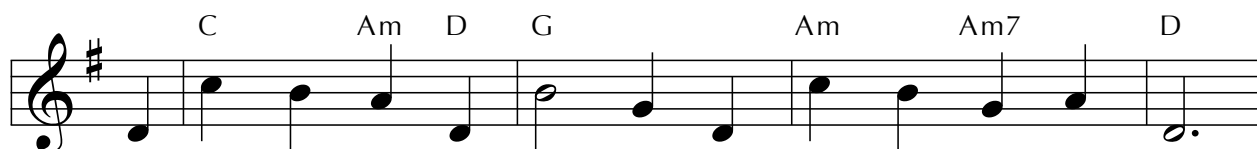
We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378



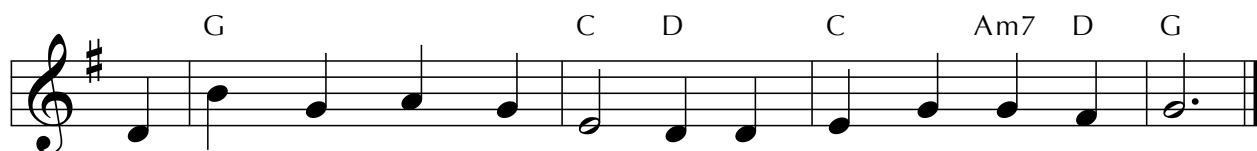
1 We wait the peace - ful king - dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
 2 Where is the peace - ful king - dom? When will this new day start?
 3 When wars of des - o - la - tion and hate come to an end,
 4 That lit - tle child shall lead us to walk the cho - sen way,



in gen - tle - ness and friend - ship with - out a fear or sigh,
 We long for peace and com - fort to reign with - in each heart.
 when na - tion meets with na - tion and calls the oth - er "friend,"
 to share the peace - ful king - dom, to greet God's new - born day.



when li - on shall be graz - ing, when snake shall nev - er strike;
 Yet not in our lives on - ly, nor sim - ply in our home:
 still peace in all its full - ness will on - ly have be - gun:
 The child born in a sta - ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit - tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a - like.
 we pray that all cre - a - tion will one day find sha - lom.
 sha - lom for all cre - a - tion be - gins with jus - tice done.
 to bring through word and ta - ble the day when jus - tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6–9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.

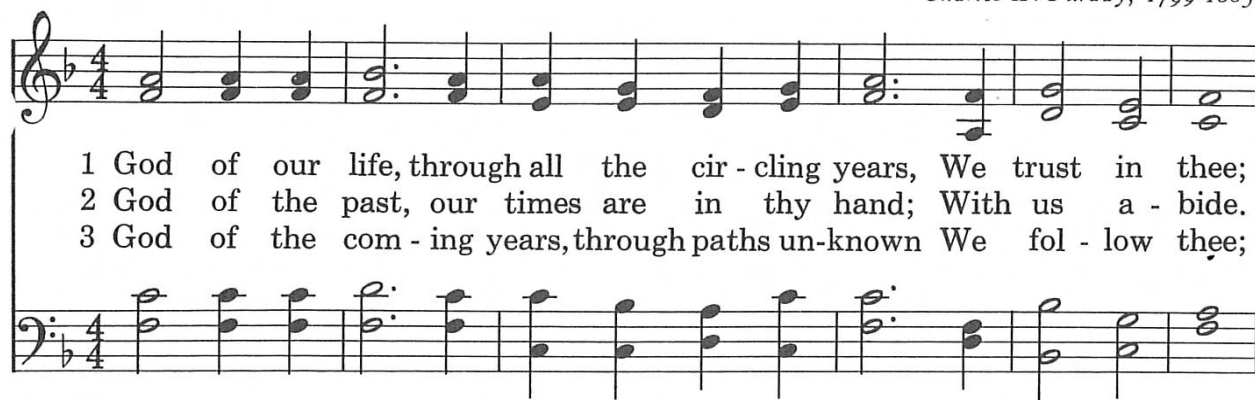
TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983
 Text © 2010 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
 Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
 7.6.7.6.D

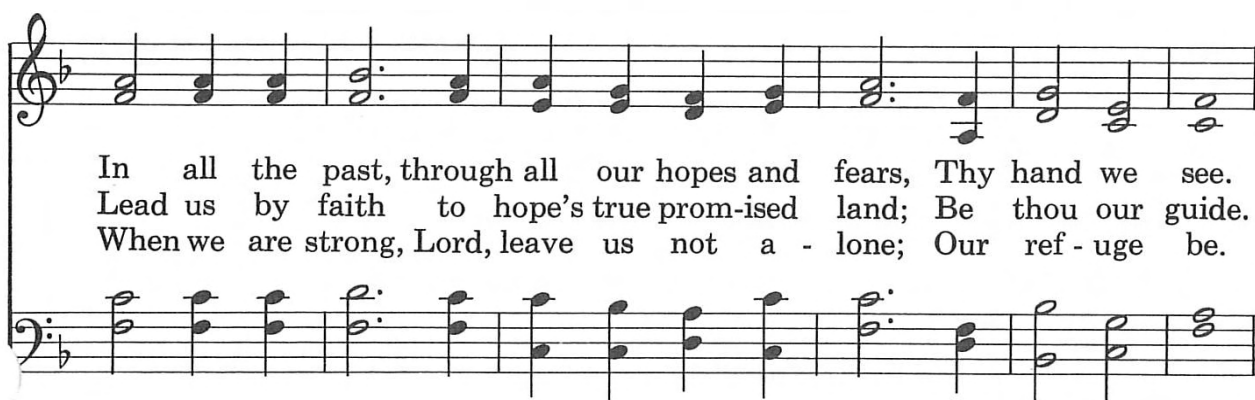
God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years 97

Hugh T. Kerr, 1872-1950, alt.

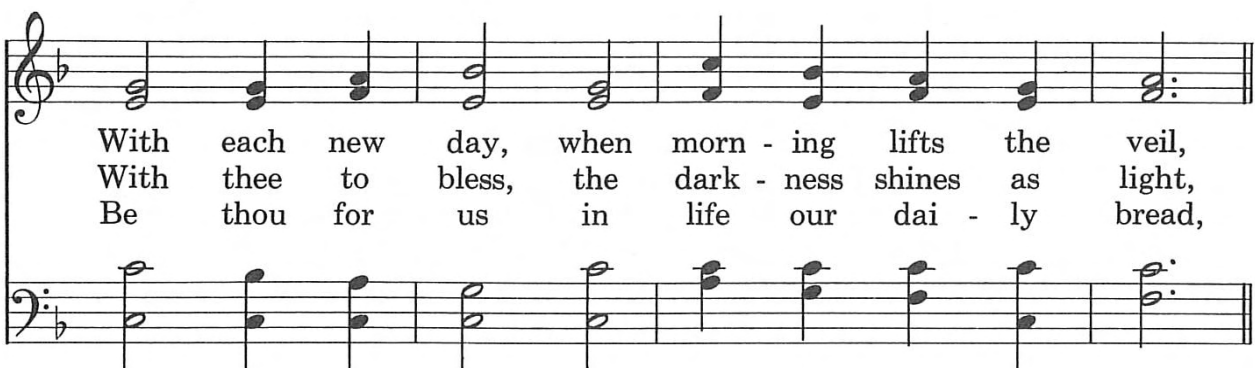
SANDON 10.4.10.4.10.10.
Charles H. Purday, 1799-1885



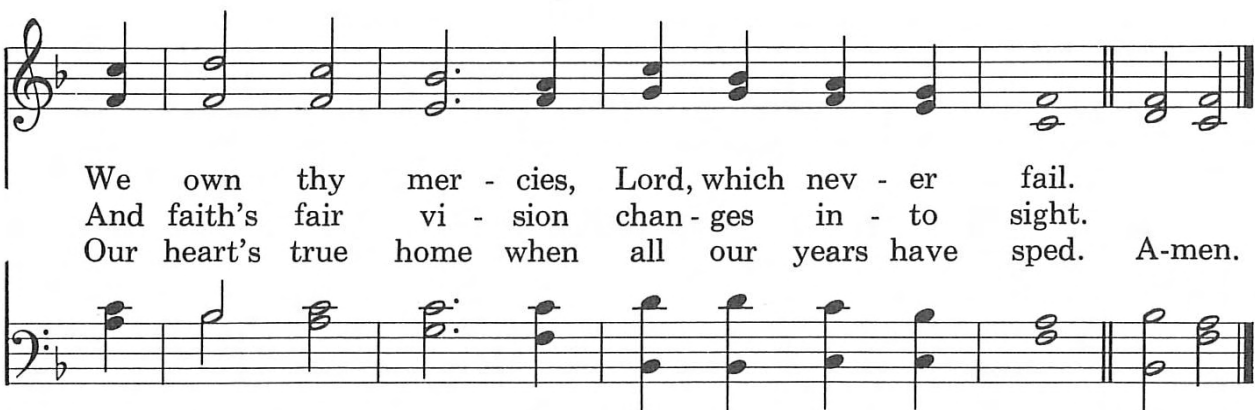
1 God of our life, through all the cir - cling years, We trust in thee;
2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand; With us a - bide.
3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known We fol - low thee;



In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land; Be thou our guide.
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone; Our ref - uge be.



With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,
With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,
Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,



We own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.
And faith's fair vi - sion chan - ges in - to sight.
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped. A-men.

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435

Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor

Henry S. Holland, 1847-1918, alt.

RHUDDLAN 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Traditional Welsh Melody

1 Judge e - ter - nal, throned in splen - dor, Lord of lords and
 2 Still the wea - ry folk are pin - ing For the hour that
 3 Crown, O God, thine own en - deav - or; Cleave our dark - ness

King of kings, With thy liv - ing fire of judg - ment
 brings re - lease; And the cit - y's crowd - ed clan - gor
 with thy sword; Feed the faint and hun - gry peo - ples

Purge this land of bit - ter things; Sol - ace all its
 Cries a - loud for sin to cease; And the home - steads
 With the rich - ness of thy Word; Cleanse the bod - y

wide do - min - ion With the heal - ing of thy wings.
 and the wood - lands Plead in si - lence for their peace.
 of this na - tion Through the glo - ry of the Lord. A - men.

39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

**Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."*

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923

MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923

Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company

FAITHFULNESS

11.10.11.10 with refrain

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THANKS TO ALL who generously participated in Shelter Sunday this year! We give these gifts to the glory of God, lovingly honoring and remembering the fathers in our lives.

IN HONOR OF...

My son, Doug—*Ron Bailey*

My partner, Pete—*Marcia Corkins*

Ike Jacobs, a wonderful dad and partner in life—*Linda Jacobs*

Craig Jacobs, our son; Matt Henry, Etienne Houdegbe, and Brendan MacAskill, our grandsons-in-law; and Ryan and Zach Preston, our grandsons—*Linda and Ike Jacobs*

My brother, Robert David Huestis, M.D.—*Barbara H. Jones*

David Rappaport (Daddy) and Larry Kirkpatrick (Grandpap)—*Nan Parsons and Kailyn Rappaport*

My husband, Jon, and my stepfather, Ron—*Deb Scott*

Jon, Jeremy, George, Ron, Kyle, and Ryan—*Deserai and Walter Scott*

Dad—*Chip and Rachel Silver* / Grandpa—*Chip, Rachel, and Steve Silver*

My father, Kenneth W. Smith, and my husband, Travis Jones—*Rachel Smith-Jones, Thad and Elias*

IN MEMORY OF...

My father and grandfathers—*Ron Bailey*

My dad, Bill Beckett, a great guy—*Kathy Beckett*

Roy B. Ford and Royal J. Bennett—*Virginia and Lloyd Bennett*

The Rev. Loring DuBois Chase—*Karen and Christopher Chase*

William J. Driscoll III and Maurice Lee Clancy, Sr.—*Amy, Brian, DeAnn, Katie, and Grace*

My dad, Sherwood Avery—*Marcia Corkins*

Our fathers, Earle W. Pike and Ralph F. Hammond—*Gloria and Phil Hammond*

Maurice Sumner (Linda's dad); Raymond Adams (Ike's dad); Arthur King (Linda's uncle); Harold Jacobs (Ike's uncle); and dear friends Ellis Howard and Doc Place—*Linda and Ike Jacobs*

My dad, David L. Huestis—*Barbara H. Jones*

Robert Parsons (Gramps), Donald Parsons (Bop), and Uncle Leo—*Nan Parsons and Kailyn Rappaport*

My father, Alfred Walling—*Susan Pratt*

Our fathers, John P. Lewis and Frances A. Sargent—*Barbara and Gordon Sargent*

Our fathers, grandfathers, and stepfather:

Ken, James, Emory, Harold, Ken, Alfred, and Roger—*Deb and Jon Scott*

Pop Pop—*Chip, Rachel, and Steve Silver*

My father, William A. Smith—*Dr. Kenneth W. Smith*

Thaddeus C. Fitzpatrick and William A. Smith (Rachel's grandfathers); William Houston Travis and Bill Greer (Travis' grandfathers); and John Allen Jones (Travis' grandfather), who passed away in March at age 95—*Rachel Smith-Jones and Travis, Thad, and Elias Jones*



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

PO Box 230
10 South Park St
Lebanon NH 03766

Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!

DATED MATERIAL—Please Deliver Promptly

Do you use email? Contact church@fccleb.org to receive this and other communication by email.

Welcome!

We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcome and included.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race or ethnicity, physical or mental ability, or economic circumstance, you are invited into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, including its worship, sacraments, and rites.

Join us as we grow together in God's love.

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Susan Sorensen, Interim Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Church School Superintendent

Barbara Teeter, Chair of Deacons • Linda Jacobs, Chair of Church Council • Barbara Jones, Moderator

Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)

603-448-4281 • church@fccleb.org • prayer@fccleb.org • music@fccleb.org • www.fccleb.org