



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

The Second Sunday after Pentecost • Father's Day • Juneteenth

June 19, 2022

“When I discover who I am, I’ll be free.”

—Ralph Ellison

Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 5-8.

Prelude

Elegy

William Walton

Call to Worship

Psalm 43

Leader: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me!

People: For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy?

Leader: O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

People: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

All: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

Hymn 206 (p. 5) *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

Hanover

Prayer of Invocation

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

Children's Moment

Today we observe Father's Day, which has been around on our calendar for a long time, since the early 20th century. Thanks, Dad—and all you Dad stand-ins out there, too. You are amazing!

We also observe Juneteenth, which is new on our federal-holiday calendar but has been around since 1865 at the end of the Civil War. “Juneteenth” was the day that people held in slavery in Texas learned that they had been emancipated. This is a cause for celebration—but it’s also a moment to reflect on wrongdoing.

People had been held in slavery. That was awful. People had been emancipated—but not told by their enslavers. That was awful, too. We know how God felt about freeing the enslaved—just think of the Israelites, held in bondage by the Egyptians and led by their God into freedom. The enslaved looked to the stories of the Hebrews for inspiration—and confirmation that God would deliver them from slavery into freedom.

Sometimes, things in life are complicated. That’s why we have disagreements. Other times, questions of right and wrong are easily answered. This was a slam-dunk. So, today, let us remember a day when people learned that their hopes and dreams had come true.

Hymn 493 (p. 6) *Now There Is No Male or Female*

Omni Die

Scripture Lessons

Galatians 3:23-29. ²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Luke 8:26-39. ²⁶Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me” — ²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told

them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Sermon

“A New Identity”

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 348 (p. 7)

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Olivet

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing. Help us keep our prayer list current by contacting the church office to add or remove names.

Today we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Arlene, Evelyn, Barbara, Greg, Edith, Jan, Eileen, Michelle, Stephanie, Paulette, Juanita, Terry, Dan, and Ethan.

We pray for the people—especially the youth—of Ukraine, that they may know peace.

O God of liberation, you have stood with the oppressed, the poor, the enslaved throughout history. As the years have gone by, we have had ample opportunity to see, to learn, to understand where your priorities lie. And all too often we have found ways to look away, to refrain from seeing what you want done, so that we might instead pursue our own narrow, selfish agendas. Forgive us our greed, our narrow mindedness, our lack of vision. Give us the strength, courage, and renewed faith to do what is right and just.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son, our Savior. 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

Remembering those who are without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community.

Offertory

Andante

John Stanley

Doxology (Unison)

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

Prayer of Dedication (*Unison*)

Lord of Love, God of Grace, we are blessed:

Blessed by the Church.

Blessed by your Spirit.

Blessed to be Jesus' people.

In recognition and thanksgiving, we present to you these gifts, these fruits of our blessings, confident that they will be used to do your work. In the name of the Risen Christ: Amen.

Hymn 415 (p. 8) *In Christ There Is No East or West*

McKee

Benediction

Postlude *Jesu Leiden, Pein und Tod*

Johann Gottfried Walther

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Lester Gibbs, Guest Organist • Chip Silver, Cello • Barbara Jones, Liturgist

Sue Pratt and Barb Teeter, Ushers • Stacey Steele, Zoom Greeter

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



Music
at the
Meetinghouse

Upcoming Concerts

Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.

Oak Hill Music Festival—Wednesday, July 13, and Saturday, July 16, both at 7:30

Hanover-born bassoonist Leah Kohn, back in the Upper Valley after establishing an impressive performance career in Los Angeles, inaugurates an annual festival of professional musicians and exciting repertoire. Their programs here are entitled “From the New Hampshire Woods” and “Breath.” *Complete details, musician information, and ticket options at www.oakhillmusicfestival.com.*

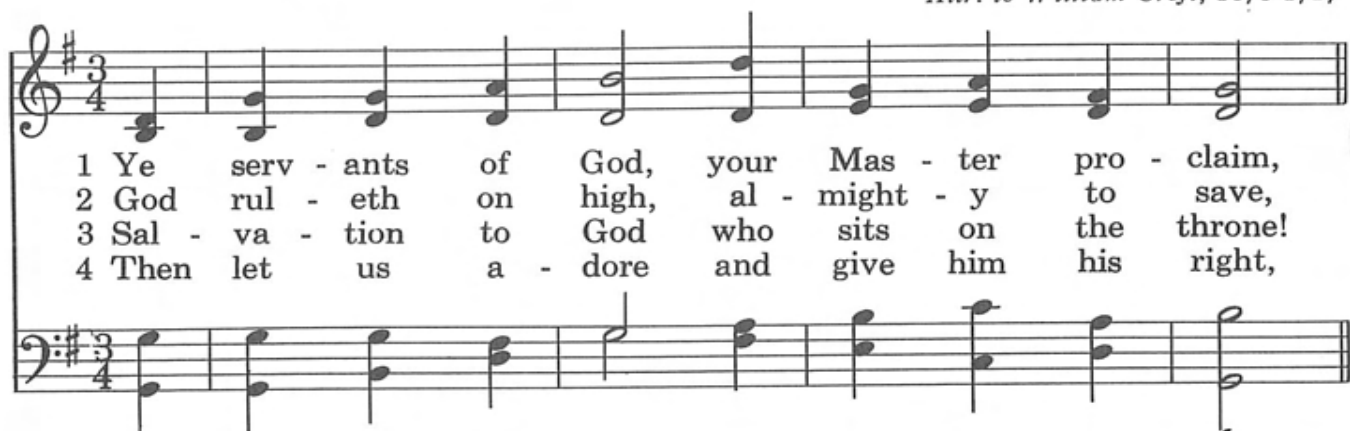
Counterpoint: The Woods and the Waters—Friday, July 15, at 7:30

Director Nathaniel Lew brings VT's professional choral ensemble back to Lebanon for the first time in four years to celebrate landscapes near and far, with guest pianist Alison Cerutti. Music by Jude Navari, Benjamin Britten, and NH's own Amy Beach, along with the premiere of a piece by composer Travis Ramsey and poet Jim Schley—who both live in the Upper Valley. *Adults \$20, seniors \$15, students and limited means \$5; more at counterpointchorus.org/upcoming/.*

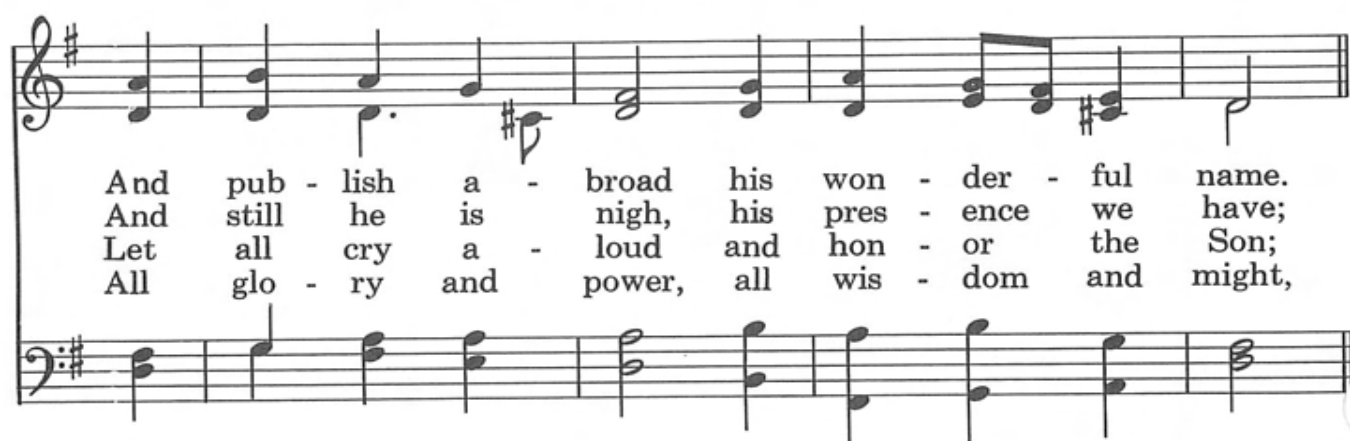
Register Now for Classicopia's Summer Music Camp!—Two Sessions: August 8-13 and 15-20

This immersive program offers instrumental and vocal instruction to students aged 8-18, with outstanding faculty and guest artists. *More details and registration at classicopia.org/summer-camp/.*

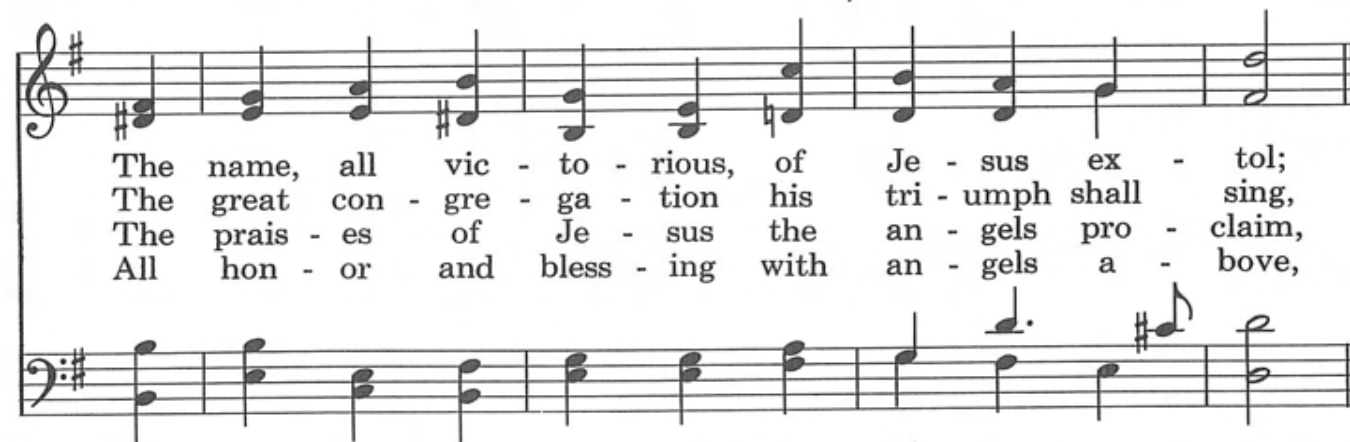
Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

HANOVER 10.10.11.11.
Attr. to William Croft, 1678-1727



1 Ye serv - ants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
2 God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save,
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne!
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right,



And pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful name.
And still he is nigh, his pres - ence we have;
Let all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son;
All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,



The name, all vic - to - rious, of Je - sus ex - tol;
The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
All hon - or and bless - ing with an - gels a - bove,



His king - dom is glo - rious, he rules o - ver all.
As - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our King.
Fall down on their fa - ces and wor - ship the Lamb.
And thanks nev - er ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love. A - men.

A descant may be found at No. 584

493 Now There Is No Male or Female

1 Now there is no male or fe-male; now there is no free or slave;
 2 Cru - ci - fied with Christ the Sav-ior, bap-tized in his ho - ly death,
 3 Death has no do - min-ion o'er him, so for us death holds no power;

now there is no Jew or Gen-tile in the earth Christ died to save.
 and as Christ was raised to glo - ry we have new life on this earth.
 life's own wa-ters now have marked us, born to God this ver - y hour.

Christ has set us free for free-dom: we no more sing slav-ery's creed;
 Power of wa-ter and God's nam-ing, turn - ing us from dark to light,
 From this mo-moment and for - ev - er dead to sin, a - live in Christ,

old sub - mis-sions can - not claim us; Christ has set us free in - deed.
 joins us to those who, be - fore us, ran the race and fought the fight.
 born of wa - ter and the Spir-it, now in Christ we find our life.

Opening with an allusion to Galatians 3:28 and closing with one to John 3:5, this text is filled with specific scriptural phrases related to baptism. It also includes larger themes like the parallels with the deliverance of Israel from slavery through the waters of the Red Sea.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

348

Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

OLIVET 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.
Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold; sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
 My zeal in - spire; As thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
 Be thou my guide; Bid dark-ness turn to day; Wipe sor-row's
 Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -

guilt a - way; Oh, let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way; Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
 trust re-move; Oh, bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul. A-men.

IT'S SHELTER SUNDAY – HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Every Father's Day, FCC makes a commitment to support the work of **Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity** (uvhabitat.org), the local affiliate of an international, ecumenical ministry. Since 1986, Habitat has provided decent, affordable housing for deserving families who could not otherwise afford to buy a home. Families work alongside volunteers to build their own home, which they are then able to purchase at cost with a zero-interest mortgage.

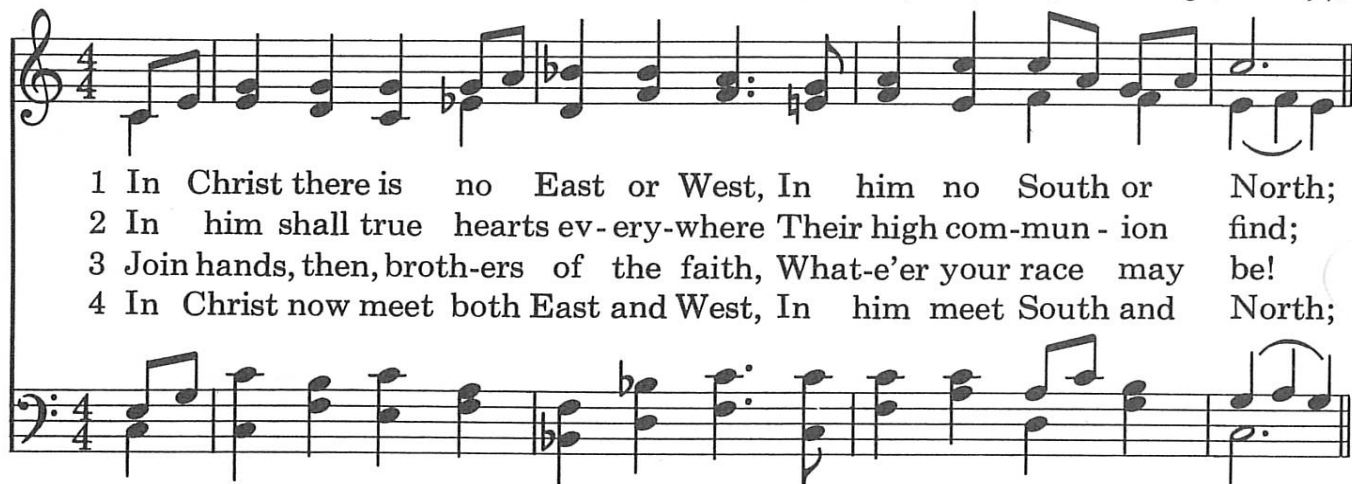
Many thanks to all those who contributed so generously this year to Shelter Sunday, in honor or memory of the fathers and father-figures in their lives (see list below).

In Christ There Is No East or West

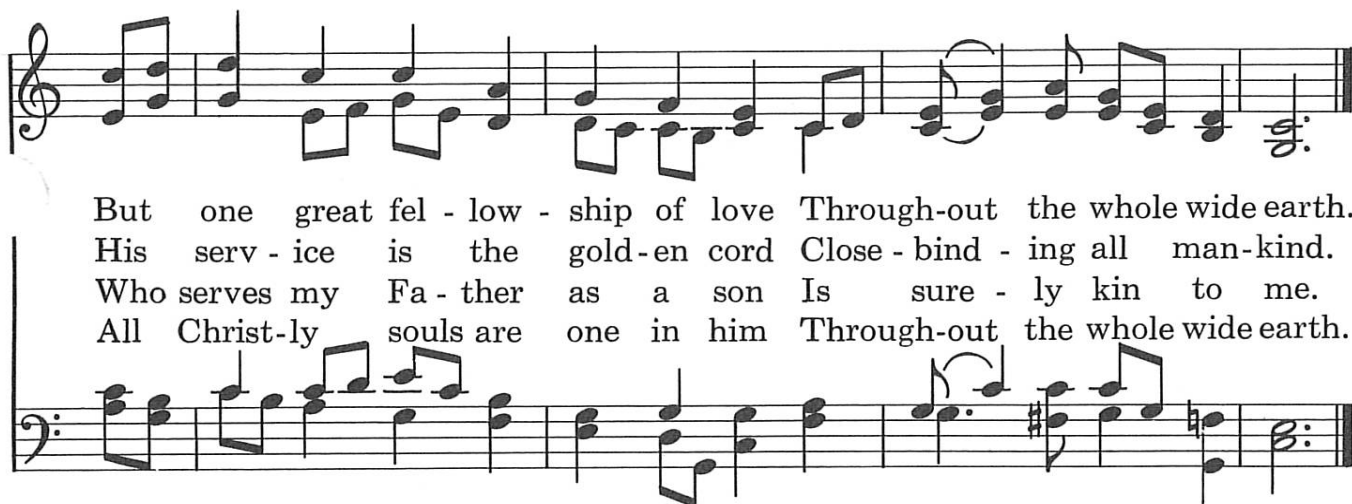
Second Tune

John Oxenham, 1852-1941

McKEE C.M.

*Negro Melody**Adapted by Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949*


1 In Christ there is no East or West, In him no South or North;
 2 In him shall true hearts ev-ery-where Their high com-mun-ion find;
 3 Join hands, then, broth-ers of the faith, What-e'er your race may be!
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, In him meet South and North;



But one great fel-low-ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.
 His serv-ice is the gold-en cord Close-bind-ing all man-kind.
 Who serves my Fa-ther as a son Is sure-ly kin to me.
 All Christ-ly souls are one in him Through-out the whole wide earth.

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*

Our sons, Chris and Rob Belding—*Kathy and Warren Belding*

Brian Clancy—*Amy, Katie, and Grace*

Ike Jacobs, a wonderful husband, terrific dad, and just a great guy, helpful to so many—*Linda Jacobs*

Craig Jacobs, our son—*Linda and Ike Jacobs*

Reg Morse, a very good dad—*Barbara Jones*

David Rappaport (Daddy) and Ken Kirkpatrick (Uncle Ken)—*Nan Parsons and Kailyn Rappaport*

Grandpa Ron, my husband Jon, and my son Walter—*Deb Scott*

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

Kenneth William Smith, a wonderful father and grandfather; and

Travis Allen Jones, a wonderful husband and father—*Rachel Smith-Jones and Thad and Elias Jones*

All surrogate fathers of FCC, who love, support, and encourage Dominic—*Juliet, Stacey, and Dominic*

IN MEMORY OF...

My dad and grandfathers—*Ron Bailey*

Our fathers, Wayne Perkins and Robert F. Belding—*Kathy and Warren Belding*

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

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

Bill Driscoll and Maury Clancy—*Amy, Brian, DeAnn, Katie, and Grace*

Gordon “Doc” Place—*Sue and Ken Gould and Family*

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 father, David L. Huestis—*Barbara Jones*

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

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

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

My father, James Henry Smith—*Wendell Smith*

Our grandfathers, William Alfred Smith, Thaddeus Colson Fitzpatrick, William Houston Travis, John Allen Jones, and Bill Greer—*Rachel Smith-Jones and Travis Jones*

Hezekiah (father and great-grandfather), Keith (father and grandfather), and Noel (uncle and brother-in-law)—*Juliet, Stacey, and Dominic*



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

Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Children's Community Corner
Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • 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