



Parish Visitor

First Congregational Church UCC

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www.walpolenhucc.org

2025

Friends,

I don't know why, but summer always seems to come as a surprise to me. Winter is just so long in these parts. This year, once we officially entered Spring, we only got brief teases of mild weather, interspersed with raw wind and cold rain. I have long believed that it cannot really be Spring in New Hampshire until it snows in April. That was certainly the case this year.

At the threshold of Summer, past it's unofficial start of Memorial Day, we may be looking at Summer! After what seems like endless winter, I still find the lush green grass and budding trees are a revelation. I find myself thinking about the lyrics of the hymn *Morning Has Broken*, moving me to "Praise with elation, Praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!"

How can I be so inspired and so delighted with something as normal as expected, as the regular turning of seasons? I think it is a good thing if we do not take God's blessings for granted. The colors, the singing birds, the scent of blossoms and the feel of moist soil underfoot are transcendent and euphoric! Gratitude is perhaps the best expression of joy.

In Christ, Richard Malmberg

Welcome To Spring !

The time of year has arrived when we are making changes to our committees, as some people finish their terms, or re-up for either another term or perhaps an extra year. As usual, we have some vacancies for the upcoming fiscal year, which starts on July1.

We have a real shortage on two committees this year: Finance and Mission and Action. These two committees have operated at a shortage for the past year and really need to be bolstered up. Finance works to keep the finances of the church sufficient to support the whole organization. Mission and Action is very active doing mission work locally, nationally and worldwide. Both are interesting and engaging committees. If you have any interest in either, we ask that you contact either Peg Winnen, Church Council Chair, or Jane Vesper, Office Administrator, to indicate your interest. Your name will be placed in nomination at the Annual Meeting on June 22.

If other committees are of interest to you, we also welcome your participation. Many of our committees would welcome some new ideas and input. Any effort is worthwhile and helps the church to continue its mission.

Thank you for your consideration. A list of the committees follows with suggested occupancy:

Christian Education	(3-5)
Mission and Action	(5-7)
Diaconate	(6-8)
Pastor-Parish	(5)
Finance	(2-4)
Stewardship	(3-5)

Memorial	(2-3)
Trustees	(5-7)

Thank you – Sue Krebs

Council News - June

The Church Council met on May 10th. We finalized the Budget for next fiscal year. We hope to see all of you for our Annual Meeting on June 22nd after church. We will be voting on the upcoming budget, and nominating committee members and other business that comes before the church for consideration. There will be a light lunch provided by the council. So please come. It's an important part of the UCC church foundation. We control our own church and your input matters.

We are also planning a joint blood drive with St. John's. We are still working out the details.

Women's Fellowship and the Trustees are planning a renovation of the kitchen. Updating floors, cabinets and paint. If you wish to donate to this project, please contact Dale Woodward or Peg Winnen.

Old Home Days are approaching. So, look for ways you can help. There's a float project for the parade, a display booth for the common and, of course, the Chicken BBQ on June 29th. Many helpers are needed, please volunteer. Don't wait to be asked

That's all for now,
The Council



Sunday, June 29, 2025

First Congregational Church of Walpole
15 Washington Square 4-5:30pm.

Take out ½ Chicken or Chicken Dinner
(Chicken, potato salad, bean salad, roll,
Lemonade or iced tea, and a brownie)

Tickets are available at Galloway Real Estate
or call Betty Prentiss at 603-313-4801.

Women's Fellowship

We may be getting smaller in numbers but we're still large in Spirit. We had a very successful Mistletoe Mart, raising about \$4,000. We met in Spring for an afternoon tea. It was fun sharing information about our favorite teacups. Our planned book club meeting had to be cancelled. We also hosted several receptions. We are now helping to update our kitchen. Replacing the floor, painting and fixing cabinets. So you can see, we are still very active.

Peg Winnen

Missions

The Mission and Action Committee distributed the following monies: \$500 to the Church World Service Blanket Drive, \$500 to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf in memory of Mary Lou Huffling, and \$250 to Our Place in Bellows Falls.

The **Strengthen the Church** offering will be received on **Pentecost Sunday, June 8**. This is one of our "5 for 5" offerings through the United Church of Christ and helps the UCC invest in new ministries and practices that meet the needs of local communities. Look for an envelope in your bulletin and please give generously.

Jane Malmberg

Memorial

The June altar flower schedule is WIDE OPEN! There are five Sundays in June—June 1, June 8, June 15, June 22, and June 29. Lots of wedding anniversaries, graduations and birthdays to celebrate. Could yours be one of them? Please share your joy and sign up on the flower schedule in Fellowship Hall or give Ellie Shaw a call. Thank you!



Trustees

Spring clean-up suggestions are posted in the Fellowship Hall. Several of you have stepped up and completed listed tasks. Thank you! There is no date associated with cleanup. Please do it at your convenience.

Kitchen project: This is a Women's Fellowship Project with guidance from the Trustees. We are ready to move forward. Jason Beam is the contractor chosen and we await an opportunity in his schedule to get started.

The **siding** project on the east side should be underway soon. We met with Matt Blanc to look at this side to be done and discuss the south side. To do the south side will cost \$37,800.00 plus any required repair work. We brought this up to see if we could save money on the lift rental that will be on site to do the east side. We will suggest only doing the upper portion, at a cost of \$25,174.00. Any work done on the south side will have to have the blessing of the finance committee.

The Trustees are aware that this will be difficult financially. We believe it is our responsibility to address the repairs to the church building. Guess that's all for now. Time to mow some lawn!

For the Trustees,
Dale Woodward

Birthdays and Anniversaries – June 2025

June Houghton	June 3
Erin Bowen	June 16
Daniel Bemis	June 18
Becky Pearson	June 18
Tim Foley	June 19
Pat Kingsbury	June 21
Lester Phillips	June 24
Eryn Sellarole	June 24
Jane Vesper	June 24
Tom Winmill	June 25
Alicia Keller	June 27
Shirley Byczkowski	June 29

Dave and Cindy Westover	June 1
Leroy and Cheryl Watson	June 2
Don and Jana Sellarole	June 4



Church Calendar June 2025

Sunday, June 1	Worship Service w/ communion in the sanctuary and on Zoom	10:00 am
Sunday, June 8	Worship Service in the sanctuary and on Zoom	10:00 am
Sunday, June 15	Worship Service in church or on Zoom Father's Day	10:00 am
Sunday, June 22	Worship Service in the sanctuary and on Zoom Annual Meeting Immediately Following Worship Service in Fellowship Hall	10:00 am
Sunday, June 29	Chicken BBQ as part of Old Home Days	4-5:30pm

Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am – 12 pm

**Monday, July 7 Parish Visitor articles are due for
the double issue for July/August.**



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