



*First
Congregational
Church
of Fall River*

*2023 June
Parish Guide*



First Congregational Church Parish Guide



Volume 137

No 6

June 2023

From Reverend Andy

How we participate in worship matters.

It is easy for us to just show up, to mumble through a few responses and prayers, and wait out the hymns to get the scripture and the sermon. It is an especially easy temptation to fall into as our **worship is a traditional style. The songs don't have a familiar melody, and culturally, singing is something we all have come to reserve for the car, the shower, karaoke, the professionals, or not at all. And really, I get it, few of us are at home jamming out to Bach's Organ Fugue in G Minor.**

Still, as we begin to lean into the summer months, we will look toward July and August with our worship starting at 9 AM again. We are also going to begin to contemplate how we engage in **worship. I am not writing this as critique, "oh, you are all doing it wrong" but more as a loving invitation to deepen what you already experience. I'm hoping this summer can be an intentional experiment for you to up your worship game. To intentionally not do 'something different' but to lean into what we already do with more depth and weight.**

If you're singing in worship is a challenge purposefully, commit yourself to deepening it, listen to others in the congregation who are singing and sing with them. If praying in church is a challenge, bring a prayer intention every week and offer it up to the whole congregation. If our unison responses seem rote or dry, look closely at what the words are saying and offer them up with boldness. If the service music or the choir responses seem unengaging, look at the title in the bulletin and close your eyes and really hear their depth and meaning. If the scripture reading and message are a challenge, try taking notes in the bulletin as a way of focusing your attention on the message. If all else fails and you continue to struggle to worship, simply take in the beauty of the building and let its elegance teach you a lesson. The entire service has within it deep and powerful moments inviting you to enter into each of them.

Again this is not suggesting you or we are failing or 'not doing it right' it's truly an invitation to deepening our discipline of worship. By way of that, we will be starting back up our liturgist service this summer. While I'm not sure what date we will kick it off it will be sometime in July or August. If you don't know the liturgist sits up front with me and helps lead the service by leading the responses and prayers, reading scripture and all around helping out. It is another way to deepen your experience of worship through serving, and it can be a lot of fun.

We are gathering names now, and if you're interested in participating as a liturgist please contact the office and we'll get some times together to discuss and get trained up. Whether you choose to be a worship leader or not, I hope you take the opportunity this summer to deepen your connection to your worship life, and in doing so deepen your faith, your connection to your church family and to Christ.

Peace and Grace,
Rev. Andy

"Diaconate Corner"

Summer will soon arrive!

Believe it or not, another Summer season is soon to be upon us- a time for relaxation, sunshine, and reflection. As a teacher, my life was in a different place than the rest of the year during the months of July and August, but in retirement those feelings of relaxation and reflection remain close to my soul during these two months.

Let us now reflect about this past month of May- one of my favorite months of the year. It was by all means a month to treasure here at FCC. Our monthly Sacrament of Communion continues to live deep within me, and our traditional 3rd Sunday Gathering always brings to mind such joyful Fellowship, bringing us all together with **smiles and the more than occasional hugs. This month we also embraced our Mother's Day service in between those two Sundays, and we ended the month with the beautiful memory of the Baptism of precious little Lorelai McNearney, truly an angel. And of course, every Sunday Rev. Andy provides us with a service that never fails to "hit the ball out of the park"- as many seem to say as they leave Church every week. Also, let us not forget our music. One particular melody keeps singing in my heart, I'll share that as my closing today. We have been truly blessed, thank you all!**

June will bring many memories as well. It begins of course with our Sacrament of Communion on June 4th, quickly followed by our June 11th Family Picnic. Our 3rd Sunday Gathering will follow, this month taking place on **Father's Day. The "Ladies" will create Ice Cream Sundaes for all, in honor of our Dads on that day. Please join in the fun!**

Planning ahead, please remember that our July and August services start at 9:00, and still taking place in the Sanctuary. We can worship together at 9, and still have the rest of the day to praise the Lord wherever we happen to be. Such a lovely way to start those Summer Sundays-yes, days filled with relaxation, sunshine, and reflection. So much to reflect upon!

On May 21st, the music provided by Judy and the choir was, in my opinion, "goosebump worthy", so much so that the melody where it chants, "How can I keep from singing?" keeps playing again and again in my heart. I'll share with you just a small tidbit of these poetic lyrics.

Didn't hear it yet? Listen to the May 21st service from beginning to end and embrace it all, you'll be glad you did!

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

No storm can shake my inmost calm.

While to that Rock I'm clinging

Since Love is lord of heaven and earth,

How can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,

A fountain ever springing.

All things are mine since I am his!

How can I keep from singing?

I'll carry these thoughts with me as I travel through Summer.

Love, Peace, and Grace,
Susan Lanyon, Senior Deacon



Missions News!!

Summer planning is underway on our Missions calendar both within our church and the wider community.

We have confirmed our Ice Cream Social with Resiliency Prep Academy at Ruggles Park on June 7th at 1:00 PM (rain date June 14th). You are encouraged to stop by and meet some awesome kids and dedicated faculty. A sundae will have your name on it served by Nonno's Ice Cream Shoppe on Seabury St. We are so grateful once again for the help of six RPA students as we begin our fleece no tie "Blanket Bonanza" to be donated later in the year to the Jimmy Fund/Dana Farber Cancer Center for children receiving treatment. See some great photos below.

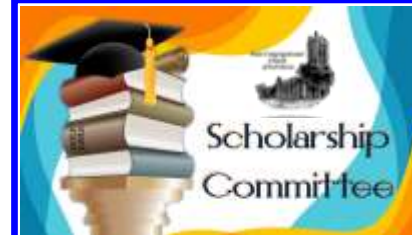
We are sponsoring two camperships for the FR Deaconess youth, a 7 and 11 year old attending FR Boys & Girls Club at Camp Welch. We will be presenting our donations to these children at our church within the next week or two and are looking forward to meeting them.

As we attempt to educate ourselves about the mission work through Light A Candle in the Dominican Republic, we recently held an informative "meet & greet" with members of the Acoaxet Chapel in Westport who have traveled to LaRomana annually to do God's work. A most warm and welcoming friendly group who shared their experiences within several areas of service - child health and well being, mobile health clinics, food/clothing/medication distribution, education stations and health fairs, construction, and spiritual care. It has been so positive that several families have taken their children and have found the experience to be life changing, counting their blessings growing up in the U.S. A very moving conversation with the planting of seeds to pray on the possibility of FCC participating in the future. Please check out their website www.feul.org or type Light A Candle in Dominican Republic in the search bar to learn more. As one individual shares "I have left a part of my heart there and I go back every year to visit it."

As there will be shorter versions of the Parish Guide for the summer I'd like to remind you of First Steps "Get Steppin' 5 K Walk" as we will be organizing a team. SAVE THE DATE: Saturday Aug 12 at 9:00 AM.

Deb, Cynthia and Larry invite you to "COME OUT AND BE A PART OF IT ALL"
Fun, fresh air, ice cream, exercise, relationships, visioning and YOU will make it so much greater! Blest be our ties that bind our hearts in Christian love.....

Fondly,
Deb Vautrin, Chair
Cynthia Farnham, Larry Loverde, Committee Members



Scholarship Committee News!

Your Scholarship Committee has met and has **Scholarship Applications for 2023** ready for qualified students. They can be found in the vestibule on Sunday mornings, through Susan Lanyon, or through Ivette at the Church office. We will again be offering a Joan Twaddle Scholarship this year, based on your submitted essays, in addition to our FCC Scholarships.

Applications are due no later than June 11th. Please return them to either myself, Ken Ward, or Ivette, by that date.

The Committee will meet soon after that to review all applications .
We look forward to hearing from you, we're thrilled to be part of your educational journey!

Excited to hear from you,
Scholarship Committee Chairperson,
Susan Lanyon
774-644-3926

Would you like to be a part of bringing hope to our city?

You will see the flyer for Laundry Love on the next page.

Laundry love is a ministry that FCC of Fall River is partnering with First Baptist Church Fall River and Church of the Holy Spirit. It is an initiative happening in cities all over the world.

Its aim: "consists of regular opportunities to come alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with their laundry. Laundry love partners with groups and local laundromats in cleaning clothes and linens of low-income or no-income families and person (s). We see the laundromat as a place where strangers become friends, people are known by name, hope is hustled, and the worth of every human being is acknowledged and celebrated."

If you'd like to know more, give a call to the office and we can link you up with John the leader of the initiative here in Fall River, or just stop by at 10AM at Kam's the last Wednesday of the Month and let John know you're here to help!





KAM'S
LAUNDROMAT



laundry love.

FREE COFFEE!*

**FREE WASH
& FREE DRY**

FREE WIFI!

Come join us on the last
Wednesday of every month to
get your clothes cleaned for free!
"Clean clothes = dignity."

Last Wednesday of Every Month

TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WHERE: 415 Second Street, Fall River, MA

(Rear entrance on Morgan Street)

FREE PARKING IN REAR

IMPORTANT:

- Only for residents of Fall River, regardless of living situation.
- Up to two (2) loads allowed per person. Additional loads will cost extra.
- Using public transit? Take SRTA bus #1, #3, #5 or #10 to 2nd St @ Rodman.
- * = Free coffee available at Kams Food Mart with coupon.

Want to donate to Laundry Love?

Scan the QR code on the right or visit
www.purecharity.com/laundry-love-fall-river.

Checks, credit and debit cards accepted.



For more information, contact John Milkey.
Email: jmilkey05@gmail.com | Call or Text: (508) 571-5132

First Congregational Church

2023

PICNIC



GAMES | FUN | FOOD

11 June 2023
@11:15 AM

Come and enjoy great food, games,
fellowship, and finally
the great weather!!

282 Rock St. Fall River MA

FMI/RSVP - 508-672-5862 or churchoffice@fccfallriver.com

First Congregational Church of Fall River

Summer Worship Service

Schedule

From Sunday July 02, 2023
To Sunday August 27, 2023

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Also available in
Facebook and fccfallriver.com



MOPS

this is motherhood

First Congregational Church of Fall River
Invites you to

M O P S

Next Meeting July 06, 2023 @ 5:30 PM
For more information please contact our
group leaders:

Linda Fernandes: lfernandes@comcast.net
Lisa Blanchette: lisa.blanchette@steward.org

**Go to: <https://soundcloud.com>
Search: for FCC Fall River
and enjoy
Rev. Andy's Message!**

www.facebook.com/FccFallRiver



This has been a very worthwhile endeavor that our church has embraced and we need volunteers to help with the preparation as well as serving.

SOUP KITCHEN

Upcoming Dates: June 6, 2023 July 11, 2023

Please plan to be at church by 2:00 PM

First Congregational Church

Free Yoga Classes

@ 6:00 PM

282 Rock St.

(Please use Cherry Street door)

Every
Tuesday & Thursday

Free and open to the public
(13yrs and up)

All levels welcome!!
Please refer to our
Facebook page for all class
cancellations or changes.



Please join us every
Tue-Wed-Thu for:

11 Minutes at 11:11 am

With Rev Andy on Facebook Live
<https://www.facebook.com/FccFallRiver>

*"Be a part of something larger
than yourself"*



Available On
SOUNDCLOUD
Scripture
Readings & Sermon
<https://soundcloud.com/user-281358520>



<https://open.spotify.com/show/7Cavtolj585E4sjhXdI6xT>

Have you ordered your brick to
help complete our
Memorial Walkway
in the James Ward Memorial
Garden?

Order forms are available in the
Narthex or by calling/emailing the
church office at (508) 672-5862 or
churchoffice@fccfallriver.com



Step 1: Go to <https://get.tithe.ly>
or scan the QR-Code
Step 2: Create an account
Step 3: GIVE!!!



SCAN ME



*First Congregational
Church
of Fall River*

JUNE 2023

UP COMING EVENTS!!

Office hours
Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM -2:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
				YOGA @ 6:00 PM Rev Andy OOTO	Rev Andy OOTO	Rev Andy OOTO
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Communion Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM Pulpit Supply-Rev Fisk Rev Andy OOTO	Prayer Shawl Knitting Circle @ 5:30 PM Step Aerobics @ 7 PM Rev Andy OOTO	Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Soup Kitchen @ 2:30PM YOGA @ 6:00 PM Rev Andy OOTO		YOGA @ 6:00 PM		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Baptism Tayvia Ferreira Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM Church Picnic @ 11:15 AM Last day of Sunday School	Prayer Shawl Knitting Circle @ 5:30 PM Step Aerobics @ 7 PM	Huddle Meeting 10:15 AM Scholarship Meeting @4:00 PM Deacons Meeting @7:15 PM YOGA @ 6:00 PM	Deacons Dinner @ 6:00 PM-The Cove	Pastoral Relations @5:30 PM YOGA @ 6:00 PM		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Fathers Day Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Worship Sunday-Baptism @ 10:00 AM Fellowship Sunday @11:15 AM	Juneteenth HO OFFICE CLOSED Prayer Shawl Knitting Circle @ 5:30 PM Step Aerobics @ 7 PM	Huddle Meeting 10:15 AM YOGA @ 6:00 PM		UWGFR Board Meeting @ 8:00 AM YOGA @ 6:00 PM REV NACCC	NACCC 2023 Annual Meeting & Conference Milwaukee REV NACCC	NACCC 2023 Annual Meeting & Conference Milwaukee REV NACCC
25	26	27	28	29	30	01
NACCC 2023 Annual Meeting & Conference Milwaukee Choir Rehearsal 9:00 Pulpit Supply Worship Sunday @ 10:00 AM REV NACCC	NACCC 2023 Annual Meeting & Conference Milwaukee Prayer Shawl Knitting Circle @ 5:30 PM Step Aerobics @ 7 PM REV NACCC	NACCC 2023 Annual Meeting & Conference Milwaukee Huddle Meeting 10:15 AM YOGA @ 6:00 PM REV NACCC		YOGA @ 6:00 PM REV NACCC		

Congratulations and Best Wishes

We know these lists may be incomplete, so we ask that anyone whose name is not included be sure to call the Church Office with the necessary information.

Happy Anniversary!!

- 3-Jul Melissa & Colin Kearney
- 6-Jul Amy & Jared Lanyon
- 7-Jul Susan & Kendall Lanyon
- 7-Jul Darren & Rebecca Soens
- 8-Jul Tara & Raymond Correira
- 21-Jul Kathy & Jeff Sanson
- 22-Jul Sandra D & Donald Wood
- 23-Jul Nancy & Robert Costa

I choose you everyday & always

Happy Birthday June Babies

- 3-Jun Eleanor Schofield
- 3-Jun Andrew Stinson
- 5-Jun Susan Moe-Raposo
- 6-Jun Diane Palmer
- 8-Jun Madison Kearney
- 8-Jun Casey Paul
- 8-Jun Mary Lou Quigley
- 9-Jun Evelyn Brown
- 10-Jun Jennifer Rezendes
- 10-Jun Beverly Sullivan
- 11-Jun James Mulrooney
- 13-Jun Cindy Moniz
- 14-Jun Isabella Hocker

- 16-Jun Abigail Waring
- 22-Jun Virginia Hadley
- 22-Jun Brendan Mulrooney
- 23-Jun Elliott Brosnahan
- 23-Jun Kaitlyn Brown
- 23-Jun Aleciana Gonzalez
- 24-Jun Sharlett Blake
- 25-Jun Patience Luma
- 26-Jun Rachel Sallum
- 26-Jun Kristin Waring
- 28-Jun Andrew Oliveira
- 30-Jun Angela Jersky

First Congregational Church
Office: 21 June Street
Fall River, MA 02720



Prepared especially for

You!

If you no longer wish to receive the *Parish Guide*, please let the Church Office, know by phone (508) 672-5862 or email at churchoffice@fccfallriver.com

Moving??? Please let us know; don't forget to notify the church office...



All printed copies of this parish guide are printed on paper that is at least 30 % post-consumer content. Please recycle it when you are finished.

First Congregational Church Worship @ 10:00 A.M.

Telephone: (508) 672 5862
Fax: (508) 672 2341
Email Address: churchoffice@fccfallriver.com
Website Address: <http://fccfallriver.com/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FccFallRiver/>
SoundCloud: <https://soundcloud.com/user-281358520>
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday
9:00AM - 2:30 PM

The Staff
Rev. Andrew Stinson
Senior Minister
Denise Ward-Moderator
Judith Conrad-Music Minister
Cheryl Foley-Bookkeeper
Ivette Alarcon-Church Admin.
Henry Parker-Sexton