



FEDERATED COMMUNITY CHURCH  
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# *The Federated Courier*

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## *From the Pastor's Desk*

*While standing guard on the watchtower, I waited for the LORD's answer, before explaining the reason for my complaint. Then the LORD told me: "I will give you my message in the form of a vision. Write it clearly enough to be read at a glance. At the time I have decided, my words will come true. You can trust what I say about the future. It may take a long time but keep on waiting— it will happen! "I, the LORD, refuse to accept anyone who is proud. Only those who live by faith are acceptable to me."*

Habakkuk 2: 1-4

The questions of "why" are as old as the prophets. Habakkuk questioned the Lord's silence when he prayed. He cried out to the Lord about the awful injustices that were taking place and why was the Lord allowing those injustices to continue. (This is not unlike our many cries today.) The Lord answers Habakkuk and shares with him what is happening and will happen: telling Habakkuk to watch. God says Habakkuk would not believe even if God explained it all to him. Habakkuk continues to question the Lord with **why** God is choosing to act and allow life to play out as described. The Lord answers Habakkuk again that God's words will come true, to trust in God's words. It may take a long time but keep trusting and having faith Only those who are not proud and live by faith are acceptable to God.

Our question why and how God is doing something is our own desire to want to be in control and our search to understand and want to know more about God. To understand God, we need to look at Jesus Christ, the second part of the Trinity. Jesus didn't

come as a dictator, but as a humble man, who walked in love and faith even through much difficulty. God tells us that God's ways may take a long time but we, as disciples, are called to be faithful.

Many times, tragedy and turmoil bring humans to search for God. When the questions of “**Why?**” are not answered or the prayers are not answered how we demand, then many folks give up on God. But God calls us to humility and faithfulness.

Humility acknowledges that all we are and all we have are not ours alone, but God's. It is all a gift from God. S/He oversees the entire world and yet, since we are made in the image of God and filled with the Holy Spirit, we are connected to God, so God knows our individuals needs and desires, as well as the pain we suffer. God understands our questions of “**Why?**” We are not alone, we are not in charge of the world, we do not understand the big picture: but we are called to have faith.

God told Habakkuk it may take a long time for God's promises to be fulfilled but it will happen. We are called to be faithful because that is what is important to God. We need to be trusting even when we do not understand. God is still in charge. Listen, watch, and wait and keep faith that will carry you through onto eternity.

I share with you The Statement of Faith from the United Church of Canada found in the Methodist Hymnal (#883). We have been reciting and affirming this statement in our weekly summer worship. It declares our faith beliefs and brings me much comfort. I hope it does the same for you.

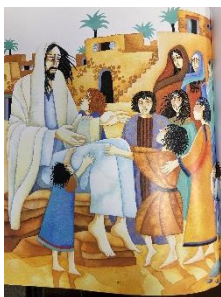
We are not alone, we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

We may not understand but God is with us and will move us into  
His/Her vision for the world. Take comfort, we are never alone!

In Christ's Light and Love,

*Pastor Pat*



## *Youth Faith Formation*

We are very happy to welcome such a wonderful, thoughtful and kind group of young people into our church! Sunday was a joy as we welcomed Hudson, Olivia, Cody, Robert, August, River and Bear into our Faith Formation group.

This month we will continue our study and discussion of Genesis and our origin stories. We will sing, tell stories, create art and share what is important to us as we learn about this beautiful world that God has made.

As always, we will move into a greater understanding of how we are each important and very Beloved Children of God.

Laura Lillibridge, CYFF Coordinator

## *Join us for Free Pumpkin Carving Afternoon*



Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Cider donuts, Prizes for best costume

## *From the Deacons' Bench*

Dear Friends,

Are we listening for God's call? Loud or soft, God calls us daily.

### **Loud and Clear**

by Vince Amlin

*"The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out ... and the sheep follow him because they know his voice." - John 10:2-4 excerpts (NRSV)*

The first thing my daughter told me about her new teacher was how tall he is. "Taller than you, Daddy."

The second thing was how loud.

"When recess is over, he yells, 'TEEEEEAM OOOOOOH SIIIIIIIX!'" She made her voice as low as she could as she imitated his call.

How do the sheep know the shepherd's voice? Maybe they're born knowing. But I suspect it helps to learn what to listen for.

At one of the churches I serve, Gilead, each week two people get up and share a true story from their lives about anything at all. And when they finish we say, "The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God."

The response reminds me to listen closely for the shepherd. God's name is rarely mentioned in the stories. But God's voice is all over the place if I'm paying attention.

The hope is that, by practicing, we'll recognize it more easily. In other people's stories. And our own.

A couple days after my daughter told me about her teacher, I was praying in the sanctuary of the other church I serve, Bethany.

I had tuned out the sound of the playground across the street. Until I heard a deep voice bellow, "TEEEEEAM OOOOOOH SIIIIIIIX!"

And even though I had never heard him speak myself, I knew just whose voice it was. Loud and low (and tall).

Deacon Linda Hornig



## *October Birthdays*

Birthday Greetings to the following members of our church who celebrate birthdays in October.



Robert Patterson	10/01
Barbara Dunwoody	10/03
Jacene Germain	10/05
Joseph Eagan	10/05
Jennifer Jernigan	10/05
Carmel Grant	10/04
Madison Cadieux	10/08
Ellie Soucy	10/14
Cameron Walulak	10/14
Joyce Brooks	10/14
Laurie Schoolcraft	10/17
Gerald Robinson	10/18
Casey DeGray	10/20
Rebecca DeSanti	10/20
Rebekah Doyle	10/23
Justin Jernigan	10/24
Bruce Westcott	10/29
Beatrice Officer	10/30
Gillian Smith	10/30
Olivia McKeone	10/31

## *Wedding Anniversaries*

John & Beatrice Moriarty	10/01
Allen & Laurie Schoolcraft	10/04
Paul & Elizabeth Cilley	10/09
Nancy & Richard Nelson	10/09
Robert & Ellie Green	10/13
Robert & Cheryl Patterson	10/14
Bruce & Jeanne Westcott	10/15
Michael & Karen Kielb	10/18
Joshua & Sarah Blain	10/24
Erik & Dawn McKeone	10/27



## Prayer Corner



Evie Meacham  
Winnie  
Dennis  
John (Jack) Bennett  
Watson family  
Janet Brehaut  
Josh G & Family  
MaryLou Black  
Sandra Gibson  
Christopher

Bob Green  
Jan  
Fran Brown  
Elaine Selfridge  
Gretchen Warner  
Doreen  
Jaoat  
William  
Ed  
Amy  
Carol Darnley (cancer)

For the people Afghanistan & the people of Haiti  
For those impacted by changing weather disasters  
For those traveling  
For shut-ins and those who are isolated  
For first responders & healthcare workers  
For those battling cancer  
For the homeless  
For our country  
For transitions within our church  
For all world leaders  
For Asians & Blacks & all who are persecuted for simply  
being how God created them  
For World Peace

Join us on Mondays at 9:30 AM for Spirit Chat and to lift those above in prayer.

### Sympathy to...

*Clara Kern & family in the death of Otto Kern,  
who passed away on September 4th.*

*Janet Modlish in the death of her friend, Ann Leger.*



## *Celebrating All Saints Sunday*

There is a white tablecloth in Libby Hall which will be used on the altar table as we celebrate Holy Communion on **All Saints Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**. You are invited to write the name of a deceased loved one on the cloth.

### *Role of the Worship Assistant.*

One of the "side effects" of COVID has been fewer people present for in-person worship, so fewer people available to fill the roles of greeter, usher, and liturgist. As a result, we have created a new role, **Worship Assistant** (which combines some of the existing duties of all three previously separate roles. The Worship Assistant will serve in the following ways:

- Greeter: Stand at the Welcome table to greet worshippers, dispense bulletins, offer Welcome cards to new guests, etc.
- Liturgist: read Scripture
- Usher: Take the Collection; at the Benediction, go down and open the outside narthex doors for departing worshippers.

Please uphold FCC leadership in your prayers as we continue to seek creative responses to new challenges while attempting to live into our ongoing mission as a community of faith.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,  
FCC Board of Deacons

### *Memorial Gifts Committee Meeting*

October 21<sup>st</sup> @ 1:30 PM at the church

Shirley Facey, Joyce Libby, Joan Harris, Janet Modlish  
& Pastor Pat,



## *Fundraising*

Thank you for your faithful commitment with your pledges, gifts and tithes. In year's past, we have supplemented our budget with dinners, breakfasts, plays, flowers sales, craft fairs, and more. Because of COVID, many of the fundraising has not been able to take place. Surprisingly, we have come up with three new ideas and are very excited about them.

First: David Spencer will offer watercolor sessions for six weeks. We are excited and blessed to have an award-winning watercolor painter in our congregation who is willing to share his gift with others.

Second: Joyce Brooks is a sales representative for Usborne Books. (They offer great books if you are looking for a Christmas or Birthday gift.) Joyce will be heading up a Greeting Card Fundraiser. They come in a beautifully decorated solid crafted box, so the cards do not get crushed. There are thirty (30) cards in each set for \$30.00 with the Holiday box containing 50 cards for the same price. They are a high-quality card. The church receives a generous portion of each sale. An order form follows. Joyce will be available following worship for sales and to answer questions or you can use the order form to mail in order with your payment. We will let you know when your order has arrived.

Third: Two of the grants we received from the United Methodist church for reorganizing, revitalizing, and reaching out are under the grant name: *Connecting in the Spirit*. We will be offering t-shirts or polo shirts with a picture of a dove, the grant name, and our church name. All shirts will be in blue (sky background for our dove). Kim Cummins will be heading up taking and placing the orders. We will be set to take the orders beginning on October 17<sup>th</sup>. T shirts will cost \$15.00 and Polo shirts \$20.00. Shirts must be paid for before they are ordered. We will be taking orders until the end of November.

Please remember all these are ways of folks helping our church which allows us to do more missions in our community. I hope you will be generous in your support.

*Fundraiser Order Form*

Name:		Address:	
Phone:		Email:	
<b>Box</b>	<b># of Boxes</b>	<b>Amount Due</b>	<b>Paid</b>
All Occasion Box 1			
All Occasion Box 2			
Thanks & Blanks Box			
The Kids Birthday Box			
The Holiday Card Collection			
	<b>Total:</b>		

*Mission Committee Chairperson*

Joyce Brooks has stepped forward to volunteer as Chair for our mission committee. Please prayer for our church transition to a new chair as we discern what outreach God is asking us to take up this year. FCC has always had a generous heart towards mission. I hope you will continue to support Joyce in her new role. Welcome Aboard Joyce!

## *COVID Guidelines for Indoor Worship*

As we return to Sanctuary worship, the following guidelines will be resumed:

- **Enter** the building through the front side door or, if using the chairlift, through the back door. (The green front Sanctuary doors will be locked)
- Please maintain **social distancing** while in the building and choosing a seat in the Sanctuary.
- **Masks** are required in the building (unless medically exempt).
- **Hand sanitizer** is provided on the Welcome table at the upstairs Sanctuary door.
- **Exit** the Sanctuary after worship through the narthex and the green Sanctuary doors (unless using the chairlift)

Thank you for your compliance, which safeguards the safety of our faith family and guests.

## *New Worship Music Director*

We are pleased to announce that Mark Jacobson will be stepping into the role as Worship Musician and Choir Director at the beginning of Advent (November 28<sup>th</sup>). Mark comes with a wealth of musical experience, a deep love of God and church, a great sense of humor, and an excitement for creating beautiful music. We are excited and looking forward to having Mark share his gifts and talent with FCC!





# October 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 10:00 AM Worship CY Faith Form begins in classroom	4 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	5 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA	6 10:30 AM Bible Study	7	8 7:30 PM AA	9 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 12:30 PM Watercolor Session
10 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form	11 9:30 AM Spirit Chat 6:00 Bell Choir	12 6:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Finance	13 10:30 AM Bible Study	14	15 7:30 PM AA	16 12:30 PM Watercolor Session
17 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form	18 9:30 AM Spirit Chat 6:00 PM Bell Choir	19 6:00 PM AA 6:30 PM BOD	20 10:30 AM Bible Study 12:30 PM *WWV	21 1:30 PM Memorial Gifts Meeting	22 7:30 PM AA	23 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 12:30 PM Watercolor Session
24 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form	25 9:30 AM Spirit Chat	26 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM AA	27 10:30 AM Bible Study	28	29 7:30 PM AA	30 12:30 PM Watercolor Session 3:00 PM Pumpkin Carving
31 10:00 AM Worship *CY Faith Form					* Children/Youth Faith Formation will begin in the sanctuary and will be dismissed after approx. 15 minutes	*WWV= Wonderful Wednesday Worship /Lunch

