



*First Church returns to traditional Communion on July 2.*

## First Church in Jaffrey Weathervane July - August 2023

### Help Us Continue the Legacy

The First Church in Jaffrey has an amazing heritage. We can read about some of it in the “History of Jaffrey” (Annett/Lehtinen, 1937), like we did in worship a few weeks ago when we talked about the raising of the Meetinghouse. Or we can listen to the recollections of our present members who share fond memories of life within our community. Here are two from present trustees:

*From John Raleigh:* I recall (vaguely) having first attended First Church during earlier, boyhood summers. Sundays, especially in August, seemed mostly hot or mostly humid or both (the wooden pews always unforgiving). And later, I returned on occasion during brief visits from New York or California. Some things have not changed: a red carpet, familiar faces (present, remembered), flowers on the altar, abiding wood pews. And yet, for me, it's that First Church has remained a place of welcome and, as such, a wonderful reason why, amidst a mountain view, a meetinghouse and horse sheds, I'll always come back.

*From David Bliss:* My family came to First Church in the late seventies. The Church soon became an important fixture in our lives as we celebrated my wedding and my daughter's baptism in this wonderful place. The Church Fair is an annual event that holds many fond memories for all of us. First Church is a great place to start or continue your spiritual journey and meet some wonderful people. As a long-time member, I am so pleased to have Steve here to continue the First Church legacy.

As our legacy continues, we need your help. Our trustee circle has proposed a small capital fund drive to address several important issues that affect our historic buildings. They discussed this plan at our annual meeting last January after the church leadership recognized that several items of deferred maintenance could not be covered in the operating budget. These projects include painting and gutters for for the parsonage and parish house,

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repairing and painting woodwork on the steeple, replacing carpet in the sanctuary and rejuvenating our memorial garden. The trustees are hoping that we can raise \$25,000 this summer so our beloved buildings can continue to nurture spirituality and community. As part of our extended First Church family, would you consider making a pledge or a gift to this effort?

You can let us know in a variety of ways:

1. Email your reply: [janetgrant@firstchurchinjaffrey.org](mailto:janetgrant@firstchurchinjaffrey.org)
2. You can create a simple note of response which can be mailed or hand delivered to the church office. (14 Laban Ainsworth Way, Jaffrey, NH, 03452)
3. You may speak directly to Steve or our Trustee Circle chair, Janet Grant.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Steve or any member of the Trustee Circle (Janet Grant, David Bliss, John Raleigh, Dan Wilfrid, Pam Hill, Roy Lake).

Thank you for being a vital part of our beloved community. It **is** an exciting time to be the First Church in Jaffrey.



The congregation took advantage of the sunshine to gather for a photo on the church front steps, after welcoming new members.

## 2023 July/August Worship at First Church

**Meditation text in bold;** Call to Worship text in plain font

July 2, 2023

“The Simple Art of Creating  
Welcome”

**Matthew 10:40-42**

Psalm 89

*Communion*

August 6, 2023

“The LAF Principle”

**Matthew 14:13-21**

Psalm 145

*Communion*

July 9, 2023

“Carry the Day”

**Matthew 11:16-19, 28-30**

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

August 13, 2023

“After the Storm”

**Matthew 14:22-33**

Psalm 85

July 16, 2023

Guest preacher:

Leaf Seligman

August 20, 2023

Guest preacher:

Nancy Elder-Wilfrid

July 23, 2023

“Let Them Grow Together”

**Matthew 13:24-30**

Psalm 139

August 27, 2023

Guest preacher:

Ilona Kwiecien

July 31, 2023

“God and other Ultimates”

**Matthew 13:44-52**

Psalm 119



On Sunday morning, June 25<sup>th</sup>, we were pleased to welcome nine new members into our church family. They are Lee and Charlotte DeBell, Marvin Caldwell, Weltha Barker, Bob and Steffie Kyte, Dan and Sarah Isaacs, and Kathy Thigpen. Please greet them at church and offer your own personal welcome.

## Summer Is Here!

### ***Pie Sales Off to an Amazing Start***



On the first day of pie sales, June 23, we sold out in the first 20 minutes! Sales will continue every Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 until August 25. There will be no Friday pie sale the week of the August 2 Fair. The favorites are always fruit pies, but we make chicken pie, tortieres and quiches too. All fruit pies and quiches are \$25. Meat and chicken pies are \$30. Come early, pies sell out quickly!

Besides the Friday sales, we have two special pie days this summer — the first is a “patriotic” pie which made its debut on July 4. Loaded with fresh strawberries and blueberries topped with the stars and stripes, this limited edition quickly sold out (by reservation only) on the holiday.

A second special pie will be sold on *Thursday, August 16* to commemorate Jaffrey’s 250<sup>th</sup> birthday. We’re calling it the Jaffrey Jubilee Lemon Pie, and it will be complete with whipped cream and sparkle picks. Phone orders will be taken beginning August 7. This pie will also be \$30.

Proceeds from these two special pies will be donated to the war-torn Ukrainian Refugee Fund and earmarked for projects that help children who are refugees or living in Ukraine.

I’ll be taking a limited number of phone orders via **The Pie Hotline at 603-263-4743**. Pie varieties are listed on the phone recording.

### ***Bakers and Helpers Needed!***

The wonderful thing about summer pies is that you can never have enough. People just buy, buy, buy and gobble them up! We could use a one to two helpers every Thursday morning to help mix ingredients and bake. Pie crusts are made beforehand, and I try to have pre-measured ingredients for some pies. That’s also the day we fold pie boxes. On Friday, volunteers can garnish the pies and put them in boxes. Extra hands to clean up are very welcome.

**And of course, we need lots of home bakers to donate pies for Friday sales.** Why not revive an old skill or learn new ones – bake a pie! I have some very easy recipes. If you’d like to get a weekly email/pie update, please give me your email address.

Thanks very much, Pam Hill  
[philloncapecod@gmail.com](mailto:philloncapecod@gmail.com)



## Save the Date: First Church 106th Fair on August 2

The tradition continues – the 106th Summer Fair this year is on Wednesday, August 2, from 1 to 4 pm. Chairs Bruce Hill, Pam Hill, and Janet Grant report that most Fair leaders are returning, and all venues from 2022 plus a couple of new ones are planned. As usual admission is free and food is abundant.

The popular venues include garden center, antiques, bakery, fine art, white elephant, fabrics, tools, and small electronics. The Fair no longer offers books but we will have some furniture sales. At the Children's Fair held in the Horsesheds, kids can play games to win prizes, decorate cupcakes, test their strength, find treasures to buy, ride in an antique car, and more.

This event depends on roughly 100 volunteers to set up, sort, sell, park cars, and clean up. While the church's congregation plans and organizes the Fair, two-thirds of the workers come from the wider community. Funds raised in recent years have helped support more than one dozen local social service organizations and scholarships for Conant HS graduates.

*There will be three dates to drop off items at the Blackberry Lane entrance to the Parish House.*

Tuesday, July 11: 10-12 noon

Thursday, July 20: 1-3 pm

Friday, July 28: 3-5 pm

Any questions? Please call Bruce Hill at 508-280-9546.



We would like to share a huge thank you to our Scout Troop 33 b/g which spent the last month restoring the border garden along Blackberry Lane. They have planted several mountain laurels by the rock wall in memory of former scout leader Ruth Webber. A simple service of dedication for this memorial will be held on July 10, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the backyard. All members and friends are welcome to come.

## ***On the Road with Steve ...***

Steve will be travelling twice this summer.

In July, he will head to the Horton Center which is our UCC church camp located on Pine Mountain in Gorham, New Hampshire. Steve has volunteered to be a camp counselor and a dean this summer. He is excited to experience the youth of our conference in this beautiful place and to bring that spirit back to our church family!

In August, Steve will travel to Chicago to be a part of the Parliament of the World's Religions celebrating 130 years of respectful dialogue and mutual understanding. Steve will be presenting at two workshops around themes of Jesus' prayers in Aramaic and rituals of respect.

Steve told the story recently of the importance of the rock opera *Jesus Christ Superstar* to his call to pastoral ministry. Along with many of our folks, he attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary showing of the 1973 movie at the Park Theatre and was privileged to meet Ted Neeley who played Jesus in the original film. Ted is now 78 years old.



### **Thank you to our Contributors:**

MaryJo Marvin, Steve Miller,  
Carol Hess, Pam & Bruce Hill,  
Marcia Breckenridge,  
Josh Levesque, John Raleigh,  
David Bliss

## Benevolence Circle News

### *Two Students Receive Scholarships*

On Thursday, June 8 Conant High School graduates Tamitayo Giwa and Kylie Aho were awarded First Church in Jaffrey scholarships at a graduation ceremony on June 8. Each deserving young woman received \$750 for further education.

To qualify for these scholarships applicants are asked to write a personal essay describing past and current involvement in school and the community, as well as their aspirations for the future. Kylie wrote, “Since freshman year, I have worked at Market Basket and had the opportunity to learn and practice the importance of a work ethic, the value of empathy and the joy of community. I have already been accepted into a Data Analytics course at Nashua Community College and will pursue my enthusiasm for a STEM (science, technology and math education) career.”

Tamitayo wrote, “My nearest sister was in high school when I was born, and I missed being a big sister. When I became a cousin, I knew the fun of being helpful to someone younger. I even helped name the new baby ‘Jasmine’ which in Persian means “Gift of God. I have loved working with a little kid and plan a career that will continue that gift.”

On behalf of FCiJ, the Benevolence Circle congratulates these students with best wishes for the future. The annual scholarships are made possible by funds raised at the summer Fair.

*Marcia Breckenridge for the Benevolence Circle*

### **GOT LUNCH NEEDS DRIVERS!**

One of the local programs supported by FCiJ's Benevolence Circle with money raised by the Fair is GOT LUNCH. During school vacations this program delivers a large weekly bag of groceries per child to families in the Jaffrey-Rindge school district who receive subsidized lunches during the school calendar year.

The GOT LUNCH program is staffed by local volunteers, and food is housed in the old parsonage of the Rindge Congregational Church. Currently the summer deliveries are serving 128 children in 51 families with deliveries each Thursday morning from 8:00-10:00. There are five routes which are written out with pictures of the house and clear, easy to follow directions; teams consist of two people (one driver and one navigator) who have chosen to be partners.

There is a real need for another team. If you would like to be involved in delivery, as many Thursdays this summer as you have available, please contact Marcia Breckenridge at 603-562-6393 or [marciabreck@gmail.com](mailto:marciabreck@gmail.com)

## Amos Fortune Forum Begins July 7



The Amos Fortune Forum is held every Friday at 8 pm from July 7th to August 18th in the historic Meetinghouse located in Jaffrey Center, NH. This summer the Forum is providing space and seating on the Meetinghouse Common for attendees who would like to arrive early and bring a picnic. This space will be set up on Friday evenings by 6:30 pm.

Designed to inspire and stimulate conversation, the series provides a unique opportunity to hear from and interact with this summer's featured speakers.

July 7: Former White Chief of Staff Andrew Card – “Democracy Now”

July 14: Storyteller Andy Davis – “The Sweater”

July 21: Visual Artist Chris Myott – “The Art and Stories of Chris Myott”

July 28: Writer and Photographer Joan Brooks Baker – “Through the Lens of my Camera: The Essence of Woman”

August 4: Brothers Tony and Jeff Whittemore and filmmaker Eric Strange – “Pony Boys: The Story of an Adventure of a Lifetime”

August 11: Professor of Sculpture Littleton Alston and Ashley Olson, Executive Director of the National Willa Cather Center - “Willa Cather as Creator: Breaking the Mold and Carving a Place in History”

August 18: Jennifer Gruda, Senior Judicial Assistant to Supreme Court Associate Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson - “A View From Behind the Bench”

All programs are free and open to the public. Following the lecture, all are invited to a reception across the way in the Parish House of the First Church in Jaffrey.

If you cannot attend, all presentations are streamed live ([facebook.com/AmosFortuneForum](https://facebook.com/AmosFortuneForum)). More program information is available at [www.amosfortune.com](http://www.amosfortune.com).