

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451

Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor

Sandy Carter - Organist / Pianist

January 9, 2022

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift; that is why it is called the present."

by Eleanor Roosevelt

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: The powerful voice of God created all worlds.

People: That same voice lives in our hearts.

Pastor: That same voice calls us together for worship.

People: God's creative power opens us to the Spirit.

Pastor: We come to ponder our own baptism and its meaning.

People: We celebrate the Spirit's gifts within and among us.

Amen

***HYMN** "We Bless the Name of Christ the Lord" No. 214

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lead us in your truth this day, gracious God. We long to know your ways and be guided by Your Spirit. Direct us into that state of being where your purposes inform our hearts and minds. We want to grow in the likeness of the Christ Spirit, to learn to live in ways that bring forth life. We wait for You now, eager to respond to your promptings. Let nothing cut us off from You or separate us from one another, not only in this time of worship, but as we face the challenges of the times ahead. We pray this in the name and nature of the Living Christ Spirit that has promised to be with us always even unto the end of the world. Amen

***GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" No. 575

FIRST SCRIPTURE Isaiah 42: 1-9 pages 584-585

CHOIR ANTHEM

PRAYER REQUESTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

"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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

PRAYER RESPONSE "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" No. 572

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 3: 13-17 pages 784-785

MESSAGE "Affirmed by Love" – Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "Another Year is Dawning" No. 560

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

*=All who are able, are invited to stand.

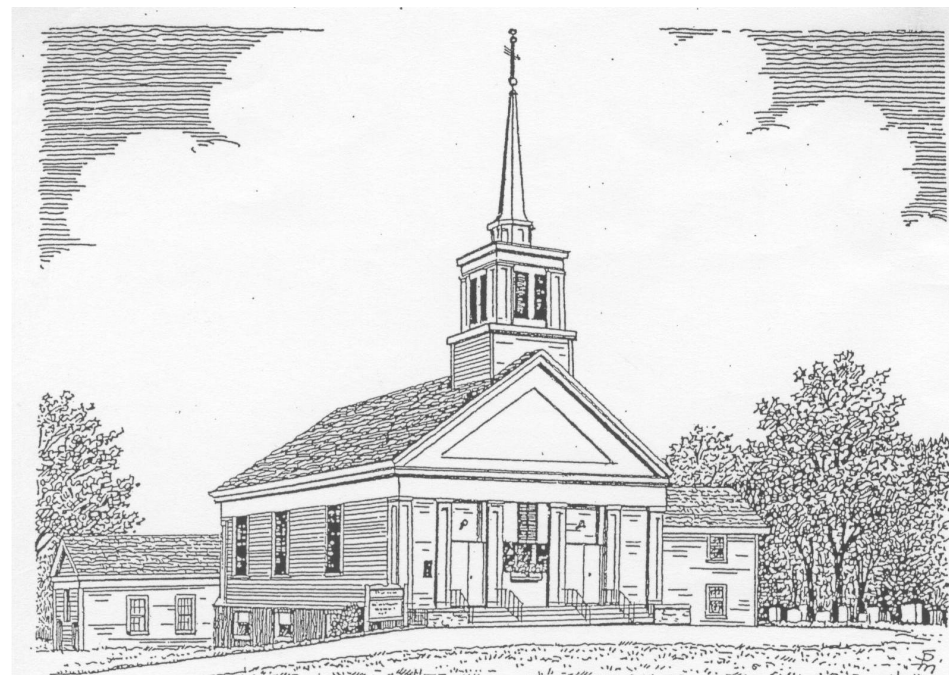
Announcements

The flowers on the altar are from Bunny in loving memory of her cousin, Jack Andrews, who passed away on January 7th, a year ago this past Friday, due to many complications and Covid.

A reminder that Committees' and Officers' written reports for the year 2021 are due TODAY. Reports may be left at the church on the table in the entryway, on Willis's porch, or emailed to Judy Willis at judywillis56@gmail.com Copies of reports will be available to members next Sunday, January 16th.

The abbreviated **Annual Meeting** is scheduled to be held on January 23rd, immediately following the regular 10:30 Sunday morning worship service. The meeting will be held socially distanced in-person and will be broadcast via Zoom. The only items to be reviewed and voted on at the meeting will be the 2022 Budget and any other pressing financial concerns, the list of Officers and Committees for 2022, and the revised By-Laws with minimal changes. All other Committee and Officer Reports will be held for a later date, as was done last year. If you have any questions, please contact Moderator Paul Willis at 413-625-2649.

The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee wishes to thank everyone who helped pay for all of the new pew Bibles that they recently purchased for the Church. The support was overwhelming, and all of the Bibles have been reserved in memory or honor of someone. Judy Willis has graciously taken care of filling out the book plates, so you can look forward to seeing the new Bibles in the pews soon.



Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338