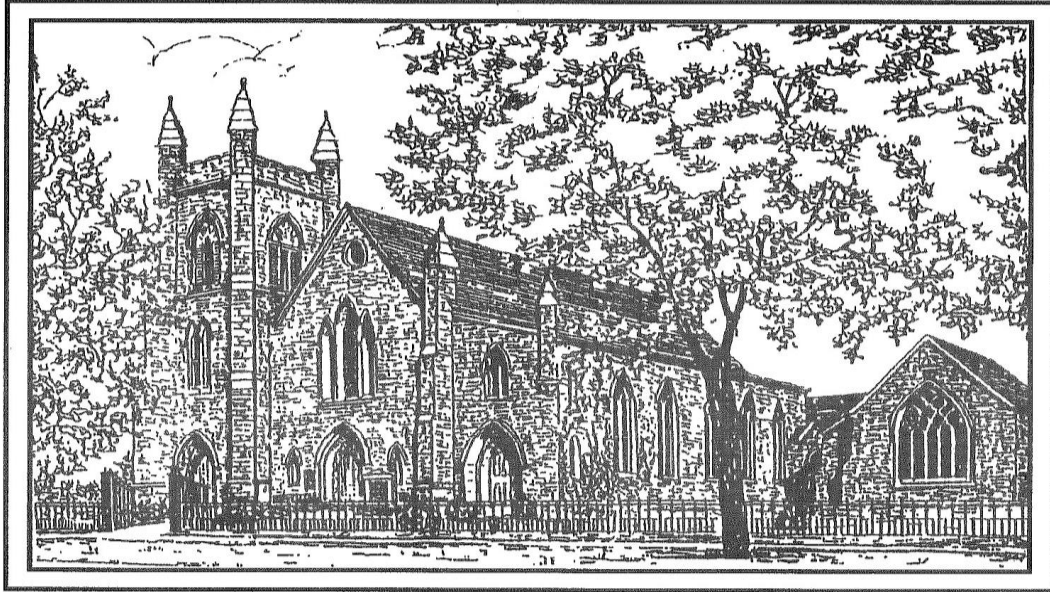


# First Congregational Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



Founded in 1680

*Living the Love and Justice of Jesus*

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 19, 2025 ~ 10:00 am

### Gathering Music

### Welcome and Announcements

### Ringling of the Bell

### Prelude

*“Ricercata”*

GC Wagenseil

### Bringing Forth the Light of Christ

Acolytes

### \*Call to Worship

One: Gift-giver, you call us together, with our different gifts, our different ideas, our different tastes.

**Many: You call us together, to share what makes us special, to build each other up, to serve each other in love.**

One: You call us together, knowing that we need all parts of the body if we are to be whole.

**Many: You call us together, to sing, to pray, to listen, to speak.**

One: To be refreshed so that we can go out and serve.

**Many: You call us together in the name of the One who redeemed us, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### \*Invocation

O God of steadfast love, at the wedding in Cana your Son Jesus turned water into wine, delighting all who were there. Transform our hearts by your Spirit, that we may use our varied gifts to show forth the light of your love as one body in Christ. Amen.

### \*Hymn

*“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

NCH#1

## Children's Moment

### The New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Bob Evans

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were gentiles, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Reader: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### The Gospel Reading

John 2:1-11

Bob Evans

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

Reader: For the Word of God in Scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us

**ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

### \*Hymn

*"Come, O Font of Every Blessing"*

NCH#459

### Sermon

"The Gift Box"

Rev. Dr. Nancy Soukup

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns

### The Pastoral Prayer

### Our 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us power, send us grace.

## Offertory Invitation

### The Offertory

*"Come Down Lord"*

Stan Pethel

### \*The Doxology PH #515

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, may our gifts declare your glory and benefit the common good. Receive them with our gratitude for your generosity and the opportunity to participate in your kingdom on earth. Amen.

### Hymn

*"God of Change and Glory"*

NCH#177

### \*Benediction

### \*Benediction Response

*Amen, amen,  
Amen, amen, amen.*

## Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

### \*Postlude

*"The Gift of Love"*

Arr. John Carter

*~ Leading Worship today is the Rev. Dr. Nancy Hamlin Soukup ~  
~ ~ Our Organist is Nikita Zabinski ~  
~ Our lay liturgist today is Bob Evans ~  
~ Our greeters today are Janine Beausoleil, Eleanor Ingraham & Clifford Gustafson ~*

*Please join us for fellowship hour following Worship*

## Special Announcement

We will hold a special, informal gathering after worship this coming Sunday, January 19, 2025 in order to explain the process used to come to the decision to call Reverend Nancy Soukup to be our settled minister.

We hope that you will bring any questions you have to the meeting.

Paul Temple-Search Committee Chair

Glenn Donovan-Church Council Chair

Sally Evans-Treasurer

Bob Evans-Deacon Chair



## **Prayer List for Sunday, February 12, 2025**

As a congregation, we lift up prayers today and throughout the week for the following people.

### **For concerns in the world:**

For the wildfires in the Los Angeles area to cease and for the care of all those affected by those fires.  
We remember and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this weekend.

### **For those in need of healing on our prayer list:**

Amanda and Raymond, who have been affected by the fires in Pasadena  
Autumn Quezada-Harrison, who is having back surgery this week  
Ellie's Dad, who she misses  
Becky, Sue Moretinni's friend, who is having surgery  
Carol, Karen's cousin, who has had brain surgery  
Carrigan and Tyler P., who have cancer  
Rosa Cermeno, who prays to welcome a healthy baby to their family  
Joanne Bergeron  
Terry and Pat  
Anne, Sarah Albanese's cousin  
Jim Morgan  
Barbara Malony, Barbara Ringland's mother  
Mary Costa, who had surgery at Boston Children's Hospital  
Mark  
Mary Aberg for her rehab from shoulder surgery  
Jeannine Marshall, Charlotte Burnham's cousin  
Jane Texada, a childhood friend of Sug Grant, who is mourning the loss of her husband  
Stephen  
Kathy, Beverly Larson's cousin, who is recovering after a hospitalization  
Charlie  
Ken Latham in Leicester, MA, who is on chemotherapy for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma  
Fred Z. in CT  
Those who have lost their way that they may have wisdom, courage, and strength  
Harriet  
Lola, Carolina Bailey's sister with stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer  
Ryan  
Mark E., who has an aggressive form of prostate cancer  
Fred Davis, who has stomach cancer  
Meriel Smith  
Charlotte Griffith  
Bob and Sally Evans  
Barbara and Jack Ringland  
Kellie and Juan Morales's daughter  
Bruce C., who is in rehab, and Pat P., both friends of Ed Wiacek  
Caregivers in our congregation

### **Upcoming Birthdays:**

Karen Griffith-Dieterich 1/21	Ryan Gamon 1/23
Mikey McGowan- Roach 1/23	Glenn Donovan 1/25
Anne Archibald 1/27	Mike Oglo 1/28
Jarrold Riccio 1/28	Meredith Stone 1/29
Anthony Morettini 1/29	Sally Evans 1/31

## What's on the Church Calendar

<b>January 19, 2025</b>	<b>Sunday Worship: Second Sunday after Epiphany 10:00am</b> Informal gathering after worship in the DeWolf Room to discuss the presentation of Rev. Nancy as our Settled Minister at the Annual Meeting on Jan. 26 Ground Hog Band Rehearsal after Worship (Dimond Room)
January 21, 2025	Tuesday Church Council Meeting 7:00pm (DeWolf Room)
January 22, 2025	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)
January 25, 2024	Saturday Bristol Stone Church Coffee House (DeWolf Room)
<b>January 26, 2025</b>	<b>Sunday Worship: Third Sunday after Epiphany 10:00am</b> Congregational Annual Meeting following Worship Ground Hog Band Rehearsal after Worship (Dimond Room)
January 29, 2025	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)
February 2, 2025	<b>Sunday Worship: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 10:00am</b> <b>Groundhog Band Sunday</b>
February 4, 2025	Tuesday Prayer Shawl Circle 6:30pm
February 5, 2025	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)
February 7, 2025	Friday Trivia Night 7pm



## The First Congregational Church Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting will be Sunday January 26, 2025, following  
worship in the Church Sanctuary.  
All church members welcome.

Please visit our website for more information about the Church  
And Events go to [fccbristol.org](https://fccbristol.org)



### “Invitation to Share Time, Talent, and Treasure”

When you give to First Congregational Church, you make possible our ministries  
that serve all God's people. Your gifts share the love of Jesus all year long. The act  
of giving is our personal expression of worship and also keeps our church  
financially healthy. Stewardship is not payment for services rendered. It is an act of  
faith and devotion to God. You may go to the following link to give now:

<https://fccbristol.org/support-us/>.



**Church Office Hours** are Tuesday – Friday 9:00am – 2:00pm

Office e-mail address: [office@FCCBristol.org](mailto:office@FCCBristol.org)

**Pastoral Office Hours** Tuesday – Thursday, 9am – 1pm

You may also schedule an appointment by contacting Rev. Nancy.

Church office line 401/253-7288 or e-mail [office@FCCbristol.org](mailto:office@FCCbristol.org)

NCH = New Century Hymnal (black hymnal) and PH = Pilgrim Hymnal (red hymnal)

Sources and Credits: Hymn tune names - as well as composers of the music and authors of the text - are listed in the hymnals with each hymn. CCLI License #1958911 and One License.Net #A-728124.

Sources: The prayers used during this service were written by or adapted from the following: Rev Gord, <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>, re:Worship: Epiphany 2 C; Revised Common Lectionary Prayers copyright © 2002 Augsburg Fortress Press, posted on Vanderbilt Divinity Library, <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>, re:Worship: Prayer: Epiphany 2 C; Richard Einerson, <http://www.richardeinerson.com/>, re:Worship: Prayers of the People: John 2: 1-11; and Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Fill, Draw, Taste: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday after Epiphany, Worship Ways, After Epiphany 2C - January 19 - United Church of Christ.



The Groundhog is coming. This is an invitation to join the First Congregational Church 30th Annual Groundhog Day February 2, 2025, Snow date February 9,

The groundhog is safely asleep in his underground chamber. It is up to us to awaken him on Sunday, February 2, 2025. Snow date is February 9, 2025.

The Groundhog Band will started rehearsals every Sunday at 11:15 in the Dimond Room until the performance. The full schedule is below.

If you do not have your instrument or music, please see me. If you need to borrow an instrument, accommodations can be made with help from Mt Hope High and KMS music departments.

All instrumentalists are invited, no matter your experience. If you know someone who plays or played an instrument, give them a shove toward the rehearsal.

When we meet, we will rehearse in the church, play for the gathering music, play the hymns during the service, and then head for the Veterans Home for an 11:45 performance. Vocalists are encouraged to attend and sing with the band for the veterans.

Remember: "Every note you give us is one more note that we have, that we would not have without you."

Bennett Burnham  
253-8530 HBur700343@aol.com

---

Rehearsal and Performance Schedule will be listed

January 19<sup>th</sup> After Worship in Dimond room  
January 26<sup>th</sup> After Worship in Dimond room  
February 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday at 9:00am in the sanctuary  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:00am before Church  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am Worship

Snow Date February 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 9:00am in the sanctuary  
February 9<sup>th</sup> 8:00am before Church  
10:00am Worship  
11:45am Veterans home.

# Bristol's Stone Church Coffeehouse Presents

*An Evening of Americana Music Featuring*  
**Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem**



**Saturday, January 25, 2025**

Doors open at 6:45pm

Music starts at 7:30pm

**First Congregational Church**

300 High Street

(Corner of Bradford and High St)

Bristol, RI 02809

Tickets are \$25.00; Students are Half Price; Children 5 and Under are Free  
Seating is Limited and Early Reservations are Recommended.  
Please Call 401-253-4813 for reservations or ticket information.

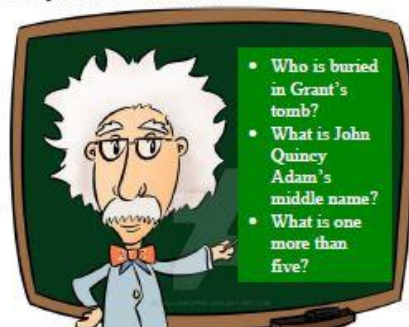
## ***First Congregational Church***

*Team Trivia Night*

*February 7, 2025 @ 7PM*

**Ask Friends and Family and Come  
Join the Fun**

- *Up to 8 per Team*
- *No Charge*
- *Bring Snacks and a Beverage*
- *Light Refreshments and Snacks will be available*
- *Prizes for the Top Finishers*
- *Call (401) 253-4813 to pre-register your team or send an email to [dubordrjd@cox.net](mailto:dubordrjd@cox.net)*



- Who is buried in Grant's tomb?
- What is John Quincy Adam's middle name?
- What is one more than five?

Discover the Excitement  
**BRISTOL'S STONE  
CHURCH COFFEEHOUSE**  
*Live Acoustic Music Since  
2007*



Church Office (401) 253-7288 •  
[Office@FCCBristol.org](mailto:Office@FCCBristol.org) •

Church location 300 High St. • Office location  
281 High Street • Bristol, Rhode Island 02809