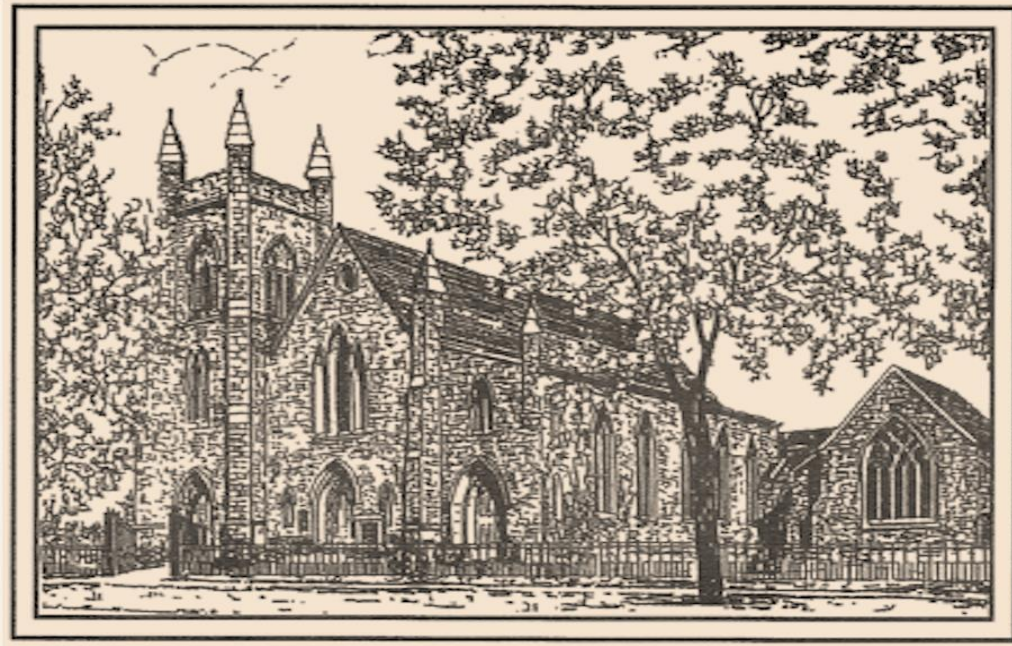


First Congregational Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



Founded in 1680

Living the Love and Justice of Jesus

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 28, 2026 ~ 10:00 am

Prelude

“Fur Elise”

by Beethoven

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Bringing Forth the Light of Christ

Acolytes

***Call to Worship**

One: Hope nonetheless. Hope despite. Hope regardless. Hope still.

Many: **Hope where we had ceased to hope. Hope amid what threatens hope. Hope with those who feed our hope. Hope beyond what we had hoped.**

One: Hope that draws us past our limits. Hope that defies expectations. Hope that questions what we have known. Hope that makes a way where there is none.

Many: **Hope that takes us past our fear. Hope that calls us into life. Hope that holds us beyond death. Hope that blesses those to come. Amen.**

***Invocation**

We've gathered together in the presence of God to offer our praise and our prayers. We come before God with confidence, knowing that even when we can't find the words, God's own Spirit is right here with us, praying in us and for us, giving shape to our wordless hopes and longings, and pleading for us before the throne of grace. So let's come with joy to offer our worship to God who knows and loves us all. Amen.

***Hymn**

“All My Hope on God Is Founded”

NCH #408

The Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 29:11-14

Beverly Larson

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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 New Testament Reading II

Romans 8:28-31

Beverly Larson

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

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**

“Let Us Hope when Hope Seems Hopeless”

NCH #461

(Prayer card requests will be collected by the Deacons during this hymn.)

Message

“When God Is the Source of Your Hope, It Is Assured”

Shawn Bailey

Sharing our Joy and Concerns

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

NCH #769

George Whelpton

*Hear our prayer, O God,
hear our prayer, O God;
incline your ear to us,
and grant us your peace.*

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

“Aurora”

(original piece)

*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**

If God is for us, who is against us? He who gave us his son; now he gives us the Spirit in power! The Holy One is in our midst, equipping us for life in the service of Christ. In Christ we are more than conquerors, for nothing in creation can separate us from the love of God! May the all-surpassing grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And the unshakable love of God be with you. The joyous communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. And also with you! Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

NCH #403

***Benediction**

One: As we leave this place, remember this:

Many: **God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them.**

One: So go with confidence to love and serve God.

Many: **And may the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with us wherever we find ourselves this week. Amen.**

***Benediction Response**

NCH #809

Thomas A. Dorsey/Artelia W. Hutchins

*God be with you,
God be with you,
God be with you till we meet again
O God be with you,
God be with you,
God be with you till we meet again.*

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Postlude

“Sonatina in C Major”

by Clementi

~ Leading Worship today are the Church Deacons ~

~ Our Guest Musician is Erica Johnson ~

~ Our lay liturgist today is Beverly Larson ~

~ Our greeters today are Janine Beausoleil, Eleanor Ingraham & Clifford Gustafson ~

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 #3066590 CCSD924 and One License.Net #A-728124. CVLI #505517348

Sources: The prayers used in this service were written by or adapted from the following: Jan L. Richardson, <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>, re:Worship: Search results for hope; re:Worship: Call to Worship: Romans 8:26-27; Becky Bonham, Bookmeal: A Seasonal Feast of Spiritual Reading. <http://bookmeal.blogspot.ca/2013/06/mourning-with-those-who-mourn-prayer.html>; re:Worship: A Prayer for the Displaced, Lost and Grieving; Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, And God Heard: Service Prayers for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Year, Worship Ways, After Pentecost 3A - June 21 - United Church of Christ; Keeping in Step with the Spirit, <http://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/keeping-in-step-with-the-spirit-romans-8-galatians-5/>, re:Worship: Responsive Call to Worship: Romans 8: 31-39; re:Worship: Benediction: Romans 8:26-31.



FCC Prayer List

For cares and concerns in the world:

Members of our local community who are experiencing food insecurity

Prayers for peace in the Middle East

The Palestinian and Israeli people that they will be able to broker a lasting peace from the fragile negotiations in the ancient land of our spiritual ancestors

Peace in the Ukraine

Prayers for all victims of violence

Prayers for those who have lost their way may have wisdom, courage, and strength

Prayers for those who struggle with mental illness and that they have the resources for help and the courage to seek help

For those in need of healing on our prayer list:

Jay, Dyan Vaughn's son, who was hospitalized this week

Chris Desusa, to be safe and well

Kathy Conoway, Sug Grant's niece, whose breast cancer has come back after eight years in remission; she will be getting additional treatment at the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix

For Change Management and blessings for Jacob Johnson moving home and for Sara as she moves into new apartment

Barbara and Jack Ringland

Grace Steere, as she recovers from surgery

Matt Benson, as he recovers from a fall earlier in the month

James Hackett, a 50-year-old nephew of Celeste Bernardino's friend, who had a lung transplant a year ago and is now battling several other medical issues

Roy and Judy Evans, who are Tori's parents, as they recover from illnesses

The family of Julie Teeter

Jimmy Lai, Hong Kong publisher, democracy advocate, and Christian, who has been imprisoned

Children and grandchildren to return to church to know Jesus and persevere in the Holy Spirit

Ray, Lorraine, and Kathleen for peace and healing

Sally Evans

Pat Cory, who is recovering at home from a recent illness and for her family and all who are supporting her

A brother and his wife who are struggling

Grace, who is need of healing

Tracy, who is undergoing a difficult time in her life

Bridget, who had surgery for cancer

Rich Goldman, who is contending with Alzheimer's Disease and that he may enjoy days that reinforce the love so many send his way

Dana Corbett, healing and happiness as she returns home from cancer treatment

Tara, Steve Aveson's daughter-in-law who has been newly diagnosed with cancer

Stephen, the nephew of one of our members, and for his recovery
 Juan Morales
 Tony Morettini
 Betty Soukup Blackburn and Patrick McLean Blackburn
 Angel Rose, a local teenager who is in the hospital after neurosurgery and for her family
 Bill Walsh, who is at the VA Hospital
 Tommy, who is dealing with a degenerative muscular disorder
 Kathy, Jen Johnson's cousin, and for Jen's Uncle Paul as he tries to care for Kathy
 Kristen, calling on all available angels to gather around Kristen as she undergoes extensive
 chemotherapy treatments with a minimum of pain and discomfort
 Camille Pansa
 Sarah, Celeste's niece, who is nine years old and is waiting for a liver transplant
 Steve, Amanda, and Elliana Wiacek, Ed Wiacek's son and family, who are in Manila, Philippines.
 Nick Chaccone, for recovery
 Ryan Higgins, Lilly Kilvert's son-in-law, who has Leukemia
 A beloved son, who is suffering from Leukemia
 Marty Costianes
 Renee that she may find resolutions to issues pressing in on her
 Claudia and her family, as she enters hospice
 Scott, Brenda, and Cameron, who need divine guidance and strength to follow
 God's path for them
 Max, for healing and freedom, and for his Mom
 Rusty, who has Lung Cancer
 Ellie's Dad, who she misses
 Carol, Karen's cousin, who had brain surgery
 Ken Latham in Leicester, MA, who is on chemotherapy for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma
 Harriet
 Ryan
 Mark E., who has an aggressive form of prostate cancer
 Fred Davis, who has stomach cancer
 Meriel Smith
 Charlotte Griffith
 Kellie and Juan Morales's daughter
 Bruce C., who is in rehab, and Pat P., both friends of Ed Wiacek

For thanksgivings:

In celebration of Stephanie and Sias' engagement

Upcoming Birthdays:

Gail Carney 06/28	Jen Capron 06/28	Edward Wiacek 06/29
Penelope Pires 07/01	Kathy Ann Berry 07/02	Marina Temple 07/02
Nick Burnham 07/03	Celeste Bernardino 07/04	Scarlett Drawbridge 07/05
Xochitl Quezada-Grant 07/08	Bronwen Bailey 07/10	Susan Donovan 07/11
Gail Cotta 07/11	Ella Drawbridge 07/24	Carla Finn 07/25
Marty Roussel 07/25	Jo-Ann Wilbur 07/27	Glenn Donovan 07/27
Cassidy Allen 07/28	Julia Allen 07/31	

What's on the Church Calendar

June 28, 2026	Sunday Worship 10:00am (Sanctuary) Fourth of July Interfaith Service 2:00pm (Mt. Carmel Church)
July 4, 2026	Bristol's 4 th July Parade
July 5, 2026	Fourth of July Worship Service 10:00am (Sanctuary)
July 7, 2026	Prayer Shawl Circle 6:30pm (Guiteras House)
July 12, 2026	Sunday Worship Service 10:00am (AC in DeWolf Room)
July 14, 2026	Facility Committee Meeting (DeWolf Room)
July 19, 2026	Sunday Worship Service 10:00am (AC in DeWolf Room)
July 26, 2026	Sunday Worship Service 10:00am (AC in DeWolf Room)

Are you selling or know someone who is selling a used car?

An important request from Gina Damiano—Gina has been looking to buy a used car for some time. She has a critical need to find one. If you or someone you know is selling a car, please let Gina know by calling her at 401-243-3381 or emailing her at gina021466@yahoo.com. Thanks.

Please visit our website for more information about the Church and Events go to **fccbristol.org**



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

Office e-mail address: office@FCCBristol.org

Pastoral Office Hours

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

Church office line 401/253-7288 or e-mail office@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/>.



KEEP THOSE RECIEPTS COMING

A Community Partners Program with Clements Marketplace

Please save those Clements' receipts and join with us in their Community Partners Program to benefit First Congregational Church! Where do I drop off my receipts? At First Congregational Church in envelopes marked receipts that are pinned to the bulletin boards in the Narthex (the entrance of the church) and the DeWolf Room.



Women's Resource Center

Wish List Donation Items

Survivors often leave abusive situations with little to no belongings, and donations of essential items help them start fresh. Our wish list includes basic necessities, household goods, and childcare supplies that provide immediate comfort and stability.

Special Requests and Urgent Needs – Spring 2026 (new items only):

- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Hand soap
- Diapers, pull-ups and wipes, larger sizes 4, 5, 6 & 7
- Paper towels, toilet paper, facial tissues
- Cleaning spray and wipes
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Gift Cards: Stop & Shop, Walmart, Fuel and Convenience

You may drop them off here at the church in the Narthex or in the DeWolf room, on Sunday

NO CLASS JULY 2, 2026



NEXT CLASS July 9, 2026

Bristol-Warren Village

A part of the Village Common of Rhode Island

Stretch, Strength and Balance Fitness Classes



 **Thursdays 9 AM – 10 AM**

Join **Becca Capodilupo**, Fitness Instructor with 25 years of teaching experience, as she leads exercise classes designed for all ability levels at the First Congregational Church 300 High Street, Bristol.

- Each session includes a **gentle warm-up**,
- **strength** and balance exercises, and
- relaxing stretches to improve mobility, endurance and flexibility.



Registration and signing a liability waiver are required. Please call Becca at (508) 843-8518 to sign up!



97th Annual
First Congregational Church
300 High St Bristol RI

HARVEST MOON BAZAAR

NOV 21
10 AM TO 3 PM
2026

FREE PICTURES WITH SANTA!	BAKED GOODS
CHICKEN SALAD	HANDMADE KNITS
CHILI & HOT CIDER	CRAFTS
	FLOWERS & VENDORS
	SILENT AUCTION!!

Application for vendor's are available for
Harvest Moon Bazaar
Please call the church office 401/253-7288

Church Office (401) 253-7288 • Office@FCCBristol.org • www.FCCBristol.org
Church location 300 High Street • mailing & office address 281 High Street • Bristol, Rhode Island 02809