

THE TIMES NEWSLETTER

*A publication of the First Congregational Church
of Scarborough, Maine 04074*

JUNE & JULY 2022



*For freedom Christ has set us free.
But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature;
rather, serve one another in love.*

REV. DR. PAUL SHUPE CONTINUES AS BRIDGE MINISTER

Our church has been graced by Rev. Dr. Paul Shupe, who will lead our worship as Bridge Minister for the near future. Anyone who has attended Sunday services in June or participated by Zoom remotely has witnessed his spirituality, eloquence and profound loving message.

Paul Shupe is a recently retired minister, having served for more than 33 years as pastor and teacher of congregations in Falmouth, Maine, Madison, Wisconsin, and Lexington, Massachusetts. At Vanderbilt Divinity School, and in these wonderful congregations he learned how to be the minister that he is, and he is grateful for all who have shared the work with him over the years. Of particular delight has been the opportunity to work with 20 seminary students preparing for ministry, all of whom are now serving congregations from Maine to California. He enjoys biking, walking, reading, jazz, the Red Sox and Celtics, and watching the birds gather at the feeder. He lives with his wife, the artist MaryAnn Shupe, in Portland. They have two grown sons, one living in New Gloucester, Maine, and one in Boston, Massachusetts.

THE SEARCH FOR AN INTERIM MINISTER CONTINUES

In May and The Ministry of Worship and Spiritual Care interviewed two candidates for the position of Interim Minister. Both lived out of state. After consideration, the Ministry declined each application and continues to work at attracting and identifying potential Ministers.

THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE WILL MEET AS NEEDED

The Pastoral Search Committee is taking a summer recess after having met several times this Spring. The Committee will reactivate once an Interim Minister is chosen, as the Interim Minister will assist the Committee in composing a Church Profile and reaching out to candidates.

CAN'T MAKE IT TO CHURCH? — SEE BELOW

The Church continues to stream Sunday services using ZOOM. The link is below. We suggest you save the link in a specific folder so you can find it each week. The link is the SAME every week.

You can obtain a copy of the Order of Worship (Bulletin) by calling the church office before Sunday and we will e-mail it to you.

If you have a Prayer Request, whether of celebration, concern or sorrow, please send it to the church office (e-mail) and the Congregation will pray with and for you. Our email is: fcchurch@fccscarborough.com

LINK TO CHURCH SERVICE STREAMING

Topic: FCC Recorded Service

Time: 09:25 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sun,

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/tZAtfuitpj4uGNZUjBwXiyYT5sMulgNM-iGF/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGsrjlrHgyQtBuFRpwlAor4d-_xiCVbjY1nqRXnFBhaezrCY_FvJ5t4PvWd

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84091585422?pwd=dXEzVStBZVNVT1U5QXBNbC9wYzFDZz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9158 5422

Passcode: 389691

One tap mobile

+14702509358,,84091585422#,,,,*389691# US (Atlanta)

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+1 206 337 9723 US (Seattle)

+1 213 338 8477 US (Los Angeles)

+1 602 753 0140 US (Phoenix)

Meeting ID: 840 9158 5422

Passcode: 389691

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84091585422?pwd=dXEzVStBZVNVT1U5QXBNbC9wYzFDZz09>

MINISTRY OR WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL CARE SOLICITS YOUR HELP

We are thrilled to be reunited in Sunday services...but those services need Ushers, Scripture Readers and Flowers on the Altar. If you can commit to help in any area, please look for the Sign-Up sheets in the Narthex, talk to an usher or notify the office so we may “work you into the service” Thank you.

NEXT SCHEDULED NEIGHBORING IS SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

The Men’s Group will sponsor the neighboring on August 7 outdoors. If you would like to host a Neighboring sooner—(it’s easy if 2 or more people collaborate)—please let Joanne Brown and/or Elaine in the office know the date! Thank you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS

The Ministry of Outreach and Stewardship (“MCOS”) would like to thank you for your very generous donations to the Special Easter Offering. The total received and sent to the World Central Kitchen came to \$1883.00. Your thoughtfulness and response to the crisis in Ukraine is much appreciated.

We would also like to send out our very sincere thanks for your responses so far to the 2022 Stewardship Campaign. If you have not yet returned your pledge intentions, it is not too late. It is very helpful to the Ministry of Governing and Finance to know what they can expect throughout the year. If you need a pledge card, help getting it to the church or have questions, please contact one of the members of the MCOS.

Bryce Roberts, Ruth Bruns, Vicki Flynn, Susan Hilton,
Gail Dobriko, Lynn Roberge

CHURCH PARSONAGE SOLD ON JUNE 29

The closing on the Church Parsonage took place on June 29. The home sold for well above the asking price. Once the Ministry of Governing and Finance pays expenses such as brokerage fees, septic replacement, patio reconstruction and such, a member of Governing & Finance will provide an update to the Members.

ANNUAL REPORT AND MINUTES OF MAY 1 ANNUAL MEETING

The draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of May 1, 2022 are available, as is the Annual Report with corrections made at the Annual Meeting. Copies are available by e-mailing the office or stopping in.

A NOTE RECEIVED BY THE FOOD PANTRY

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the food! Our income is somewhat limited—we just make ends meet. Having our two grandsons living with us (part—time) has really challenged our food budget. We appreciate your help! - Denise & Steve

C'MON OUT TO THE JULY 9 RUMMAGE SALE AND HOT DOG MEAL

The Annual Rummage Sale will take place on Saturday, July 9, from 9:00—1:00 pm. Please contact Elaine in the office if you would like to make donations during the week, wish to volunteer as a “sorter and merchandiser” in advance of the event, or can work a couple hours the morning of the sale. AND.....

HOT-DIGGETY-DOG! The Men's Group and Food Pantry volunteers are offering a free hotdog lunch for shoppers and volunteers at the church rummage sale on July 9. We would love to see and hear from you.

GREETINGS FROM ELIZABETH DEAL

My dear church family,

I have benefited so much by the many different ways you have supported me once again through the latest of my needs! I want to follow in your footsteps with the Holy Spirit's help. He's been using you to fulfill his promise in Psalm 34:19:

Many are the afflictions of the righteous (through Jesus)

But the LORD delivers them out of them all

Thank you so much! -Elizabeth Deal

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP REQUEST FOR YULETIDE FAIR

Don't faint, please. Thinking about the Yuletide Fair in December seems a stretch, doesn't it? As we finally enter in to the warmer months, it is a great time to plant cucumbers, beans, peppers, tomatoes and onions. It is a time to pick strawberries and raspberries and lots of other fruit throughout the summer and fall.

Because this is the last newsletter from the church for most of the summer, Women's Fellowship would like to ask you as you put up your various fruits and vegetables, to please make or set aside a few jars for the food table at the Yuletide Fair. As the years have gone by we've meant to make this request and have not. If you don't grow your own, perhaps purchasing them at the Farmers' Market or a Farm Stand would allow you to try to make some preserves this year. The jams and jellies and pickles are very much requested at the Fair. And very much appreciated!

So if you're making them for your home, or if your family is doing this, perhaps you would be willing to make some for the church as well.

Thank you in advance for your help!! We look forward to seeing and tasting the results of your work in December.

- The Yuletide Fair Committee

MENS FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship will be meeting a couple times this summer to plan the annual fundraising Barbecue, scheduled for September 21. Due to COVID considerations it is expected to be a drive through event. Please put the date on your calendars.....and invite friends and neighbors.

Neighboring on Sunday, August 7 after church will be offered by the Men's Group.

THE HISTORY AND MYSTERY OF OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

The beautiful stained glass windows in our Sanctuary are a mystery to most of us—just names, some dates and interesting choices of subjects. I'm trying to give every window a special meaning. One might remind you that he loved children and was a teacher. Another has an eagle and that reminds you he was an Eagle Scout. And a third one is an excerpt from his favorite hymn.

I'm looking for more of these special reminders and need your help. Perhaps you know a daughter or a grandson—or you just have a nice memory you could share. The "mystery woman" is Margaret M. Lothrop. I have no information on her.

Our church was obviously very important to them. I just need a little help finding out why. I have put lists of all the windows in the Narthex and church office. Please email or call me or put your info on paper and leave it in the office.

Thank You, Barbara Grotton bgrotton@aol.com 207-799-5213

SUGGESTED BY DIANE BROWN:

"For each thorn, there's a rosebud...
for each twilight—a dawn...
for each trial—the strength to carry on,

For each storm cloud—a rainbow...
for each shadow—the sun...
for each parting—sweet memories
when sorrow is done."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

FCC SUGGESTION CORNER

My name is Brenda Harrison—one of my positions at the church is Member-at-Large on the Church Council.

The Church Council meets once a month, the first Tuesday of the month. If anyone has a question or a concern about anything at the church and would like it brought to the Church Council, please e-mail me.

If you would like to talk to me in person, please email your phone number and the best time to get in touch with you.

Thank you. Brenda Harrison

Email address: FCCSuggestions@fccscarborough.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CHURCH?

If you've driven by the church after hours and seen cars in the parking lot, or haven't been over in a while, we'd like you to know that we hosted a number of important events this Spring:

Pat Zeek and Deb Gerry were accepted into church membership in May and June. A third member will be accepted this summer.

The grandson of a church member was baptized as part of the June 26 worship service, to the joy of all in attendance.

The daughter of church members was married on June 18.

Funerals were held for Peter Monahan on May 20
and Selma Carolyn O' Donal on June 25.

The Parish Hall has been rented for two birthday parties.

TO CONTACT US

TELEPHONE	Office 883-2342	Summer Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am—Noon
EMAIL	fcchurch@fccscarborough.com	
WEBSITE	Fccscarborough.com	

2022 EASTER FLOWERS ORDER FORM

Please help us prepare our sanctuary for the glorious celebration of Easter on April 17th. Flowers may be dedicated “**in memory of**” or “**in honor of**” loved ones. The dedications will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Please fill out the order form, then mail it or bring it to the church office at 161 Black Point Road with your check.

Any questions, please call Elaine at the church office@883-2342. You may also bring in your own Spring plant of any variety to the Vestry or church office by Friday, April 15th.

The deadline for ordering plants is Wednesday, April 6th.

Please indicate quantity of the item you wish to order.

___ Double Lily (8” pot)\$30.00

___ Tulips (6” pot)\$20.00

___ Hyacinths (6” pot)\$20.00

Dedication - *Please circle one* (in memory of / in honor of)

Given by

Phone number _____ **E-mail** _____

Bringing my own plant_____

PLEASE take your plants home after the Easter Sunday Service. Thank you.

