

**Welcome Guests!** We're glad you're here. You can learn more about us via the brochure in the back of the seat in front of you, or at [www.firstparishyork.net](http://www.firstparishyork.net).

**Restrooms:** Restrooms are located on the lower level of this building, which is accessed by stairs in the foyer. Wheelchair accessible restrooms can be found across the drive in Fellowship Hall. For access during the worship service, please see a Deacon.

**Nursery Care:** *Our downstairs nursery is not currently staffed*, but you are welcome to accompany your child to the nursery at any point during the worship and spend time there as a family if you feel that you need to.

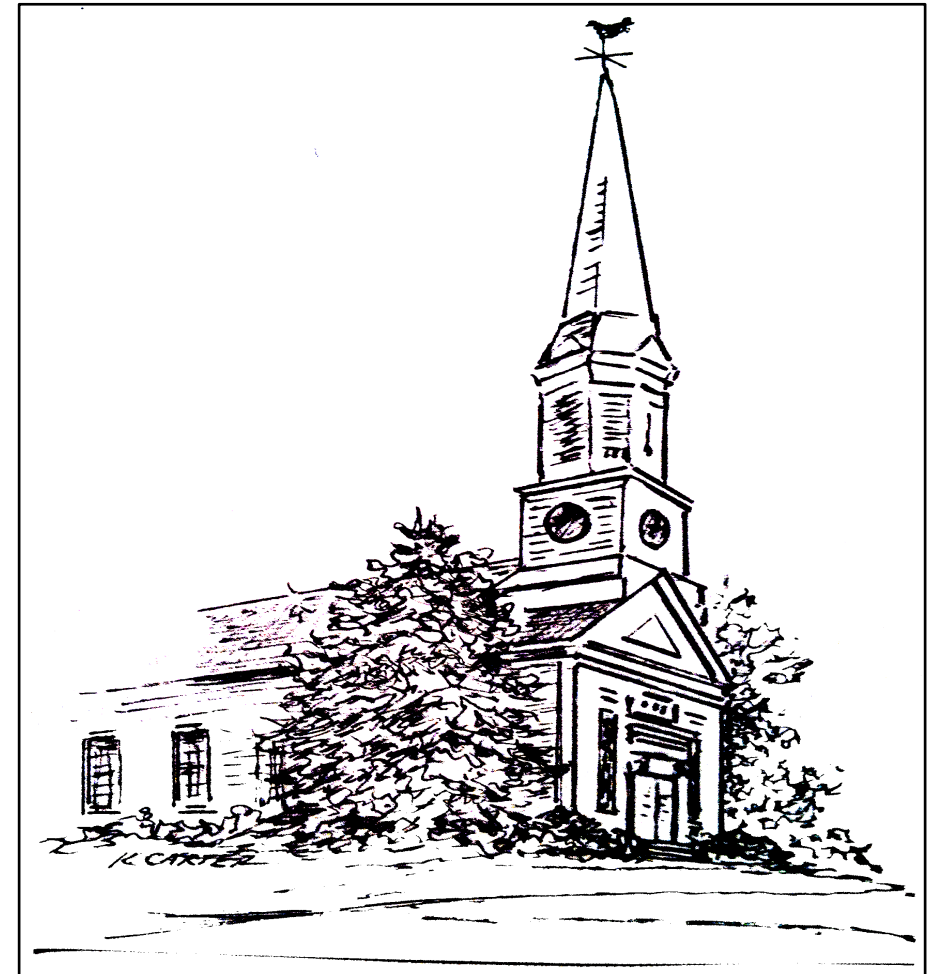
**Video and Streaming:** We stream our worship services live and archive them on [www.youtube.com/@firstparishyork](https://www.youtube.com/@firstparishyork). If for privacy reasons you do not wish to have you or your children's faces appear on video, you can sit in pews that are marked on the ends with blue tape. Feel free to ask a deacon to show you what those markings look like.

**Photos:** We regularly take photos for use in media. If you would prefer you or your child's image not be used, please inform a pastor after worship.

**Sunday School:** Church school will be taking the summer off. During summer worship Deacons can provide activity bags for kids, and nursery space is available downstairs if your family has need of it at any point. As always children of all ages are welcome in worship with us, and baby noises are a source of joy for us all. Please be sure to return any activity bags at the end of the service. Sunday School will return in September!

**No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are On Life's Journey,  
You Are Welcome Here!**

We covenant with God and with one another as members of First Parish Church to be an Open and Affirming Church. We affirm the dignity and worth of every person created in the image of God. We are one body with many members: people of every age, marital status, family structure, faith background, physical and mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, racial and cultural identity, and socio-economic status. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we invite all into the full life, ministry, and sacraments of the church. We honor the guiding principle that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's message of unconditional love.



**First Parish Church  
Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023 ~ 10AM WORSHIP

*\*Indicates a time when you are invited to stand if you choose.*

**PRELUDE**                      **Music of G.F. Handel (1685-1759)**  
Fanfare in G minor  
Allegretto Giocoso and Aria (from *Water Music*)

**WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**                      Rev. Dan Hollis

**CHIMES FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION**  
*(Candles will be lit as a sign of Christ's light in the world.)*

**GATHERING PRAYER** *(together)*                      Robert Finch  
**Lord God, friend of those in need, your Son Jesus has untied our burdens and healed our spirits. Hear the cries of your people this day and speak a word of comfort, that we may proclaim to all the earth the glory of your name, by which we pray...**

**LORD'S PRAYER** *(together)*  
**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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**        "COME, ALL CHRISTIANS, BE COMMITTED"        No. 459

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES**                      Rev. Eric Dupee

**SPECIAL MUSIC**                      "SIMPLE GIFTS"        Arr., Nancy L. VanZant  
**Diana Parton, handbells**

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**SCRIPTURE**        Matthew 16:13-20        N.T. 15                      Robert Finch

**SERMON**    Rev. Dan Hollis

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS** "THE GIFT OF LOVE"        Arr., Brenda E. Austin  
**Diana Parton, handbells**

*(Please sign and pass the maroon fellowship pads on the center aisle of each pew, look at the names as they are passed back and forth and greet one another after the service.)*

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF COMMITMENT** *(together)*                      No. 34  
*You are free to sing inclusive lyrics (below) or traditional lyrics (from the hymnal).*  
**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.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**        "THEY DID NOT BUILD IN VAIN" *(verses 1-3)*        No. 542

### CLOSING BLESSING AND THREEFOLD AMEN

**POSTLUDE**                      Hornpipe (from *Water Music*)        Handel

*We invite the congregation to remain seated in order to enjoy the postlude.  
However, you are welcome to exit the sanctuary at any time.*

*The flowers given in celebration of our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren  
from Joe and Nancy Wilson.*



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## FAITH FEATURES

### THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup></b>	10am Worship-Music by Diana Parton 11am Storyteller-Don and Judy Schriefer
<b>Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30am Shake It Up 6:30pm Church Council Meeting
<b>Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup></b>	8:30am Yoga
<b>Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup></b>	8am Strength Training 9:30am Wednesday Bible Study-Zoom
<b>Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup></b>	8am Zumba
<b>Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup></b>	8am Aerobics
<b>Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	8:30am Christian Education Meeting-Zoom
<b>Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	10am Worship/Communion-Music by Karen Lynge and Nathan Cox

#### Ministers

*All the Members of the Congregation*

*Leading Worship Today:*

*Rev. Dan Hollis*

*Rev. Eric Dupee*

#### Staff

*Wendell S. Purrington, Director of Music Ministries*

*Terrie Ilaria, Music Associate*

#### First Parish Church Lay Leaders

*John Covino, Moderator*

*Kristin Schrimper, Vice Moderator*

*Ray Hamlin, Treasurer*

*Susan Mancinelli, Clerk*



**First Wednesday Food Pantry Drive:** September 6 from 10am-11am. The pantry's wish list includes baked beans, Knorr pasta and sides, white tuna, and Progresso soups. The pantry will be happy with other nonperishable food items and is always grateful for monetary contributions. Please make checks payable to YCSA Food Pantry. We have been privileged to have a total of 31 different volunteers help since the inception of this program in September 2000! We will need a couple of folks to help on September 6, maybe that's YOU! More info? Linda Drew [p.l.drew79@me.com](mailto:p.l.drew79@me.com) or 207-351-8141.

**Storytellers:** Our storytellers today will be Don and Judy Schriefer. We will convene after coffee in Fellowship Hall about 11AM. All are welcome. Join us!

**Adopt a Garden Space:** Our gardens need you. Adopting a small garden space is a perfect way you can help beautify our campus, minimize church landscaping expenses, and feed your soul at the same time! Make your own schedule, choose your space Sundays during Coffee Hour. Tarry a while in the garden.

Many Thanks, the Buildings & Grounds Committee

Larry Richburg, Gary Goss, Jerri LeConte, Kevin LeConte, Sherry McConnell, George Parton, David Perry

#### Any Questions please contact:

Larry Richburg at 802-522-5944 or [richburgbuilders@gmail.com](mailto:richburgbuilders@gmail.com)

Sherry McConnell at 363-5494 or [sherrym@maine.rr.com](mailto:sherrym@maine.rr.com)

**Green Tip/News:** Europe, China and India can electrify all rails, why can't the US? India is at 83% rail electrification and is ahead of schedule to achieve almost 100%. China is at 72%, on its way to 100%. Europe is at 60% so far. The US is at 1%. France has banned domestic short-haul flights where train alternatives exist, in a bid to cut carbon emissions. The law came into force two years after lawmakers had voted to end routes where the same journey could be made by train in under 2.5 hours. (BBC)



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