



Life
Together

Welcome

*Wherever you are on Life's journey, you are welcome here at
First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury, United Church of Christ!*

Name Tags - please greet new and old friends by wearing your name tag. Visitors are encouraged to write your own name tag, available in our **Book of Friendship**, a black folder in

For children during worship:

- Activity baskets are available in the far right corner of the Sanctuary.
- Children's bulletins are available from an usher.

Childcare is provided

For all children birth through three years old in our staffed Nursery. Ushers will show you the way.

Units for the hearing impaired

Available on the back table.

Large Print bulletins with hymns are available.

Blue Prayer Cards: Are available in each pew. Members pray during the week over your sorrows or joys. Please place the cards in the offering plate, or in the Prayer Request Box on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary.

A gentle reminder : Please silence your cell phone at the start of the service.

Please recycle your bulletin

There is a basket on the back table or in the basket by the name tag racks.

each pew. Inside the black folder, you may also sign up for our mailing list, and ask to have someone contact you.

Please join us for **fellowship and refreshments** in Gifford Hall after the service.

- Deacon** Linda Phillips
- Lay Reader** Bill Whitehead
- Refreshments** Martha Circle
- Flowers this Week** The flowers today are given by the Ambra Family in Celebration of National Adoption Month.



CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Lynne Dolan, Senior Pastor
ldolan@fccsm.org

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Interim Pastor
jim@fccsm.org

Curtis Smith, Director of Music
musicdirector@fccsm.org

Leo Biocchi, Director of Christian Education
cedirector@fccsm.org

Lauren Morse, Financial Administrator
finance@fccsm.org

Ellen Jones, Office Administrator
office@fccsm.org

Brian Scott, Sexton

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this Church is to come together as Christians to serve God by studying and listening to the Word and living by Christ's teachings. We are committed to reaching out through prayer, caring, sharing and fellowship.

First Congregational Church

19 Church Road
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
Telephone: 508.845.7286
Fax: 508.845.6561

www.fccsm.org
Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/FCCShrewsbury

CALENDAR

*A: Adkins Room~C: Chapel~CH: Cushing Hall~DR: Drama Room~
GH: Gifford Hall~K: Kitchen~HMR: Halliday Music Room~O: Office~P: Parlor~
S: Sanctuary~ST: Storytelling Room~SR: Sumner Room~Y: Youth Room*

Sunday	11/17	9:30 am	Sunday Worship/New Member Welcome
		10:30 am	Prayer Group-C
		11:00 am	Training Choir-MR
		11:00 am	Youth Ringers-S
		7:00 pm	Youth Group-Y
Monday	11/18	10:30 am	Parkinson's Chorus-GH
		7:00 pm	Music Committee Meeting-P
		7:00 pm	Parsonage Meeting-Sm.Conf.Rm
		7:00 pm	Security Meeting-A
Wednesday	11/20	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
		11:00 pm	Martha Circle-A
		6:30 pm	Shrewsbury Ringers-S
		7:30 pm	Parish Pealers-S
Thursday	11/21	7:00 pm	Budget & Finance-A
		7:15 pm	Senior Choir-MR
Friday	11/22	9:30 am	Playgroup-Preschool Rm
		3:45 pm	Chimers-C
		4:00 pm	Youth Singers-MR
Sunday	11/24	9:30 am	Sunday Worship/Rev. Cynthia Maybeck
		11:00 am	Training Choir-MR
		11:00 am	Youth Ringers-S
		7:00 pm	Ecumenical Service-Trinity Church
		7:00 pm	Youth Group-Y

COG Deadline for January is December 9
Annual Report Deadline is December 16

The First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury

United Church of Christ

Sunday, November 17, 2019

9:30 a.m.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Welcome to First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury. We are glad you are here!
Sunday School is available for children Preschool through Middle School. Preschool and
Kindergarten begin prior to worship at 9:15am on the third floor and 1st - 8th are released to their
classes following the 'Time with Children'.*

Prelude "Prelude in G Minor"

P. Taylor

Welcome & Announcements

Gather

Call to Worship *Psalm 122*

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, we will go into the house of the Lord.

People: Our feet shall stand in your gates, O Jerusalem.

Leader: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love you.

People: Peace be within your walls, and plenteousness within your palaces.

Leader: For my kindred and friends' sake, I will pray for your prosperity.

People: Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good.

***Hymn #261, Pilgrim "City of God, How Broad and Far"**

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Merciful God, in your gracious presence, we confess our sins and the sins of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Leader: My friends, in the name of Jesus, let us accept that are sins are forgiven by God's grace.

All: Thanks be to God!

***Hymn #513, Pilgrim "Gloria Patri"**

Anthem "Sing to the Lord of Harvest"

D. Peninger

Welcome and Reception of New Members: The Lallier Family

Introduction of New Members

Covenant

Welcome of the Church

Leader: Let us, the members of the First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

All: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Right Hand of Fellowship

Time With Children

Word

Reading: Isaiah 65: 17-25
Philippians 4: 4-8

Page 607, Pew Bible
Page 955, Pew Bible

***Hymn #393, NCH "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds"**

Sermon: "Life Together"

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo

Response

Joys and Concerns

Refrain

As We Come To Thee In Prayer

Now, dear Lord, as we pray,
take our hearts and minds far away
from the press of the world all around
to Thy throne where grace doth abound.
May our lives be transformed by Thy love,
may our souls be refreshed from above.
At this moment, let people everywhere
join us now as we come to Thee in prayer.

Prayers of Petition and Thanksgiving

Refrain

FCC Caregiver Support Group Remaining Schedule:

November 25: Caregiver Support Group **6:30pm**

Sunday, December 15: A Holiday Service of Loving Care.

For caregivers, allies and those who support them. **6:00pm**

SERRV: Just in time for Christmas! Unique handcrafted items from SERRV will be on sale in Gifford Hall after the service from **Sunday November 24 through Sunday December 22**. Your purchases help combat poverty in 25 countries worldwide by supporting artisans, their families and communities through fair and ethical trade. Additional proceeds also benefit other programs determined by the Mission and Outreach Ministry. Make the world a better place and make someone happy at the same time by giving a gift from SERRV! Check out our table located near the stage in Gifford Hall at coffee hour starting **November 24**. Thank you!! Kathi Buzzell and Sue Russell

Stewardship: Thank you to all who pledged for 2020! Thanks to members and friends like you, we anticipate reaching our \$300,000 goal before the new year begins. We are truly blessed! If you haven't pledged yet, please prayerfully consider any amount to support our church as we continue to serve as the hands and feet of God and Jesus. May God's blessings be upon you, now and evermore. Feel free to set up automatic monthly donations, or a one time annual donation, through the giving section of our website: <https://tinyurl.com/FCCSMstewardship>. No gift is too big or too small. With the financial support of each of us, our church can effectively budget for the coming year.

Ninth Annual Turkey Trot: Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 28

At 8:00am join fellow runners, walkers and trotters for the Turkey Trot for the Memory. It's a 5 mile run or a 2 mile walk all to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's disease. This wonderful Shrewsbury tradition is the perfect way to start your holiday. Registration is available online at www.turkeytrotforthememory.org. Questions please email jamesheald71@gmail.com or jlizotte2@gmail.com



LOOKING AHEAD

November 24 Guest Preacher Rev. Cynthia Maybeck
Ecumenical Service

Today - New Member Ceremony: Please welcome the Lallier Family!

Today - St. Anne's Thanksgiving Collection: On Sunday *November 17*, members of the Mission and Outreach Ministry will be in Gifford Hall with baskets following the service to accept donations for the annual St. Annes Thanksgiving Collection. Your monetary donations will be converted into food cards which will be distributed by St. Anne's volunteers to those who would otherwise not be able to afford a Thanksgiving meal. Please consider helping to make someone's Thanksgiving a truly blessed one with your generous donation. Thank you -
The Mission and Outreach Ministry

The Giving Tree: Mission and Outreach is once again this year supporting the local community in continuing our tradition of the Giving Tree. Tags from St. Anne's will be on the tree and will be available and ready for distribution beginning today. Please take whatever tags you would like and return your gifts, UNWRAPPED, with the tags attached to the bag or box and place them under the tree in Gifford Hall by Sunday, December 8th. That is the deadline and the date that they will be delivered to St. Anne's. Please **DO NOT** bring your gifts directly to St. Anne's. They have done this for many, many years, and have an incredible system of tracking and sorting the gifts, so it makes it easier for them if we deliver everything on the same day. Thank you, in advance, for supporting this ministry and for helping to make the upcoming holiday season extra special for children and families in need. It is greatly appreciated. Your Mission and Outreach Ministry

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service: Please join the community in giving thanks for our many gifts at the Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving service, **November 24** at 7:00 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Church.

Youth Group:

Care packages***If you have a college student who would like to receive a Youth Group care package, please send the student's name & COMPLETE college address to fcshrewsburyygladers@gmail.com Deadline for addresses is Nov. 20, 2019. Thank you***

CityREACH...are you going?

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0549AAA92EA0F94-city>

November 17 – Youth Group Meeting at 7:00pm

November 24 – Create Care Packages for Youth Alumni in college at 7:00pm

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory “The Spacious Firmament on High”

H. Balcombe

***Doxology** (*Sung to the tune “Old Hundredth”*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore:
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

All things come from you, O God, and what we offer now upon your altar belongs to you. Bless us in our giving not because we have parted with time or treasure, but because we wish to serve you and your kingdom by loving one another, our community, and our world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

***Hymn #72, Pilgrim “The Spacious Firmament on High”**

Benediction

Congregational Response #61, v.1, Pilgrim “God Be With You”

Postlude “Triumph and Thanksgiving”

F. Ritter

**Those who are able, please stand.*

PLEASE PRAY WITH US

God, give me grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time, accepting hardship as a pathway to peace, taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it, trusting that You will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will, so that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.

-Attributed to Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971), American theologian and UCC minister

Nolan Schloemer, Bonnie & Bill Gibbs, Donald & Trudy Desfosse, Jay Dev Chandra, Joie Hodge, Sr., Anna M. Kane, Linda Mitrano, Charles Monroe, Phyllis Rich, Chris Laurson, Gary & Barb Sampson, Betty Morgan, Nedra Billouris, Sandy Wilson, Donna and Beau Meyer and family.

... also all military personnel, first responders, and all who protect and care for us.