

CHURCH STAFF

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The Reverend Dr. Paul R. Adkins, Pastor Emeritus

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

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www.fccsm.org

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



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

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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome.

Please join us for **fellowship and refreshments** in Gifford Hall after the service. Our **Welcome Center** in Gifford Hall is the place to learn about church programs, ministries, and opportunities to volunteer and make a difference. Find out more about this church and our faith at an *Information Session* led by Rev. Dolan.

- Deacon** Linn Clark
- Lay Reader** Deb Del Dotto
- Refreshments** Amanda Durkin
- Flowers this Week** The flowers are courtesy of Jean Feldkamp and are given to the glory of God in memory of Olive Feldkamp.

Gathered in **1723**, we treasure our history. Nearly 300 years later, we invite you to...

- Experience a place where God is still speaking
- Experience a place of prayer where we can be refreshed by God
- Experience a place where mercy and justice are practiced
- Experience a place of great music, great youth programs, great community
- Experience a place of joy

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	07/07	9:30 am	Sunday Worship/
Monday	07/08	10:30 am 7:00 pm	Parkinson's Chorus-GH Security Meeting-A
Wednesday	07/10	7:00 pm	Summer Cinema-Theatre
Sunday	07/14	9:30 am	Sunday Worship



Eagle Scout Project for Veterans: My name is Donald Aicardi. I am a Boy Scout with Troop 114 that meets at the First Congregational Church. I am asking for help with my Eagle Scout Project. My project is to create welcome packages for veterans who are moving from homelessness to transitional housing with the help of Veterans, Inc. My goal is to create 100 welcome packages, or bins, that will be filled with toiletry and household items, as well as a gift card to get them started in their new apartment. A key item of the welcome package is a hand-written note from a scout thanking the veteran for his/her service. I am asking you with for assistance with donations of items and gift cards. Any form of donation is greatly appreciated. Donations can be left in the box in the main hall and I will collect them. The full list of items will be displayed next to the box. If you have any questions, please email me at donaldva3@gmail.com.

Mustard Seed's food pantry is bare: We could definitely use donations of non-perishable food items to fill out our food pantry located at 93 Piedmont Street, Worcester

- ~Breakfast cereal, Tuna, pasta, tomato sauce, Peanut Butter, canned vegetables, canned soup, "Mac and Cheese". *Flip top cans are great if possible because many homeless folks are living outdoors this time of year.*
- ~Donations can be placed in the marked box by the Mustard Seed's signup sheet in Gifford Hall.
- ~For more information, please contact Janet Pike at 508-842-0533 or mrsbear8@msn.com.



The First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury

United Church of Christ

Sunday, July 7, 2019

9:30 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Welcome to First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury. We are glad you are here!
During the months of June, July and August, childcare is offered in two formats: the nursery opening at 9:15 for ages 0-6 and a group session in Cushing Hall for all other ages. Full-time Sunday School ministry will resume on September 15, 2019.*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude "To Greet the Morning"

D. Paxton

Gather

Call to Worship

Leader: Hear, O People: God loves you, and God loves you madly;

People: We shall love the Lord our God with all our being.

Leader: Hear, O People: God calls you to serve the poor;

People: We serve the Lord, who came to us humble, without a home.

Leader: Hear, O People: God calls you to follow Jesus;

People: Worship our God, who came to serve us, so we may serve the world.

Amen.

***Hymn #433, Pilgrim "God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand"**

Prayer of Confession

Loving Jesus, we confess that we don't always want to help others. We want to help ourselves first. We are tired of working so hard. We have so much to do. We have so little time. We want someone else to do the work. But You continue to call us to honor the Sabbath so we can continue to the work of justice. You continue to remind us that You came so that we might have life. Your death and resurrection remind us to put other's needs above our own desires. Call us to first rest, then to rise, to roll up our sleeves, and to do the work You have given us to do. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

In Christ Jesus there is rest and assurance. We are renewed for the journey, so we have the strength, and the courage, to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Know that you are forgiven, loved, and restored, and in Christ there is perfect peace and rest. Rise, and do the work Christ has called you to do. Amen.

Time With Children

Word

Reading: Deuteronomy 5: 12-15
Matthew 11: 28-30

Page 142, Pew Bible
Page 792, Pew Bible

***Hymn #591, NCH “This Is My Song”**

Sermon: “Sabbath for...”

Rev. Lynne Dolan

Response

Communal Prayer

Refrain

Lord Listen To Your Children

Words and Music by
Ken Medema

CHORUS

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff is the chorus, starting with a box labeled 'CHORUS' above the first measure. The lyrics are: 'Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing;'. The second staff continues the lyrics: 'Lord, send Your Spir - it in this place. Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren'. The third staff concludes with the lyrics: 'pray - ing; Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.' Above the notes are various chord symbols: Eb, Eb7, Db/Ab, Ab, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, F7, Bb7, Eb, Eb7, Db/Ab, Ab, A7, Eb/Bb, Bb7, Ab, Eb/G, Fm7, Eb.

LOOKING AHEAD

Interim Pastor Announcement: We are very happy to be welcoming Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo as our Interim Associate Pastor who joins us in worship on **July 21**. He is from Massachusetts and keeps his UCC membership in Stoughton. He went to Union Seminary in New York. He will also be an adjunct professor of Theology at Boston College. Jim has been an Interim in Guilford, CT, this past year. Please join us in welcoming him to Shrewsbury.

Your Search Task Force,
Jay Salsgiver
April Mullins
Deb DelDotto
Paul Sainsbury
Helen Porter, Chair

Painting of Gifford Hall: Gifford Hall is being painted this summer. Please have all non-permanent items removed from the walls no later than **July 25**.

Movies and More: On most **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**, we'll be featuring a film in the Youth Room Movie Theatre. Feel free to ask if you have any questions about film ratings or content. Please join us!

Upcoming Film Schedule:

- 7/10 Willow ('88) – *Val Kilmer, Joanne Whalley*
- 7/17 The Little Princess ('39) – *Shirley Temple*
- 7/24 The Quiet Man ('52) – *John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara*
- 7/31 Swiss Family Robinson ('60) – *John Mills, Dorothy McGuire*

Occasional Choir: The Summer Occasional Choir will rehearse in the Sanctuary on the following Sundays in **July: 7, 14, 21 & 28** and Sunday August 4 from 11:00-11:30. We will sing in service on Sunday **August 11**. Please plan to be at 3 of the 5 available rehearsals.

Summer Hymns: Let us know your favorite hymns so that we can sing them together in service while the Senior Choir takes a summer break! Email your selections to Curtis Smith at musicdirector@fccsm.org.

Sanctuary Flowers: If you would like to donate flowers for the Sunday service, the following date is open: **July 28**

If you are interested, please contact Ellen Jones at office@fccsm.org.

Thank you to all of you who donate our Sunday flowers. It is greatly appreciated!

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(Unison)*

God you have fed us with spiritual food, nourishing us for the journey of life. We thank you that through this holy meal you have entered into our lives and connected us with Christians around the world. We humbly set before you our own lives. Work through us, Holy One, so that our world might become the just, peaceful, and loving community that you envision for us all, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Hymn #497, NCH “Guide My Feet”

Benediction

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

Postlude “Ancient of Days”

P. Taylor

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Portions of today’s liturgy were written by Rev. Mindi, “Worship Resources for October 11, 2015 - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost”

PLEASE PRAY WITH US

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Nolan Schloemer, Bill Gibbs, Donald & Trudy Desfosse, Jay Dev Chandra, Joie Hodge, Sr., Anna M. Kane, Linda Mitrano, Charles Monroe, Phyllis Rich, Chris Laurson and Gary Sampson.

... also all military personnel, Coast Guard, firefighters, police, EMT’s, first responders, counselors, therapists, doctors and medical personnel and all who protect and care for us.

Prayers of Petition and Thanksgiving

Refrain

Invitation to Offering

Offertory “Reflections on the Valley of Peace”

A. Whitworth

*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)*

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts and pray that we may be good stewards of them for your children. Help us to use the gifts of work and service to your glory and be ever grateful for your extravagant generosity. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

Leader: May the God of Sabbath be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts to God.

People: **We offer them to the One who fills us with grace.**

Leader: Sing glad songs to the One who is always faithful.

People: **We shout for joy to our God who is our strength.**

The Story of the Lord’s Supper

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, forever. Amen.