

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HANOVER

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

We Strive to Be a Church that Welcomes All and Empowers All in Christ to Share Their God Given Talents. We Are an Open and Affirming Church.



Sunday, March 8, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Church Address: 547 Hanover Street, Hanover, Massachusetts

Mailing Address: 17 Silver Street, Suite 201, Hanover, Massachusetts 02339

Phone: 781-826-4762 Website: www.fcchanover.org

Office email: office@fcchanover.org Rev. Terry's email: johnterry@fcchanover.org

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30-2:30

Sexton Karen Tripp: Tuesday and Thursday, 9-2

Our worship services can be viewed on YouTube.com (search First Church Hanover MA)

Friend us on Facebook and get the latest updates!

Scan the QR or go to the church website for Online Giving



Second Sunday in Lent

To Our Guests: We are grateful that you are with us this morning. As a people of God, our most important activity is worship. You are invited to attend any of the activities listed in the bulletin.

- **Children:** All children, regardless of their age, are welcome to stay in worship with their parents. There are activity bags located in the narthex at the front entrance of the church.
- **Sunday School:** Our exciting program is for children preschool to 8th grade. Sunday School starts at 9:20 am in Riley Hall across the street. Adults will lead the children from Riley Hall to the church to join the congregation at 10:20 am. **If you need a place to be with your infant or toddler,** we invite you to use the nursery located through the front door of the sanctuary to the right of the pulpit. The service can be viewed in the nursery on a flat screen television.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

*standing as you are able

RINGING OF THE BELL AND A TIME OF SILENCE

PRELUDE: Please enter a quiet time of reflection when the prelude music begins

***OPENING HYMN & CHOIR PROCESSION**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Red Pilgrim #251

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS OF WELCOME AND *PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 121)

Leader: I lift up my eyes up to the hills;

People: **from where is my help to come?**

Leader: My help comes from the Lord,

People: **the maker of heaven and earth.**

Leader: God will not let your foot be moved.

People: **God who keeps you will not slumber.**

Leader: The Lord is your keeper;

People: **the Lord is your shade at your right hand.**

Leader: The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.

People: **The Lord will keep you from all evil;**

Leader: he will keep your life.

People: **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forever.**

INVOCATION (in unison)

God of all times and places, in Jesus Christ, lifted up on the cross, you opened for us the path to eternal life. Grant that we, being born again of water and the Spirit, may joyfully

serve you in newness of life and faithfully walk in your holy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

GOSPEL BIBLE LESSON

John 3:1-17

New Testament page 3

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, 'Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.' ³Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.'
⁴Nicodemus said to him, 'How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?' ⁵Jesus answered, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, "You must be born from above."
⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.'
⁹Nicodemus said to him, 'How can these things be?' ¹⁰Jesus answered him, 'Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹'Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?
¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

SERMON

Old Dogs - New Tricks

Rev. Terry

***HYMN**

Morning Has Broken

Red Pilgrim #38

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Terry

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Terry

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.

***CLOSING HYMN**

The Church's One Foundation

Red Pilgrim #259

***BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

*After the service please join us downstairs in the Vestry
for light refreshments and a time of fellowship.*



SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THIS MORNING

- ◇ Greeting you this morning is Ruth Hall.
- ◇ Our Lay Reader is John Wall.
- ◇ The altar flowers are given by Tina Donovan in honor of the March 11 birthday of James and Julia Donovan.
- ◇ Coffee Hour is hosted by Lynn White with Ruth Hall serving.

PRAYER LIST

- *Kailyn Hewitt, health related problems
- *Pamela Lapham, sister-in-law of Ruth Hall, with kidney failure
- *Patricia Blois, friend of Ruth Hall, with autoimmune complications
- *The family of Charles Hilgendorf, brother of Elaine Backer, who passed January 31
- *The family of Wayne Parlee, grandfather of Elaina Schlumper, who passed February 10
- *Joan Greene, friend of Craig Pettengill
- *Amanda Consiglio, granddaughter of Doris Hotten, injured in a car accident
- *Edward Alexander
- *Steven Vernazzaro, son of Dolly Johnson
- *Laura Paine
- *Johanne Morrison
- *Prescott Henderson
- *Susan Alexander
- *Karyn Hall, Lynn White's sister
- *Lynn White
- *Carol Caldeira

BULLETIN PRAYER REQUESTS: Please complete one of the cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate, or in the basket to the right of the altar, or give it to an usher. This will allow for the most accurate listing of your concern. Folks will remain on this list for 4 weeks unless you update your request.

CHURCH SPONSORED EVENTS TODAY AND IN THE DAYS AHEAD

- Today:
 - 9:20 am: Sunday School
 - 9:30 am: Worship Service
 - 11:00 am: CE Team in Riley Hall
 - 11:00 am: Music Committee in choir room
 - 6:00 pm: Youth Fellowship in Riley Hall
- Monday:
 - 6:30 pm: Trustees in Riley Hall lower level
 - 7:00 pm: Bible Study in Riley Hall lower level
- Tuesday:
 - 7:00 pm: Finance Committee in Riley Hall lower level
- Wednesday:
 - 10:00 am-2:00 pm: Thrift Shop Open
 - 7:00 pm: Search Committee in church building
- Thursday:
 - 7:00 pm: Cabinet in church building
- Saturday:
 - Super Saturday in Wilbraham, MA
 - 10:00 am-2:00 pm: Thrift Shop Open
- Sunday:
 - 8:30 am: Choir Practice
 - 9:20 am: Sunday School
 - 9:30 am: Bible Sunday, Worship Service, Rev. Terry preaching, *Barriers Washed Away*, John 4:5-42, Deacon of the month Marianne Christensen
 - 11:00 am: Confirmation Class in Riley Hall



The Prayer Chain and Called to Care ministries are active! These prayer warriors keep in touch with those on our prayer list, sending cards, making phone calls, and providing meals. If you would like to have someone added to the Prayer Chain, please contact Reverend Terry. Information on the prayer chain is confidential. Always get the permission of the person before adding their name to the prayer chain.

TIME TO APPLY FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The First Congregational Church of Hanover will award a college scholarship to one or more high school graduating members of the church. This scholarship is awarded in recognition of a youth's involvement in church activities and is offered only to either a confirmed member of the church or to a student whose parents/guardians are covenant members. If you are eligible, please send in a completed application along with a letter of recommendation from a church committee member to the Christian Education (CE) Committee no later than April 30, 2020. Download an application from the home page of our website under Latest News. Application submissions can be made via email to scholarshipFCCHanover@gmail.com. If you are a scholarship recipient, you must attend Baccalaureate Sunday on June 7, 2020 in order to receive the scholarship check. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the scholarship/completion of application, please do not hesitate to contact Kim Crimi at scholarshipFCCHanover@gmail.com



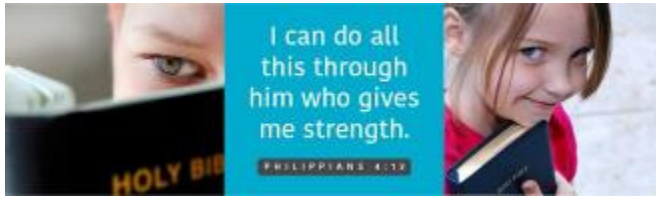
DONATE WINTERWEAR TO MAINSPRING COLLECTION BOX IN CLOAKROOM

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF 60+ HYGIENE KITS

The forsythia branches in the Narthex are filled with cards for our Church World Service project of collecting hygiene kits. Please take a card, gather the items listed, and put them in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure. These kits are sent wherever there are families struggling to remain healthy in the face of natural disasters, violence and grinding poverty. Do not include toothpaste, money or any other items not specified here: one hand towel 16X28); one wide-tooth comb removed from the package; one wash cloth; one nail file or clipper; one bar of soap; one tooth brush in original package; ten standard-size Band-Aids.

We will continue to collect Hygiene Kits through April 12.





SUNDAY, MARCH 15 IS BIBLE SUNDAY

Our third grade students will receive their own personalized Bible and read a Bible verse that represents what their faith means to them during the worship service.

Join us for Coffee Hour to celebrate this important day for our children!

MOONLIGHTERS GO INTERNATIONAL ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Come to the next meeting of the Moonlighters! Our International Dinner will be held at Sandy Vaughn's Hanover home on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 pm. If you were not at the February meeting, please call Dayna Scribi at 781 826-8590 to see what part of the menu you may contribute toward.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING – SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Through the OGHS we plant seeds of new life. Together we invest in communities world-wide, providing education, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending to offer people a path to self-sufficiency, and participating in sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. OGHS provides clean water, food, shelter, health care, education and disaster relief throughout the world. OGHS envelopes will be provided for this special offering to be taken on the fourth Sunday of Lent – March 22.



EASTER LILIES WILL GO ON SALE MARCH 22 AND MARCH 29

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING FOR OUR CHURCH PROFILE

Come contribute your thoughts as we develop our Church Profile at congregational gatherings directly after the Sunday morning worship service.

March 29 - We will declare "Who is our neighbor?"

April 26 – We will envision "Who is God calling us to be?"





APRIL 10 GOOD FRIDAY WALK EASES SUFFERING

Easter is right around the corner! Once again we will be organizing a team for the Good Friday Walk in Hingham. If you are interested in being a part of this walk to raise funds, please contact Ruth Hall at 781-585-1869 or rnannyruthie@aol.com. The Sharing, Inc. Good Friday Walk to raise awareness of the problems faced by African-American children in the rural South will be celebrating its 49th year in 2020. If you are unable to walk with us (approximately 18 miles), we would appreciate being sponsored by members of the church and their families. Sponsor sheets will be available in mid-March.

VOLUNTEER FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

We are looking for individuals who would like to become part of a team to work on a Habitat House. Entrance fee funding is available. If you are interested, please contact Ruth Hall at 781-585-1869 or at rnannyruthie@aol.com.



SATURDAY, APRIL 25 AT 7:30 PM ASO POPS SEASON FINALE CONCERT

Join the Merriweds for a performance by the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 pm. This performance will be held at the Thayer Academy Center for the Arts, 745 Washington St, Braintree. Ticket cost is \$50 Adult / \$45 Senior, and may be purchased by phone (781-331-3600), or on the website (www.atlanticsymphony.org).

Please purchase your tickets early! Sandy and Ted Adami will drive anyone who needs a ride. Please contact them at sandraeadami@gmail.com or 781-826-2970.

COMING UP - PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING ON SUNDAY, MAY 3

On Sunday, May 3, we will have a prayer shawl and afghan square blessing during the worship service. Anyone in the congregation can make prayer shawls or knitted squares. Afghan squares are either 6" by 6" or 12" by 12 inches. The simpler the square, the easier it will be to put together. They can either be given to the prayer shawl ministry or brought to the church the day of the blessing. At this time we will be sharing afghans with the Lakota.

All shawls are blessed prior to sharing them with others.

