

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drum Circle Event - Mark Rabinowitz will lead us in a Drum Circle on Saturday, November 14, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Please join us in a joyful rhythmic journey and experience the healing benefits of group drumming. No drumming experience necessary - just a willingness to have fun. Ten djembes are available, or bring your own. It's free, but a free will donation will be accepted. Email Mark Acker if you want to come (mark@fcchendersonville.org).

A Celebration of Life for Catherine Lynch will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, November 21st, at UUFH (409 E. Patterson Street). You are invited to attend this sacred Memorial service with Catherine's family, friends, and long-time partner, Bill Elder. Your presence is a gift to the family and our beloved friend.

On Sunday, November 22nd, after the worship service, we will hold a “Tell Me More!” informational session with Rev. Karla. If you are interested in learning more about our church, the UCC, or becoming a member, please join us in the Parlor (just off the Sanctuary) for an informal conversation with Karla.

Brighten a Senior's Holiday Season! You can fulfill a Meal on Wheels Senior Holiday Gift Wish or Shoebox Project. See Elf Theo Sharps after the service today for a Gift Wish tag or instructions for filling a shoebox/gift bag with small useful items. Mountain Aging Partners will distribute the gifts.

FCCH Office Hours: for the weeks of November 9-20, the church office schedule will be 9 am-12 pm Monday-Thursday, and closed on Fridays. If you need anything outside of that timeline please contact Karla ([781\) 835-6893](tel:7818356893) or Bill Shaffer ([614\) 570-7990](tel:6145707990).

Happening at FCCH this week:

- Mon, 11/2 10:00 am: Coffee & Conversation, Fellowship Hall
- Tues, 11/3 10:00 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry, Library
4:00 pm: Community Meditation, Library
6:00 pm: PFLAG Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- Wed, 11/4 10:00 am: Sit & Stitch, Library
10:00 am: Physical Resources Committee, Choir Room
3:15 pm:: Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- Thurs, 11/5 1:30 pm: Crone Talk, Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm: Buddy K Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, 11/8, Forum: Processing the Midterms - Everyone has been working so hard on getting out the vote for mid-terms. In this fluid environment it makes sense for us to hold space for one another as the results trickle in. We are praying for justice-love to prevail, and it looks like the period after the elections could have some uncertainty. . How do we live in that liminal, in-between space? Let's bring our concerns, our celebrations questions and stories to share with one another. Karla will moderate.

Save these Future Dates:

- Nov 14 – Drum Circle, Sanctuary
- Nov 15 – Brian Combs, preaching for worship, Sanctuary
- Nov 20 – Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil, Sanctuary
- Nov 26 – Thanksgiving Potluck Feast, Fellowship Hall
- Dec 13 – Christmas Music Special, Sanctuary
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember these people in your prayers this week

- Al Diaz was hospitalized with pneumonia, and has moved to a rehab facility for recovery.
- For the family and friends of Richard Tyler who passed away on Monday.
- Jenn and Ray Kirby, and their family in the death of Ray's mother on Wednesday.
- Suzanne Morrow, friend of Patti Clay, had a shoulder replacement as a result of a fall, and she and her family could certainly use our prayers.
- Alice Pfirrmann has been admitted to Pardee for a GI blockage and infection.
- Prayers for Syrus, great niece of Ann Twiggs & Bill Shaffer, whose 16-year-old, queer friend committed suicide.
- Margie Acker, sister-in-law of Mark Acker, who is being treated for cancer, and for David, her husband and caregiver.
- Gary Perry, nephew of Trisha LaGrange, who is recovering from a stroke.
- For Sukey Pratt and the family of our friend Julius Pratt, who died recently.
- For Mark Fagerlin and the family of our friend Ericka Fagerlin who passed away recently.
- For 16-yr old Gabe, and his family who are friends of Karla's, who is in hospice care.
- Roger Haagenson who is now in hospice care in Florida.
- Kay Davis is receiving chemotherapy in Florida.
- For those dealing with anxiety and depression in these times.

Our Birthdays this Week:

Max Crum	11/1
Katie Bolick	11/5
Shawn Kelly	11/6

To Our Visitors and Guests:

We are so glad you are here today! If you are interested in learning more about our congregation, denomination or membership, Karla or Mark would love to talk with you. We also hold a “Tell Me More” periodically, which provides the opportunity to talk with Karla about our church.

MINISTERS
All of the Congregation

Rev. Karla Miller
Pastor
karla@fcchendersonville.org

Ms. Jennifer Austin-Janssen
Church Administrator
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Mr. Mark Acker
Minister of Music
& Pastoral Associate
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Welcome Home

First Congregational Church welcomes persons of all ages, races, gender identities, sexual orientations, theological beliefs, and those living with mental challenges. In our diversity, we find strength and a way to understand the inclusiveness of God. No matter where you've been, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome and needed here.



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH • HENDERSONVILLE**

November 1, 2026

Justice*Compassion*Belonging

Order of Worship

Welcome

Karla Miller

Gathering Song

**Blessed are you who hunger, blessed are you who thirst.
Blessed are you who mourn and feel no power on this earth.
Blessed are you who are poor in spirit and don’t know what to do,
Oh child of God, blessed are you. Blessed are you,
Oh blessed are you, Oh child of God, blessed are you.**

A Time for Centering

Voluntary

Pie Jesu
Andrew Lloyd Webber
Linda Laderach, violin

Opening Words

God of the journey, we come together from different places.

We come seeking a community of siblings and to find companionship for the journey.

We yearn to live fully, and to celebrate the diversity of God's human family and the unity of our call to love and justice.

May our journey help us to reconnect to the Holy so that we may be vessels of love for all creation.

*Hymn

Rejoice in God's Saints

Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days! A world without saints forgets how to praise. Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer, their depth of adoring, God, help us to share.

Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown, who bore someone's cross, or shouldered their own: they walked with great courage, they walked with great care, great patience in loving, what purpose was theirs!

Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days! A world without saints forgets how to praise. In loving, in living, they prove it is true: The way of self-giving, God, leads us to you.

First Reading

Matthew 6: 26-34

Lynn Conchado

Second Reading

Self-Blessing
Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

I wish you the grace
to be quiet—the grace and
the time to lie quiet
in the still green grass
on a sundrenched day
and not go for a walk
in the radiant leaves,
and not write anyone back.
Not read a book. Not make
a call. Not plan whatever
comes next. Not do anything
at all but lie still and quiet
in the lush and still green grass
and let the earth do what

the earth does best, which
is receive whatever weight
comes. May you have a friend
beside you whose hand rests
in yours, and may you
say nothing at all, not
a single beautiful word at all.
For hours.
And when you rise, and
rise you will to reenter
the thrumming, clamoring
world, may you carry
within you all that quiet,
all that glorious still.

Sermon

Consider the Ditch Lilies

Karla Miller

Honoring the Saints of Our Lives

We hold in gratitude the saints of our church who have died since All Saints Sunday of 2025.

Dell Orr
Jan Walters
Sherry Carmichael
Betsey Parker
Bev Ward
Carolyn Schmalz
Liz Brennan

Jackie Green
Louise Vier
Berdella Alber
Catherine Lynch
Ericka Fagerlin
Julius Pratt
Richard Tyler

We hold in gratitude the other saints of our lives, both persons and animal companions, who have died.

A Moment for Stewardship

Kendra Ray & Teresa Ramer

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Shalom
Dan Forrest

FCCH Choir

Peace. Shalom. Peace I leave with you, peace I give to you: peace, shalom. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Not as this world gives, I give to you. Do not be afraid.

*Doxology

**Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah. Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.
Halle, halle, hall-lu-jah. Halle-lu-jah, hallelujah.**

*Prayer of Blessing

Celebration of Holy Communion

All are welcome at our table. The bread is gluten free. We celebrate communion by intinction. Please come to the table by the center aisle. You are invited to take a piece of bread from the plate, and dip it into the cup. If your bread falls in the cup, please take a new piece of bread to dip. Then return to your seat by the outer aisle.

*Hymn

For Everyone Born

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing; for everyone born, a star overhead.

**Chorus:
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace; Yes, God wil delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!**

For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship; for everyone born, the right to be free.

Intentions and Benediction

Postlude

For All the Saints
Ralph Vaughan Williams

The light of Christ is carried into the world.

*Please rise in body or spirit

Worship Notes

Prayer cards are in the pew racks; completed cards may be placed in the offering plate or at the candle table.

You are invited to light a candle at the candle table.

The Prayer Wall hangs on the lectern. Paper hearts are provided on which you may write your prayer and attach it to the wall.

Copies of today’s sermon are available in the narthex and on the front pew.

Acolyte: Pete Heuberger

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