

Announcements:

A Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, June 21, after the worship service. We will discuss then vote upon proposed renovations to the church bathroom facilities. Your ears, voice and votes are needed.

Join us for the "Rise Up! Sing Out!" Watch Party at 7 pm tonight in the Fellowship Hall. FCCH is hosting a watch party for the "Rise Up Sing Out" Concert sponsored by No Kings and the Committee for the First Amendment that is being live-streamed from NYC. Please BYOB of choice, and your neighbors and friends~~the point is to deepen relationships, and build momentum in our pursuit of protecting our democracy. Hendersonville's Progressive Alliance, Persist and Singing Resistance Hendo groups are co-sponsors.

FCCH Emergency Needs Fund is June's Special Offering. This discretionary fund, confidentially administered by the pastor, is used to help individuals primarily (but not limited to) in our congregation facing unusual challenges and may need a little extra support with groceries, rent assistance, medical bills and more. If you would like to make a contribution, please place it in an envelope and mark it "FCCH Emergency Needs Fund." Thank you!

The Friendship Dinner originally scheduled for this Tuesday, June 16, has been canceled. Please join us on August 18 for our next Friendship Dinner.

A Celebration of Life fellowship time for Joan McKinney is this Wednesday at 2 pm in the church Fellowship Hall.

Everyone is invited to share sacred time as we remember this fascinating person from our church family.

Happening at FCCH this week:

Mon, 6/15 10:00 am: Community Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
11:30 am: Blooms of Kindness, Fellowship Hall

Tues, 6/16 4:00 pm: Community Meditation, Parlor

Wed, 6/17 10:00 am: Sit & Stitch, Library
11:00 am: Progressive Christianity 101, Fellowship Hall
2:00 pm: Celebration of Life for Joan McKinney
3:15 pm: Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
5:00 pm: Progressive Christianity 101, Fellowship Hall

Thurs, 6/18 10:00 am: Blue Ridge Ikebana Meeting, Fellowship Hall
1:30 pm: Crone Talk, Parlor
7:00 pm: Buddy K Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, 6/21 Forum 9 am: Janet Granger: Animal Communication - Fact or Fiction? This will be a fun, enlightening discussion of how Janet stumbled into animal communication after an upbringing into the corporate/scientific world. You'll learn what animal communication is (and is not), Janet will share fun stories of what she has learned from our animal friends, both domestic (pets) and wildlife, and how to try it for yourself (if you'd like to)!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember these people in your prayers this week

-Jeanne Wilson is struggling with enormous back pain and related issues.
-The family and friends of Brookelyne Gadbury Fullmer, friend of Kristin Jordan, as they cope with her unexpected death at age 44.
-Genie Murphy, sister of Ann Twiggs, has been recently diagnosed with lung cancer.
-Arna Campbell, friend of Trisha LaGrange, is dealing with heart issues.
-Trisha LaGrange's family friends, Viktor & Olga Serebyakov, from Russia and living in Minneapolis, have been detained and split up by ICE, and have no legal recourse to reunite with their young son.
-Prayers for Anne Cain and family in the death of Aubrey Cain, Anne's daughter.
-Romella Hart-O'Keefe is home recuperating from a recent hospitalization.
-Sharon and Dody Pratt-Schultz are both recovering from recent health treatments and are home gaining strength.
-Kay Davis is receiving chemo treatments for her cancer.
-Mindy Myers is dealing with health issues and treatments.
-Ericka Fagerlin is dealing with various health issues.
-Prayers for the people of Iran and Lebanon experiencing the ravages of war.
-Prayers for our military who may be experiencing mixed feelings, prayers for safety.
-Prayers for LGBTQIA+ who feel unsafe or unwelcome because of religious trauma or world events and the social environment in which they live.

Birthdays this week:

Joan Nobling	6/16
Frosty Sinclair	6/17
Janet Slimak	6/17
Mark Cigal	6/17
Ellen Brazauskas	6/18
Judi Haberkorn	6/18
Patti Clay	6/19

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.

MINISTERS All of the Congregation

Rev. Karla Miller
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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**

June 14, 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 of Centering

Voluntary

Be Thou My Vision / My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Brant Adams
Joel Helfand, soloist

Opening Words

God of the journey, we come together from different places, different life experiences, and different understandings of you.

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

Bring Many Names

No. 6

Welcoming of New Members

Response

Draw the Circle Wide
Mark Miller

**Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.**

First Reading

excerpt from "The Spiral Dance"
Starhawk

Mark Mitchell

In the Craft, we do not believe in the Goddess — we connect with Her; through the moon, the stars, the ocean, the earth, through trees, animals, through other human beings, through ourselves.

Second Reading

excerpts from Psalm 148

Sermon

When I Was a Witch

Karla Miller

A Time for Reflection

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Look at the World
John Rutter

FCCH Choir

Look at the world: everything all around us. Look at the world: and marvel everyday. Look at the world: so many joys and wonders, so many miracles along our way. Praise to thee o lord for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see all the gifts we share and every blessing. All things come of thee. Look at the earth: bringing forth fruit and flower. Look at the sky: the sunshine and the rain. Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, valley and flowing river field and plain. Praise to thee o lord for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see all the gifts we share and every blessing. All things come of thee think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer Bringing the harvest before the winters cold. Everything grows, everything has a season til' it is gathered to the fathers fold. Praise to thee o lord for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see all the gifts we share and every blessing. All things come of thee. Every good gift, all that we need and cherish comes from the lord in token of God's love. We are God's hands, stewards of all God's bounty. God is the earth and God the heavens above. Praise to thee, o lord for all creation. Give us thankful hearts that we may see all the gifts we share, and every blessing. All things come of thee.

*Doxology

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

*Prayer of Blessing

God of all creation, we offer these gifts so that your love may be magnified. Amen.

*Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies; God of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; God of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; God of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For Yourself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given, for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven: God of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Intentions and Benediction

Postlude

Honor, Honor
Spiritual, arranged Bill Purcell

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, and will be posted on our website tomorrow.

Altar Artist: Ann Twiggs

Acolyte: Sharon Pearson

Cover art: Bewitched Samantha