

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BURLINGTON, UCC

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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SIX STONE JARS: *The Economy of Jesus*

This winter, we turn to the stories of the Gospel to explore the radical economy of Jesus the Christ. In today's Western culture - driven by constant demands on our time and resources - equity, wholeness, and meaning seem more and more elusive. Faced with similar challenges in the Roman Empire millennia ago, Jesus offered a new order: a new way of thinking about who we are, what we have, and how we relate to each other. As the Rev. Marcia McFee writes, "In his economy, the true measure of abundance is fullness for the whole community." Today we begin with a fullness Christ offers to all – the fullness of hope.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @FCCB

TODAY: Congregational Conversation

Let Us Be Faithful Stewards of God's Grace

Following worship today, join the Draw Policy Team in the Sanctuary for their presentation on the Draw Policy Plan to establish growth and capital funds from the sale of the parsonage.

Sunday January 26th at 9am and 11am and Sunday February 2nd at 9am, there will be additional opportunities for questions and discussion of the proposed draw policy with members of the Trustees and the Draw Policy Team in the conference room.

Young Adults Brunch

Use What God Has Given You

Starting Sunday, February 2nd, all young adults are invited to join Jack Lynch and Simon North for a casual brunch and small group gathering following the 10am worship service. Questions? Email

office@firstchurchburlington.org

Annual Meeting – February 2nd

We Gather Together

The 2025 Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, February 2nd at 11:30am in person in the Sanctuary and over Zoom.

VT Interfaith Action at the State House

Let Your Voice Be Heard

Wednesday, January 29th, join VIA to meet new and returning legislators to discuss the issues and priorities you care about. Whether you're new to VIA or a seasoned veteran at coming to the statehouse, there will be a place for you join in as we learn about and participate in the legislative process.

Register at <https://bit.ly/VIAstatehouse>

WORSHIP:

Sunday Morning Worship: We also livestream, with a recording available: www.youtube.com/FirstChurchBTB

Fellowship Hour: Every Sunday after worship, gather in the chapel to chat about worship and life. Light refreshments are always served.

Music: To offer your musical gifts, vocal or instrumental, or to learn more about First Church music programs contact Director of Congregational Life, Ava Bilton at: abilton@firstchurchburlington.org

- **The Sanctuary Choir**, open to all adults, is rehearsing at 7:00pm on Thursdays – come & learn more!
- **The Austin Handbell Choir** rehearses at 6:45pm on Wednesdays at First Church – all are welcome!

Readers: Interested in reading during worship? Contact info@firstchurchburlington.org to let us know!

Flowers: The calendar for donating Sunday flowers is available in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. You can create an arrangement or order one. We will contact you with details. Questions? Email: office@firstchurchburlington.org

WELCOMING:

NAME TAGS help build community: Request forms and completed name tags are available in Sanctuary Narthex.

New to First Church? Please fill in your contact information on the welcome cards provided in the pews and return it in the offering plate. We'd love to know you're here and say hello! Our online Welcome form: bit.ly/fccbwelcomecard

The Church E-News: Sign up on our website, in the Church Office, or complete a Welcome Card in your pew.

SERVICE:

Silent Vigil for Racial Justice: All are invited to stand in solidarity for racial justice the first Sunday of each month from 11:30am-noon. Bring a sign and chair, if you want, and meet on the front lawn.

Harm Reduction Kit Assembly: The fourth Sunday of each month, following the worship service, the Outreach Team is hosts an assembly line of volunteers to help stock community service organizations with harm reduction kits. All are welcome to lend a hand.

Good Neighbor Crew: Contact Will Gunger in the Church Office to sign up to help clean the church property.

Elmwood Shelter Snack Collection: The first Sunday monthly we collect individually packaged snacks (fruit ok!) to help the Elmwood Shelter community center feel more welcoming and inviting for guests. Drop-off box is in the library.

Friends at First work with our “Partners in Pastoral Care” – PIPC Team to provide rides, meals, and other services as needed. Email office@firstchurchburlington.org for details or if you or someone you know is in need of care.

Meals On Wheels: We deliver two Wednesdays a month, contact Al Weldon to learn more at alweldon@aol.com

Small Potatoes: First Church hosts this weekly, community, free Saturday breakfast and bag lunch. Want to help make sandwiches? To learn more, contact Outreach Team Member, Reid Willis, frwillis@gmail.com

JUMP - the Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP) is open in person at First Church, Thursday and Friday mornings at 9am, providing hospitality and valued assistance to thousands of individuals each year. For more info: www.jumpvt.org. Email JUMP Board President, Anne Tewksbury-Frye for info about getting involved: actfrye@burlingtontelecom.net

The FCCB Possibility Shop: Our thrift shop sells gently used, household items and clothing and is open **Wednesdays & Fridays 10am-3pm. Volunteers needed:** Call Karan Dewar 802-922-3821 or Brenda Frazer 802-862-4747.

Vermont Interfaith Action: We are currently partnering with VIA on issues of public safety, housing insecurity, addiction, and racial justice. To find out more, contact Louise Brewster at lrbrewster@gmail.com

Teams and Committees: Want to find a way to get involved? To use your gifts in a meaningful fashion? Talk to Jamie Polli, President; Donal Dugan, Deacons co-Chair; or Elissa about opportunities to serve. We really DO need you!

LEARNING AND CONNECTING:

Bible Study:

- **In-person Bible Study at First Church every Wednesday at 6:15pm.**
- **Thursday online Bible Study via Zoom - 8:30am weekly.**

Women’s Book Group: For details and book list, please contact Janice Clements at: janclm25@gmail.com.

At First Church with kids? Visit the **"Faith Formation Kiosk"** in the midway prior to worship to sign in. **Want to learn more about our programs for children and youth?** Use this QR Code:



Youth Group: After a brief hiatus for winter break, Youth Group will resume on Wednesday, January 8th at 6pm at College Street Congregational Church. Want to get involved? Contact Youth Ministry Leader, Will Gunger at youthministry@firstchurchburlington.org

Sunday 1/19	9:00 am: Draw Policy Team – information and conversation 10:00 am: Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00 am: Fellowship In the Chapel with refreshments 11:00 am: Draw Policy Team - Presentation
Monday 1/20	Church Office Closed 6:00 – 7:30 pm – Tai Chi: White Cloud Arts (Dining Room)
Tuesday 1/21	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Church Office Hours 5:15 – 7:15 pm – Trustees Meeting
Wednesday 1/22	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – Church Office Hours & Possibility Shop Open 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm – Outreach Meeting (Zoom) 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm – Connections Meeting (Zoom) 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Youth Group (College Street CC) 6:15 pm – 7:15 pm – Bible Study at FCCB 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm - AA (Chapel)
Thursday 1/23	8:30 am – 9:30 am – Bible Study with Elissa via Zoom 10:00 am – 3:00 pm – Church Office Hours 9:00 am – 11:30 am – JUMP Drop-In Center (Chapel) 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm – Sanctuary Choir
Friday 1/24	10:00 am – 3:00 pm – Church Office Hours & Possibility Shop Open 9:00 am – JUMP Drop-In Center (Chapel)
Saturday 1/25	8:00 am – 9:00 am – Small Potatoes: Free Community Breakfast / Bag Lunch 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm – Ken’s Karaoke Party (College Street CC)
Sunday 1/26	9:00 am – 10:00 am – Draw Policy Team – information and conversation 10:00 am – 11:00 am - Worship in the Sanctuary 11:00 am – Fellowship in the Chapel with Refreshments for all 11:00 am – 12:00 pm – Draw Policy Team – information and conversation 11:00 am – 12:00 pm – Youth Group (College Street CC)