The First Church in Salem, Unitarian

ELECTRONIC PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION FORM

Name of the organization: First Church in Salem, Unitarian

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE

Effective date of authorization: _____/_____/_____

Type of authorization:

- ❑ New authorization
- ❑ Change banking information
- ❑ Change donation amount
- ❑ Discontinue electronic donation
- ❑ Change donation date

Last Name	First Name	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email Address		

DATE OF FIRST DONATION:

_____/_____/_____

FREQUENCY OF DONATION:

- ❑ Monthly on the 15th

FUNDS:

- ❑ General/Operating

AMOUNTS:

$_____

Total $_____

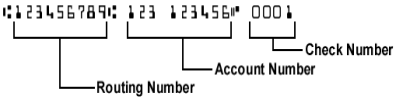
CHECKING / SAVINGS

Please debit my donation from my (check one):

- ❑ Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #)
- ❑ Checking Account (attach a voided check below)

Routing Number: _____
Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3

Account Number: _____



I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.

Authorized Signature:_____ Date:_____

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.

The Herald

A Publication of the First Church in Salem, Unitarian

The Ames Covenant

In the love of truth
and the spirit of Jesus,
we unite for the worship of God
and the service of humankind.

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 2014

In this issue **Pg.**

October Schedule 2

Around the Parish 2

Calendar 3

Coming in November 3

Standing Committee 4

Henny Penny 4

In Memoriam 5

Music Director 5

Small Potlucks 5

Committee Highlight 6

Stewardship 6

E-Giving 6

Religious Education 7

Halloween Party 7

For Your Calendar 8

- Election Ballot Forum
- Family Promise

Acknowledgements 9

World Communion Sunday & Diwali
Blessing of the Animals 10

Minister's Musings

On Sunday, September 21, I marched in the largest climate protest in American history. The People's Climate March began at 11:30 AM in New York City. An estimated 400,000 people gathered along Central Park West and then marched south through Columbus Circle and then down 6th Avenue for 20 blocks before we took a right towards Times Square. It was "the Big Apple" as I had never seen it before. At one point, as we walked by Radio City Music Hall, I climbed up on a light post and all I could see was an "ocean" of protesters in front of me and an "ocean" behind me. We were a vast group of people. While we came from many different walks of life and regions of this great land, we were all there on this avenue in New York with the same purpose: to demand that the United States take the growing threat of climate change and carbon emissions seriously.

We live during a unique time in human history. Never before has there been this much CO2 in the atmosphere (at least during our species' existence). Never before have we as a civilization relied so much on one source of energy for our way of life and economic wellbeing. The world's economy is almost entirely based on fossil fuels and the exploitation of the lands where we extract them and the people who live near them. Somehow this has to change if we hope to leave our children and grandchildren a world similar to the one in which we grew up.

I am keenly aware of the significance of my last statement and the almost mind-reeling implications of what that means. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, (the Nobel Prize winning research group founded by the U.N. and the World Meteorological Society), the industrialized countries of the world, (meaning the G-8), must reduce our carbon emissions from fossil fuels by 80% or more by 2050. That means a four-fifths reduction in how much gas and fuel we burn within the next 35 years. If we do not do this, we are consigning future generations, (and probably our children and grandchildren) to a potentially dire set of global circumstances about which we have probably all heard: changes in weather patterns, the spread of Ebola in Africa and Lyme disease here in North America, huge droughts affecting China and the American Midwest, the depletion of fish stocks in the oceans, the increase in tropical storm activity, and rising sea levels are all indicators of the "gathering storm" of climate change if we do nothing.

We here in Salem have something to offer this monumental task in front of us as we "decarbonize" our society and economy: a real life example that it can be done. You see, we live in a place and in a community that flourished for hundreds of years before oil became our preferred form of energy. Salem was a prosperous and sophisticated town during the great age of wind and sail. And part of the ingenuity that is our own community's history is what we as a country need en masse in the decades ahead. All of us, if we care about our future have a moral obligation to find ways to live more lightly on this planet. The good news is that we as a

October Schedule of Events

October 5: World Communion Sunday
- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30am Service with Choir
- RE Bread Baking During Service

October 7
- 7pm Forum on Ballot Questions 1 & 2

October 12
- 9:00am Stewardship Meeting
- 10:30am Service
- Blessing of the Animals

October 14
- 12pm Lunch with Pastor

October 15
- 6pm RE Decorate Willson Hall

October 17
- 6:00pm Halloween Family Fun Night

October 19: Annual Diwali Service
- 10:30am Service [Wear White]
- 7pm Youth Group

October 21
- 7:15pm Standing Committee

October 22
- 4pm Salem Pantry Bagging

October 25
- 9am Salem Pantry Distribution
- 4:45pm Lifebridge Dinner Team

October 26: Annual Samhain Service
- 10:30am Service
- Jack-O-Lantern Raffle

Around the Parish

It takes a Village to Plant a Tree: Mary Collari, Jan Eschauzier with help from **Lynn Taggart and Naomi Cottrell** led an effort to plant a new tree in the church garden, given by the parents of Henny Penny. A huge thank you to **Jack Vitale, David Radue, Bob Allen, Bob Soucy, Charlie Peabody, and Naomi Cottrell, as well as to Mary Collari and Mark** for the front end effort of digging the hole. The project went without a hitch. We may not be at the climate change march that weekend, but by planting a tree we made a small contribution to the effort. Many, many thanks.

As if that were not enough, the following weekend**, Jan Eschauzier, Mary Collari, and Brenda and Frank Marean** were busy redoing the flower boxes on the front steps and replanting the willow trees in large pots along the main path to the Office Door. Thank for everyone's work and donations!

"Sealant Saturday" a success! **John Wathne** led a group that included **Eric Kenney, Donna Fritz and Fabio Chacon** in resealing the foundation of our main 1836 building. This has been an issue in the last year with some surface water infiltrating our foundation and partially flooding Willson Hall last winter. Using a grinder and some high-tech elastomeric caulk, the team ground and dug out the old seal and then placed a new barrier down over the course of 12 hours. This was dirty and difficult work on one's knees and our team should be commended for their passion and effort.

Church members **Denise Kent and Mike Gibson** have opened up their new bookstore in downtown Salem: **Wicked Good Books**. They purchased the old Derby Square Books last winter and have been very busy renovating the building and preparing new inventory. The results are beautiful. Please go and check out Salem's only independent book store.

Wicked Good Books
The independent bookstore in Salem, MA

Lynn Taggart and Russell Lane recently returned from a trip to the south of France. Apparently the wine and food were pretty good. Who knew!

We had over 15 people show up to help prepare and serve dinner at **Lifebridge** on Sat, September 27. A few folks left early since there was not enough room in the kitchen.

Richard L'Heureux is on the mend after a heart attack and is looking and feeling great. In fact so much so that they expect him to go back to work next month! All's well that ends well.

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 4

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	**2**	**3**	**4** - 10:00am Choir Rehearsal
5 **World Communion Sunday** - 9:00am Choir Rehearsal - 10:30am Service - RE Bread Breaking	**6**	**7** - 7pm Election Question Ballot Forum	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**
12 - 9:00am Stewardship - 10:30am Service - Blessing of the Animals	**13**	**14** - 12pm Lunch with Pastor	**15** - RE Decorate Willson Hall	**16**	**17** - 6pm Hallow-een Family Fun Night	**18**
19 - 10:30am Diwali Service [*Wear White to Service*] - 7pm Youth Group	**20**	**21** - 7:15pm Standing Committee	**22** - 4pm Salem Pantry Bagging	**23**	**24**	**25** - 9am Salem Pan-try Distribution - 4:45pm Lifebridge
26 - 10:30am All Hallows Eve-Service - Jack-O-Lantern Raffle	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**	.

[***continued from front page]***
people and a country can take a leadership role in this cause. Indeed, if we do not, future generations will judge us harshly.

For me, it has gotten to the point where I am trying to live my life in such a way that I will be able to hold my head high should I ever live to a ripe old age. If I am blessed with the opportunity to speak with my grandchildren or even great grandchildren, and they ask me about this time, I want to be able to say that some of us were trying; some of us were calling for major change in how we use fossil fuels back then in 2014. I thank the members of this congregation who therefore supported my going to New York and marching in this historic protest. Time will tell if it made a difference, but we will never know unless we try.

October at the First Church is chock full of fun and stimulating events and services.

See you in church,
Jeff

Coming in November

Sun, Nov 2
10:30am All Souls Day Candle Lighting Service
12:30pm Family Promise Training Program after church

Fri, Nov 7
6:30pm-9:00pm First Church Game Night

Sun, Nov 9
10:30am Morning Worship

Sun, Nov 16
9:00am First Church Fall Pancake Breakfast

Sun, Nov 23 10:30am Thanksgiving Sunday Morning Worship

From the Standing Committee

September has been an amazing month here at in our First Church Community. I know I can't even begin to touch on all the action that goes on here, but what I have been a part of or witnessed has been impressive. The Sealant Saturday that John Wathne organized was hopefully a huge step towards making Willson Hall protected from the elements and a step in the right direction to prepare for flooring in that space. I stopped in for about an hour that day to find John, Fabio and Eric Kenney all chipping away at the concrete around the building preparing it for a special sealant that John recommended. With the help of a few others, John and Fabio were there from early morning till 7:30pm working on cutting concrete, hammering it out of the ground, washing the joins, filling the joins with this crazy caulking type stuff and covering it with sand to make it less visible. I can't thank everyone who helped with this enough. It was hard, physical work but without it, this step would not have happened.

Then there is our beautiful garden! Jan E and Mary Collari have been hard at work watering, weeding and making our outdoor space a true sanctuary. They also made sure the gift from Henny Penny families, a new tree, found its home in our garden.

If you skip over to Religious Education, once again, you find Valentina and Max Burbank, Chris and Denise Granniss, John, Ray-leen and our trusty babysitter all in their classrooms welcoming the kids back to a fun and inviting space so that the kids and adult enjoy church to its fullest. I also appreciated Indra for sharing the rain dance story during the children's moment.

I'm certain I'm missing plenty of people who are giving their time and talents to the First Church and I wish I could list them all. All I can say is I'm so thankful for everyone's time and energy for making First Church a well oiled machine and a home to so many of us on Sunday Mornings.

Many Thanks,
Donna Fritz
Chair, Standing Committee

Henny Penny

The first few weeks at Henny Penny have been filled with friendship and fun! We have been reading several Lois Ehlert books including Oodles of Animals and Ralph! Inspired by the colorful animal collages in Ehlert's stories, we have created oodles of animals with collage materials. You can see them hanging on the bulletin boards upstairs.

Our next few weeks will be filled with apples and pumpkins, farms and harvesting, and all around Fall fun! Some of our plans include making apple prints with halved apples dipped in paint, rolling playdough into a pie crust and fitting it onto pie pans, making observations of plain peeled apples and peeled apples dipped in lemon juice, singing about Uncle Jessee and his horse & buggy, scooping pumpkin flesh and separating seeds, and much more!

Thank you to all involved with planting the Henny Penny tree in honor of Mrs. Kerry Martin and Mrs. Barbara Herman. From the 2013-2014 families who donated, to the Garden Committee members who prepared and coordinated, and additional First Church members who lifted, scooped and planted…it was truly a community effort. We know the tree will provide beauty and shade for many years. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you all!

We are excited to announce Friday mornings are now an option for current and new Henny Penny families. This will provide more flexibility and choices for scheduling. We have a solid core of 8 students each Friday morning. In addition to our core Friday group, families are able to add the Fridays for "occasional" attendance if needed. Friday mornings will be theme-days, and include Mini-Musicians, Frozen (yes, the movie)Friday, Amazing Artists, Legends of Legos, and more! The addition of Fridays has created some movement in our schedule, and we are still able to offer space to new enrollees. If you know of anyone looking for a fun and engaging quality preschool program, please have them contact us. The number at Henny Penny is 978-745-7315 or they can send an inquiry to triciapini1@gmail.com.

In Memoriam: Clara Jane Hartwell, 1925 - 2014

We are sad to report that Clara Hartwell passed away peacefully at her home on September 23. Clara and her husband, Warren, had been members of the First Church since the 1970's. Warren was a Deacon here for more than 20 years. They were both born and raised in Hudson, MA but moved to Swampscott in 1962. They also were long time summer residents of Alton Bay, NH, where they owned a home. Clara was pre-deceased by her husband, Warren, to whom she was married for 63 years. She is survived by their son, Steven Hartwell of Belmont, CA and their daughter, Lisa Hartwell of Center Ossipee, NH. A Funeral Service was held on Monday, September 29, 2014 at 11:00 am at Peaslee Alton Funeral Home, 12 School Street, Alton, NH. An interment service followed at New Riverside Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the American Cancer Society. We extend our condolences to Stephen and Lisa upon the passing of their mother. She will be missed.

From the Music Director

A new and exciting thing is in its organizational stages at First Church called the Music and Worship Committee. To date, we have had 2 exciting meetings and it looks like we're off and running. The co-chairs of this committee are Ellen Brandenburg and Don Glover and coming from them soon I'm sure will be a mission statement and generally what will be the purview of this group. Obviously its title says a lot. Ellen, Don, Jeff, Donna Fritz and I have been meeting and, in the next few weeks you will be hearing a lot more, including plans to enlarge the group somewhat. I can tell you already, however, that we've been talking about Sunday service, scheduling of special services, and generally putting together an agenda that would cover the entire church year. So, more to come on that.

Also I've been looking ahead to scheduling choir Sundays so that members know well ahead of time when we will be singing, rehearsing, etc. and they can plan their own schedules accordingly. Choir will be singing again on October 5th, with an extra rehearsal planned for Saturday October 4th. As October is a strange month with Diwali being celebrated on the 19th and Halloween on the 26th, we will not sing again until November 2nd, then again on Thanksgiving Sunday. Then of course come the Christmas services. All in all, we are now well into a new and exciting year at the First Church in Salem.

Paul Madore

Small Group Potlucks Return this Fall!

A few years ago we began a successful program of small-group pot luck dinners at members' homes. These dinners give people a chance to meet and talk with other members of the church in an informal, relaxed setting. The groups are formed randomly so that people meet with a cross section of church members. Some groups include both adults and children.

We are continuing the dinners this November. The host(s) for the dinner will be responsible for timing, what to bring, etc. The only official order of business for each group will be to schedule a second dinner some time in the early Spring.

If you are interested in hosting please contact Catherine at firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com or call the church office at 978-744-1551.

Committee Highlight: October 2014

Stewardship Committee

Co-Chairs: Tommy Leon & Marlene Warner
Members: Peter Eschauzier, Bill Henning, Frank Marean, Steve Palmer, Nancy TenBroeck

Stewardship is a process in which a congregation looks after all that is entrusted to it, including its church buildings and property, community commitments, minister and staff, and the needs and interests of its members. The Stewardship Committee of the First Church in Salem has particular responsibility for outreach to members and friends to raise awareness and funds to support the life and programs of the church.

From the Stewardship Committee

It was testimony time at the church stewardship committee meeting.

"I'm very rich," one man said. "I am very rich because God has blessed me. I am rich because when I was a young man, with only $1 in my pocket, I heard an address by a missionary. The Spirit told me to give everything I had to that missionary. So I gave that dollar."

A fellow committee member tapped him on the shoulder. "I dare you to do it again," she said.

Fiscal Year 2014 was a banner year for giving at First Church. Our original goal for member giving was $100,000 and we ended up with almost $105,000 in gifts. The Stewardship Committee sincerely thanks you for your gracious generosity last year.

We dare you to do it again for FY2015.

We're off to a good start. As of Sunday, September 19, member giving stands at $2,000 more than last year at this time. Let's keep the momentum going!

And to help keep that momentum going, First Church is excited to announce that we we will be offering automated electronic giving in October. For more information, see the article on automated giving elsewhere in this eHerald.

October is also Stewardship Committee month and we'll be sharing more about who we are, what we do, and how you can get involved. Stayed tuned for more information.

The Stewardship Committee
Tommy Leon & Marlene Warner, Co-Chairs,
Peter Eschauzier, Bill Henning, Frank Marean, Steve Palmer, Nancy TenBroeck

The First Church Joins the 21st Century

First Church is excited to announce that we are now offering automated electronic giving!

Electronic giving offers benefits to First Church and our community. It gives a much-needed donation consistency to the church and is convenient for us—no more writing checks or forgetting to write them! Automated electronic giving pulls monthly offerings directly from individual deposit accounts and transfers it directly into the First Church account.

Starting in October, automatic drafts will occur on the 15th of every month, and the enrollment form must be received by the 10th.

To set up electronic giving complete a paper authorization form or visit the church website at *www.firstchurchinsalem.org* and look for the donation link. A copy of the authorization form can also be found in this eHerald and will be included in the Order of Service every Sunday.

Electronic giving is another avenue for helping the First Church continue offering diverse programs that support the our church family, the Salem community, and the world at large. Thank you for your continued generosity in our endeavors.

From Religious Education

October in Salem! While the streets might be full of tourists, here at First Church October is full of exciting special events. On October 5th[h] we celebrate World Communion Sunday with our traditional bread baking event in class. The students bake cornbread, play with dough, and listen to stories about bread from many cultures. This is always a special day and the kids really enjoy participating.

This year October 5th also marks a new phase in the religious education of our youth. Our teens who Came of Age last year will begin a new role as Youth Worship Associates for the World Communion Sunday service. They will work side by side with Reverend Jeff and the Deacons to facilitate the service as befits their new status as Youth in our congregation.

Our annual Family Fun Night Halloween Party will be held on October 17th. We will have games and crafts, pizza, and even the ever popular decorate- your- own- cupcake for dessert! We are planning for the quick skits, which are always a highlight of the evening. We may even have a few spooky surprises! Our Halloween party is a big hit every year and a great way to make friends and build community. This event is open to all our members and friends, so be sure to drop by. (You do need to have a child to be welcome! Fun for all!)

We will hold our second annual Jack-o-Lantern Silent Auction on Sunday October 27th. Please feel free to carve, paint, or use your imagination on a pumpkin and donate it to the auction. As this event takes place on the Sunday before Halloween, it is the perfect time to bring home that special holiday jack-o-lantern! I hope every household will be carving, painting and bidding on an artfully carved holiday gourd! This event benefits our Youth Group.

As your Religious Educator I am a member of LREDA, Liberal Religious Educators Association. LREDA members meet monthly in local cluster groups as well as regionally and nationally at other times. Last week our regional meeting was held in the new headquarters of the UUA at 24 Farnsworth St. in Boston. What a wonderful opportunity for all of us DRE's! The building is amazing. Not only will the space be a great environment for those of our association whose service requires them to be in that location, but it is also a place for all of us to experience our faith in dynamic new ways.

The concept is called "Heritage and Vision at 24". Part of the mission of Heritage and Vision is "to encompass the headquarters and wider movement in dynamic relation with congregations and UUs everywhere". The whole concept is easier to experience than to describe. There are displays of important historical elements, revolving portraits, a Brave Souls Wall, Adventures in Faith Kiosk, and interactive armchairs and coffee tables outside the chapel for UUs to explore our stories and history. I have booklets I will place in the Cleavland room which describes this amazing building in detail. Or use this link:
http://www.uua.org/documents/uua/hvc/hv24_visitors_guide.pdf Visit if you are able. Open weekdays from 9 to 5.

Deb DiGiulio
Director of Religious Education

FAMILY FUN NIGHT HALLOWEEN PARTY

Friday, **O**ctober **17**, **6:00**pm

Come in costume and be ready for some spooky fun. We will have games, crafts and some special surprises.
Requested donations of $5/person or $10/family for pizza being provided.
Thank you!!!

For Your Calendar: Events and Goings on At and Around First Church

S.A.F.E. presents Environmental Ballot Forum

Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 7:00pm
First Church Salem, 316 Essex Street
Free and open to the public.

- Sen. Joan Lovely (D-Salem) Introduction
- Phil Sego of Mass Sierra Club YES on 2
- Andre Leroux of MA Smart Growth NO on 1

A forum to discuss the environmental issues voters will be deciding in November. Hear campaign leaders discuss No on 1 (gas tax) and Yes on 2 (bottle bill). Learn how you can get involved.

Co-sponsors: Mass Sierra Club and MASSPIRG-Salem State

For more info: Pat Gozemba pgozemba@gmail.com, cell (978) 744-9141. www.facebook.com/salemsafe or www.SalemSAFE.org

Family Promise®
North Shore Boston
Ending Homelessness, One Family at a Time
1st Annual Walk to End Homelessness, Saturday, October 18th, 2014
Lynch Park, Beverly, MA

First Church will host a Family Promise training for volunteers on Sunday, November 2 directly following Fellowship/Coffee hour. Anyone interested in volunteering with Family Promise should attend this informative two-hour session. What are some ways that you can volunteer with Family Promise?

- Cooking or hosting dinner
- Spending the evening with guest families (visiting, tutoring, or just having fun!)
- Planning special activities for families on weeknights or weekends
- Sleeping overnight at the host congregation
- Donating needed supplies for the host congregation
- Setting up and taking down the guest families' rooms
- Helping at the Beverly Office

And, you can support Family Promise by walking with our First Church team, or contributing to our fundraising efforts, by visiting http://bit.ly/1pbxoOt. Thank you for your support!

Get Involved/Thank You!!!

Fellowship

Thanks to all those who hosted or contributed to Fellowship in September:

Homecoming Community Fellowship, Christiane Hansen-Mitev, Mary Collari & Julia Channing, Brenda Marean, Donna Fritz, Jessica Kane and the Cox Family.

Sunday, October 12 will be October Community Fellowship. To sign up to host another date please go to the First Church webpage at www.firstchurchinsalem.org and click on the Fellowship link. Thank you!!!

Lifebridge: Stewardship Dinner

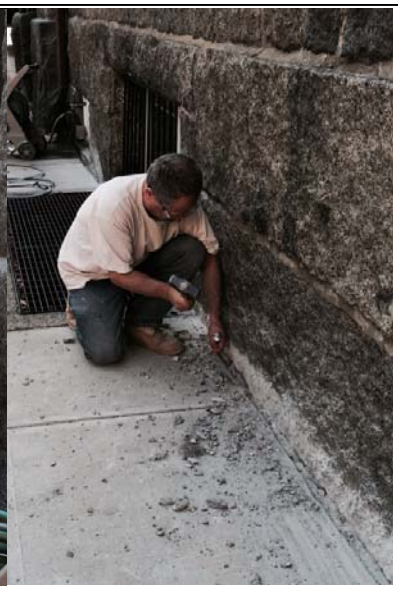
On September 27, First Church volunteered, prepared and served dinner at Lifebridge, Salem's homeless shelter. **Our wonderful volunteers for the July dinner were:**

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell, Joe Boynton, Susan Engelke, Chris Finn, Richard L'heureux, Russell Lane, Lynn Taggart, Paul & Sara Massari, Amanda Murley, Jim LaRue, Amanda Roeder, Crystal, Rebecca and Samantha Truong and Victor Young.

The next Lifebridge dinner will take place on Saturday, October 25. If you would like to help shop, prepare or serve dinner please sign up in the Barnard Room after one of the services, or online through the "Lifebridge" link on the First Church website's homepage or contact Duncan Cox at coxes3@verizon.net.

Flowers

Sign up to provide flowers for our services. Special wording can be placed in our weekly Order of Service in honor or memory or a loved one, or to commemorate an important event. You can use the church florist for a cost of $45, or bring your own creation. Arrangements can be simple or elaborate — the choice is yours! There are two ways to sign up: Online by clicking the "Flowers" link on the homepage of the First Church website: www.firstchurchinsalem.org or by completing the sign up form in the Barnard Room. Please feel free to contact the Church Administrator with any questions! 978-744-1551/firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com



Fabio Chacon and John Wathne working hard to protect our building during Sealant Saturday!

First Church members plant the new tree courtesy of Henny Penny families.

THE HERALD

A Publication of
The First Church in Salem, Unitarian
316 Essex Street
Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Phone and Fax: 978-744-1551
Email: firstchurchinsalem@gmail.com
www.firstchurchinsalem.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Minister: Reverend Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Director of Music: L. Paul Madore
Director of Henny Penny: Tricia Pini
Director of Religious Education: Deb DiGiulio
Chair of the Standing Committee: Donna Fritz
Administrator: Catherine Bertrand
Sexton: Fabio Chacon

ONE OF THE OLDEST PROTESTANT CHURCHES
GATHERED IN NORTH AMERICA, SINCE 1629

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 5

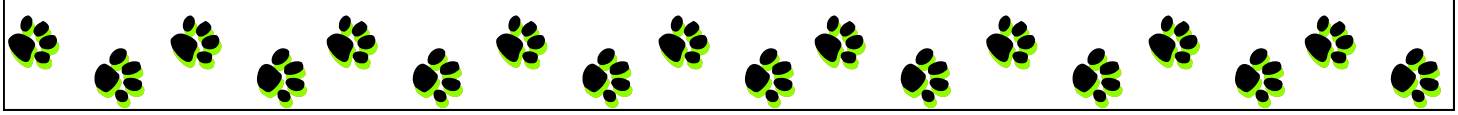
Join us for an annual tradition of holding a communion service and baking cornbread on the largest worldwide ecumenical event during the church year. This first Sunday in October, churches of all different types and traditions will hold a communion ritual each according to their own styles and preferences. Even "refugees" from other traditions who have joined the First Church find this to be a joyful and affirming experience.

Annual Diwali Service & Memorial Altar Lighting

Sunday, October 19 at 10:30

Wear white or light clothes.

Join us for the Annual Celebration of "Diwali": The Hindu Festival of Lights. A "Diwali" Presentation & Community Candle Lighting will then be followed by the Memorial Altar Lighting. Everyone who has lost a loved one recently is invited to bring a framed photograph, to be placed on the Altar. Place a note, with your name & the name of your loved one, under the photograph.

Blessing of the Animals: Sunday, October 12

People are encouraged to bring their pet as long as they can be caged or leashed and controlled. Animals will receive a blessing following the service at noon outside the church.