

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WARREN

P.O. BOX 206 - 252 MAIN ST. - WARREN, ME 04864 (207) 273-2338

The Cornerstone

OCTOBER 2024 EDITION

All the trees are losing their leaves, and not one of them is worried."

— Donald Miller



Rev. Bette Bond

OCTOBER MEETINGS

- Oct. 2 - Wed. 12noon
Missions meeting
- Oct. 3 - Thurs. 4:00pm
Deacon meeting
- Oct. 7 - Mon. 10:00am
Ladies Circle Meeting
- Oct. 7 - Mon. 6:30pm
Caring & Sharing Sisters
- Oct. 10 - Thurs. 6:30pm
Trustee Meeting
- Oct. 17 - Thurs. 6:30pm
Church Council Meeting
- Oct. 26 - Sat. 9:00am
Men's group meeting



Where decisions are made.

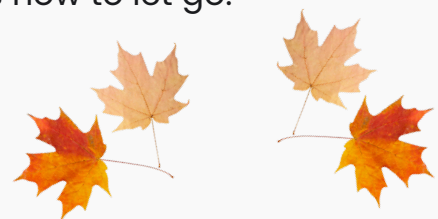
MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Happy October! Autumn is my favorite season of the year. It is the weather that makes me feel my best, and the light is so clear and luminous. Photographers and painters, artists of all kinds, appreciate the clear light of autumn. The poem below always brings to mind the fall. It talks about the yellow wood. The trees are changing, leaves are falling, and the air is crisp and cool. There are many interpretations of Frost's poem, and I of course have mine. What do these words evoke you? It's about decisions.... about having to make choices in life. We make many choices. Sometimes the way is clear, and our options are easily delineated. We might have to choose between "the lesser of two evils," which is still evil. The Holy Spirit in our lives helps us to see where the "roads diverge." Through prayer, reading the scripture, other spiritual works, and meditating on the Word, we can find the way which will "make all the difference" in our lives.

I find comfort in the words of Jeremiah: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls....". Take a walk in the woods this month, without a phone, without music or podcasts, and listen to the trees. Inhale the smell of change and decay, and as the poet says, "Learn from the falling leaves how to let go."

Blessed be~
Pastor Bette



The Road Not Taken

**Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood,
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth.
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,
And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.**

~ Robert Frost

Photo Courtesy: Rev. Bette Bond



Heavenly Father, in Your compassion, please bring healing and recovery to those listed. Touch them with Your healing hand and restore their strength. Ease their pain and mend what is broken. Surround them with Your peace and comfort. In Jesus' Name we pray for...

This Prayer List is provided to encourage you to keep these special people in your prayers during the week. If you know an individual you would like added to this list, please talk with the person and get their permission before having them added to the prayer list. (In some instances, we know that this may not be possible). If your loved one has received the healing Grace of God, please let us know so we can remove them from the prayer list.

Lorraine Strout by Linda K.
Gabe DeRaps
Bob Carpenter
Jessica by Sue C.
Sheila A. by Tina B.
Joel Kinney by Janice O.
Alberta Keyes by Raymond W.
Jim Grabel by Rev. Bette
Lee Houghton
Joyce Campbell
Tiny Dodge
The Morton Family

Stuart Mank
Daniel by Melody S.
Stan Waltz by Melody S.
Brent Lawson by Melody S.
Romeo Jackson by Melody S.
Nathan Lanphier by Clint L.
Jim Pacheco
Sue Mercier by Linda L.
Nathaniel Parkinson by Linda L.
Emily Beattie
Sandy Gammon
Steve Davis

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Oct. 15 - Dave Landry
- Oct. 22 - Walter Pendleton
- Oct. 26 - Michele Robinson Ryan
- Oct. 26 - Janette Small

If your special day is not listed please contact the office.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Oct. 10 - Neil & Pearl Stetson
- Oct. 18 - Albert & Janice Overlock
- Oct. 23 - Walter & Linda Kaler



Our church lobby food barrel has been empty lately. This has been a long-time mission here at SCCW and we realize most families are indeed struggling. You can still help by by donating non-perishable items to support them. Look for the food barrel in the Church foyer, and kindly place your donations in a bag inside the barrel. **Be mindful of 'use by' dates, they do not accept expired food items.** Your donations are appreciated. Help feed the hungry of Warren.

HOLLY BERRY FAIR



This is in regards to **Grandma's Attic**. We have made some changes in the way it will be handled this year. **FIRST:** Each family will be limited to two medium size box donations. **SECOND:** If you let us know when you can bring it, someone will be available to meet you. **DEADLINE** to bring items is **NOVEMBER 10th**. **THIRD:** And most important PLEASE!! Make sure that all items are **CLEAN AND USABLE!!! NO CLOTHING**. If you have any questions feel free to contact a member of the Ladies Circle. ~Carole Starr

2024 OFFICERS AND BOARDS

Trustees – 3-Year Term (5)

Jeff Creighton	2026
Irene Maxcy	2024
Sterling Robinson	2024
Marcia Cifaldo	2025
Sandra Overlock	2025

Diaconate – 3-Year Term (7+)

Cindy Bland	2024-Chair
Weston Ames	2026
Michelle Bradley	2026
Karen Carpenter	2026
Eric Overlock	2025
Robin Quinn	2024
Susan Lombardo	2024

Board of Education – 3-Year Term

Becky Ruggieri	2025-Chair
Michelle Bradley	2026
Kathy Lanphier	2026
Robin Quinn	2026

Mission’s/Memorial - 3-Year Term

Irene Maxcy	2026
Marcia Cifaldo	2025
Sharon Landry	2025
Valerie Miller	2026
Gayle White	2025

Delegates to State

Kathy Lanphier
Robin Quinn
Pat Weaver

Delegates to National

Robin Quinn
Becky Ruggieri

Nominated and Elected Annually

Moderator	Jeff Creighton
Assist. Moderator	Joe Cifaldo
Clerk	Donna Lewis
Assist. Clerk	Cathy Lanphier
Treasurer	Pat Weaver
Assist. Treasurer	January Peavey
Bowes Fund Treasurer	Pat Weaver
Disc. Fund Treasurer	Pat Weaver
Missions Treasurer	Irene Maxcy
Flower Chair	Patricia Overlock
SS Superintendent	Becky Ruggieri

Pastoral Relations - 3-Year Term (5)

Melody Sainio	2026
Robin Quinn	2026 - Deacon
Carolyn Robinson	2026
January Peavey	2026
Jeff Creighton	2025 -Trustee

Historians - 3-Year Term (3)

Linda Lent	2026
Pat Weaver	2024

Council Member at Large - 3-Year Term (2)

Clinton Lanphier	2024
Carolyn Robinson	2025

Year-Round Delegate to National (1)

Marcia Cifaldo

Hospitality Committee (3)

Tina Bryant
Robin Quinn
Carolyn Robinson

Council Chair (2024)

Patricia Weaver

In October a Nominating Committee will be forming. Above is a list of the current positions and the dates their terms expire. If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee or taking a seat on any of the boards, please let us know.

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - THURSDAY OCTOBER 17TH. 6:30PM.
REPORTS ARE DUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING.**



Missions is once again going to celebrate Mission Fest in October by inviting 3 organizations to do Mission Moments.

The schedule is as follows:

- October 13 - Midcoast Habitat for Humanity - Tia Anderson
- October 20 - WAMITS (Walk a Mile in Their Shoes) Bill Diamond
- October 27 - Boothbay V.E.T.S. (Veterans Emergency Temporary Shelter)/Ed Harmon

We will be taking an offering for Boothbay V.E.T.S. on the Sunday they are in church. They are planning to bring one of the reconfigured trailers so the congregation can see for themselves the impressive work they are doing.

All 3 of these organizations have very dedicated people doing the work that so desperately needs doing. Please come and show your support and invite others to hear their stories! October promises to be a special month for our church!

News from Music

The Understanding Music Class is beginning. Are you Interested in learning more about how to follow or 'read' music? Come Explore and learn how to follow music and how it works on Tuesday evenings October 1 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for 6 weeks. This introductory class is for people that have expressed a desire to participate in our church groups or anyone that wants to learn basic music reading skills and / or interested in brushing up their music theory skills.

Choir Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings' at 5:30 except on the first Wednesday of the month, rehearsal is at 5:00pm.

Rehearsals for the holiday season will begin October 30. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome to join for the season of Thanksgiving and December.

Handbell player needed! Please spread the word. We are looking for someone to join our group to play in our lower octave. Our Handbell group will be sharing in Oct 13th worship service.

**Yours Musically,
Beverly Pacheco**



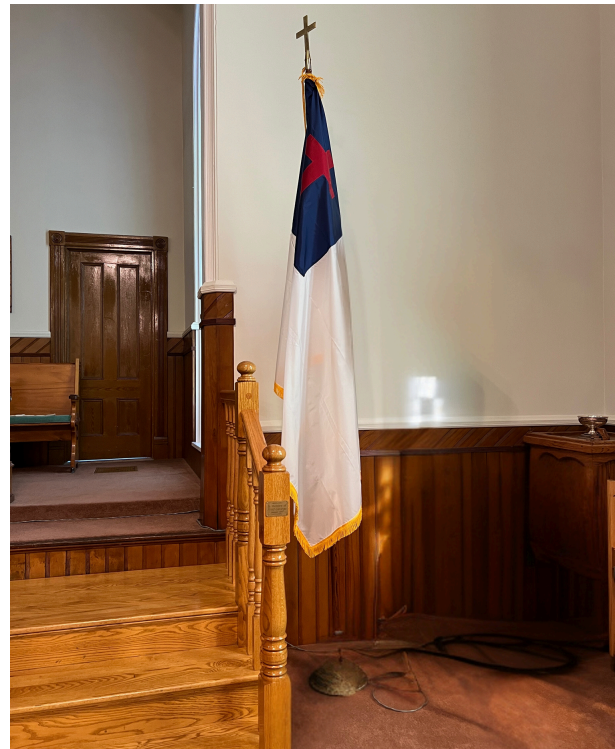
Board of Ed requesting large candy bar donations for Halloween. Drop off at church or bring on a Sunday morning. Thank you !!



Has **Anyone** Noticed?

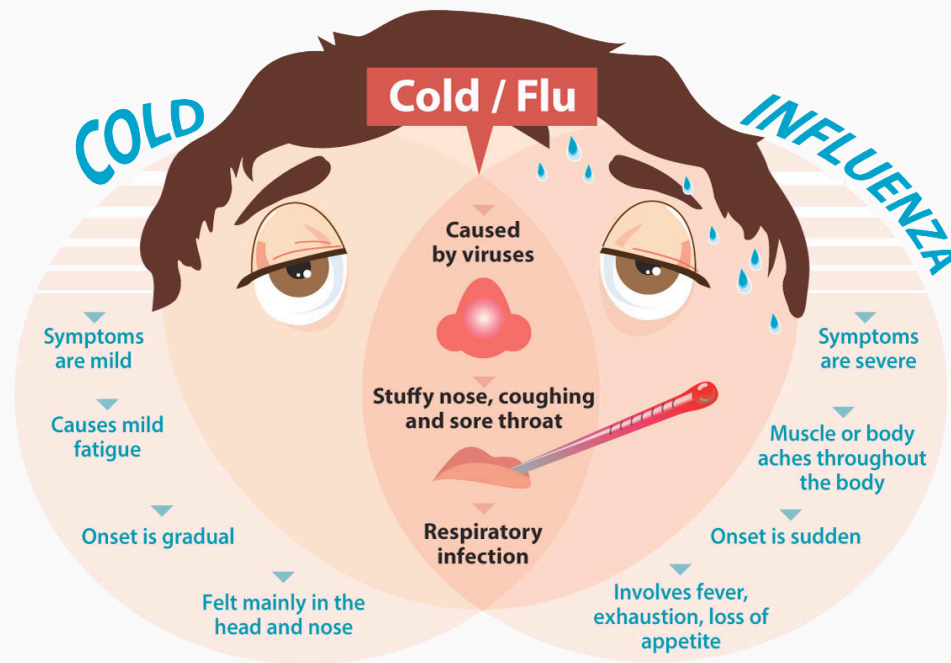


We have three new flags.
Thanks to the trustees for replacing the worn and tattered old flags out front of the church and inside; the American Flag and the Christian Flag.



AND.... we have two new chairs for the Chancel.
Making the congregation more visible to Rev. Bette and more comfortable.

Do you have the Flu?



The Flu is always going to be a part of our lives. Know how to determine if you have a cold or the flu. And always practice ‘safe-health’ by washing your hands regularly, sneezing or coughing in a tissue or your arm, and if you or someone in your household are sick, limit contact with others, stay home and rest. Social distancing helps. And stay at home at least 24 hours after your fever has subsided.

DAY 0-	DAY 1-3	DAY 4-7
The flu is most contagious 24 hours before symptoms appear.	Exhaustion Muscle aches/pains Fever Cough/sore throat	Fever reduces Cough improves Breathing easier Less fatigue/exhaustion

It's not March, but that's no reason to not enjoy this

---Irish Blessing---

May you have enough happiness to keep you sweet,
 Enough trials to keep you strong,
 Enough sorrow to keep you human,
 Enough hope to keep you happy,
 Enough failure to keep you humble,
 Enough success to keep you eager,
 Enough friends to give you comfort,
 Enough enthusiasm to look forward,
 Enough faith to banish depression,
 Enough determination to make each day better than yesterday,
 And enough forgiveness to be filled with the love of Christ.
 Amen.

CCC ME STATE MEETING

Submitted by CCCME State Delegate, Patricia Weaver



What a wonderful beginning, it was a beautiful morning. I met Sue Chipman and Robin Quinn at the church around 6:30 am. We headed out with my GPS on. When we got to Union, I misread the GPS and took a wrong turn, but that wrong turn took us to some beautiful scenery, the colorful trees and awesome landscape of sprawling farmlands.

We arrived at the Skowhegan church to a lovely breakfast that included muffins, donuts, juice, coffee and breakfast pizza. The best though was meeting old friends and new friends. Such a warm experience.

After breakfast we went into the beautiful sanctuary for a short business meeting, opened by our own new Moderator Rev. Bette. Rev. Irv Gammon (new Pastor of Rockland Congregational) was recognized and welcomed back into our fold. Prayers were asked for Rev. Fred Fortier as he is still battling with chemo. A question was brought up about Camp Winni and some changes are being discussed, one is turning it into a Family Camp. More discussion will be had. Other business was the NACCC Vitality Ministry Council is offering 10 one-time grants for \$2,500.00. To learn more go to the NACCC website--lwright@naccc.org.

The 2025 Spring meeting will be held in So. Paris-Rev. Mike Carter and the Fall meeting will be held in Brownsville.

We then adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and discussion, 'Balance: Staying relevant while caring for the flock have' presented by Rev. Mark Tanner and Rev. Mike Carter. I don't know what to say but this was one of the best group discussions that I have even been to. It was thought provoking, eye opening, and surprising in many ways. Many questions were asked of us. The biggest was 'What does relevant look like? How would we know that our church is relevant? The biggest answer was to be authentic, to do the work of Christ in your community, to be visible, what does that look like in our church? I challenge everyone to give this some great thought. One thing I got out of this and agree with is 'You can't be faithful to church by getting new members and not remembering the faithful older members.' It is a balance!

(Continued next page)

Next, we adjourned back to the sanctuary for the service and communion presented by Rev. Tanner. His message was “Give me oil in my lamp”. Very good message on how to take care of the people around us without burning ourselves out. Allow Christ to give yourself to someone else. Allow yourself to breathe. He also asked ‘how do you describe Congregationalism? There is a place for all of us to accept each other whether we agree or not. He served Communion with Rev. Bette singing and playing her own song that she wrote, “I am the one”. Marvelous!!! We adjourned to the dining room for lunch of Vegetarian Lasagna, salad, bread and apple crisp and ice cream for dessert. Thank you, ladies.

After lunch we met back in the fellowship room for another round table discussion on grief led by Rev. Bette. This was a hard subject but very well received and much input. Meeting was adjourned with prayer for safe travels and all headed home. Robin, Sue and I bid goodbye to our old and new friends and traveled back the way we came, through Knox, Thorndike, Freedom, Brooks and Searsmont. Just as beautiful coming back as going up. Sometimes it is the best thing to take the wrong road, you will never know where it will lead you!

Hope to see some of you at Council and then in the Spring in South Paris. Forgot—Second Congregational church of Warren had the most attendance from a single church—AGAIN!!!

~Patricia Weaver



Submitted by CCCME State Delegate, Kathy Lanphier

Our Fall Meeting of the CCCMe (Congregational Christian Churches of Maine)

This fall the meeting was held at the Skowhegan Federated Church. The breakfast started at 8am and a total of eight of our church's delegates and guests attended. The Moderator was our own Rev. Bette Bond. The Vice-Moderator was Rev. Mark Tanner of the Skowhegan Federated Church who was hosting our meeting.

During the roll call we were sorry to learn that two churches were closing and combining with another. It was a challenge to hear the number of churches called who had no one in attendance. I would like to contact our area congregational churches to offer a ride to anyone who would like to attend before the spring meeting. The annual spring meeting will be in South Paris and the fall meeting in Brownsville.

First Congregational Church of South Paris
17 E. Main Street (Rt. 117), South Paris, ME 04281
(207) 743-2437, Pastor: Rev. Michael Carter
<https://www.firstcongosparis.com/>

The NCCC (National Association of Congregational Christian Churches) has grant opportunities. 10 one-time grants of \$2500 are to be given out by the Vitality Committee, to be submitted by Nov. 1, 2024.

Rev. Mike Carter - Round Table discussion -

Staying Relevant While caring for the Flock We Have.

Rev. Bette - Roundtable discussion - Grief

Congregational Christian Council of Maine
<https://www.cccme2.org>

CCCME is an Association of Congregational Churches in Maine and we affiliate with the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC)

<https://www.naccc.org>



BOTTLE DRIVE
CHILDREN'S CLOTHING EXCHANGE

FUNDRAISING
Returnable bin is in the downstairs Fellowship room. We thank you kindly for your donations.

Please empty your bags directly into the bin.

Also please empty the bottles before putting them into bags and be sure the bags you bring in do not have holes.

Leaky bags are no fun!

To Volunteer at the Children's Clothing Exchange, contact CCE Director - Susan Lombardo 207-701-7622

FROM THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR



- Current office hours are Wednesday and Thursday 8:00am to 1:00pm
- Newsletters are mailed and emailed once a month on or near the first of the month.
- Information to be put in the newsletter is due ON or BEFORE the 28th of each month.
- If you need a newsletter mailed to you, please contact the office. Printed copies are available upon request.
- Rev. Bette office hours to meet with you are Mondays 10-2, Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-6. Please call to arrange a meeting.

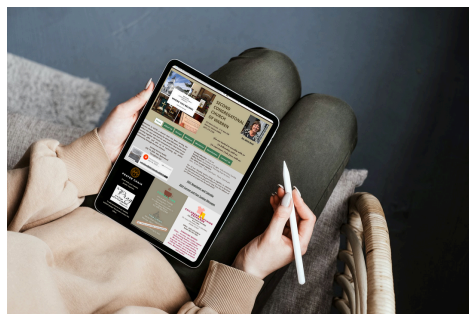


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Thank you for your continued support.



DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	MISSIONS
09/01	Service at Bunker Hill Church		
09/08	60	4,601.00	456.00
09/15	48	1,446.00	265.00
09/22	56	927.00	144.00
09/29	48	1,100.00	43.00



Visit our website for up-to-date information where you can find all the details you need. Explore the pages to discover our history, listen to a Sunday service, and learn about our various boards and committees. Feel free to visit us at www.SECONDCONGREGATIONAL.org.

SCCW CONTACT INFO:

- MINISTER:** Rev. Bette - rev.bette.sccw@tds.net
- OFFICE ADMIN:** Carolyn Robinson - office.sccw@tds.net
- TREASURER:** Patricia Weaver - treasurer.sccw@tds.net
- TRUSTEE CHAIR:** Jeff Creighton - jeffreighton@gmail.com
- DIACONATE CHAIR:** Cindy Bland - tomcyn.bland@roadrunner.com

SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

P O BOX 206
WARREN, MAINE 04864
207.273.2338

OCTOBER 2024

Mission Month

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MISSION MONTH		1 9-11am Table Talk 1:pm Bible Study 6-7:pm Music Class	2 12pm Missions	3 9-11am CCE 4:00p Deacon Mtg	4	5
6 10:00am Service	7 10:00a Ladies Circle 6:30p Caring\ Sharing	8 9-11am Table Talk 1:pm Bible Study 6-7pm Music Class	9	10 9-11am CCE 6:30p Trustee Mtg	11	12
13 10:00am Service <i>Tia Anderson</i> <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	14 Indigenous Peoples Day	15 9-11am Table Talk 1:pm Bible Study 6-7:pm Music Class	16 (KAT)	17 (KAT) 9-11am CCE 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	18	19
20 10:00am Service <i>Bill Diamond WAMITS</i>	21	22 9-11am Table Talk 1:pm Bible Study 6-7pm Music Class	23 (KAT)	24 (KAT) 9-11am CCE	25	26 9:00am Men's Group meeting
27 10:00am Service <i>V.E.T.S. Boothbay</i> <i>Homeless Trailers</i>	28	29 9-11am Table Talk 1:pm Bible Study 6-7pm Music Class	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN 9-11am CCE	1 NOVEMBER <i>All Saints Day</i>	2
LITURGIST	DEACONS	TRUSTEES	GREETERS	HOSPITALITY		
10/06 Pat Weaver 10/13 Wes Ames 10/20 Niva-Jean Poland 10/27 Melody Sainio	10/06 Michelle & Susan 10/13 Karen & Eric 10/20 Michelle & Wes 10/27 Karen & Cindy	10/06 Irene Maxcy 10/13 Sandra Overlock 10/20 Marcia Cifaldo 10/27 Sterling Robinson	10/06 Wes & Tina 10/13 Bob & Vicki Barrett 10/20 Margaret & Carole 10/27 Joe & Marcia C.	10/06 Men's Group 10/13 Ladies Circle 10/20 The Congregation 10/27 Caring/ Sharing		

NOTE: Above duties are subject to change. Office hours: Wed. & Thurs. 8-12 Rev. Bette visiting hours: Mon: 10-11 Tues:2-6 Thurs: 2-6
CH: Denotes Coffee Hour NOTE: Music Class for 6 weeks: Learn basic reading music skills with Beverly Pacheco.
(KAT) In office

Video Gentle Chair Yoga – Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30am