



WELCOME ~ DECEMBER 15, 2024

We are glad you've joined us for worship today. If you are visiting with us today may you discover a friendly church, a safe haven where you will be loved and accepted; where you will be challenged to reflect on your beliefs, acknowledge your doubts, ask questions, and grow in your faith. May The First Congregational Church, Canton Center help you find God's compassion, healing, reconciliation, justice and joy in our worship service and where you are given the opportunity to put your faith into action through effective outreach ministries. We hope to get to know you as a new friend and invite you to fill out a visitor card. No matter who you are, or where you are in your journey, you are welcome here.

*The flowers this morning are given by Curt & Holly Johnson in celebration and loving remembrance of their family members, relatives and friends.
May the warm memories live on!*

Poinsettia Plant Forms due today - If you would like to order plants, for the Dec. 22 & 24 service, you may find order forms on the table near the kitchen. \$ 8.25 each and need to be returned today.

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund will be collected today and the 22nd. This Mission Offering is administered through the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance, the charitable arm of the Pension Boards. Funds provide direct financial support to those who serve the church and are facing financial difficulties. Active and retired clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses may be eligible for the Supplementation of Small Annuities, Supplementation of Health Premiums, Emergency Grants, and/or Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks. **Please make checks payable: to FCCCC with memo: Christmas Fund.**

Ho, ho, ho - time's running low! - Today (12/15) is the last day to order gift cards through Scrip and receive them in time for Christmas! With over 600 retailers and restaurants to choose from, we have a gift for everyone on your list. Stop by the table in coffee hour today and get your shopping done!

December Missions Collections. We are collecting **winter scarves, hats, gloves, mittens, and socks** for the month to be given to various organizations. Please put on or under the Christmas Tree in the sanctuary. Please place in a plastic bag so the don't get pine needles in them.

Reminder: 2025 pledges are due in ASAP as our Trustees & Church Council plan for the coming year. *Thank you for your faithful support!* **Offering envelopes are ready for pick up near kitchen.**

Cancelled - **The Carol Sing** this Friday has been cancelled due to a high school scheduling conflict.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*We gather as a welcoming community in worship, learning, service and fellowship to embody Christ's message of love, compassion and justice.
Joining faith with action, both within and beyond our church,
we strive to build a community that serves all.*

An Open and Affirming Church



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE DEC. 24 at 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve Collection will go to the Canton Emergency Fuel Bank.
Please make checks payable to: FCCCC with memo: *Canton Fuel Bank*

Prayers for:

*Gail Macbeth's grandson, Tom Macbeth
who is in the hospital and may be operated on for gall bladder.*

Mason who had surgery on both calves to fix contracture which will hopefully lead to getting his feet aligned and successful therapy to be weight bearing again. (Austin Collins)

Our brother in-law who is in intensive care, Martha's sister Mary Ruth and their whole family as they face a difficult diagnosis. (Paul & Martha Stansel)

All the girls/women of the world for their safety, welfare, health, lives through their reproductive rights and ongoing struggle against violence against women. (Marianne Burbank)

Joys for:

Flute concert by Canton's 5 & 6 graders and our own Sylvie Hager. (Marianne Burbank)

Sunday	15	Monday	16	Tuesday	17	Wednesday	18	Thursday	19	Friday	20	Saturday	21
Worship 10 am		Choir 4:30 pm Guest 5:15 pm AI-Anon 7 pm		AA 7:00 pm		ACA7 pm		Choir 5:30 pm		CANCELLED Carol Sing		AA 11:00 pm	