

The Old Sloop's Log



A Monthly Publication of
The First Congregational Church of
Rockport, UCC, The Reverend Derek
Van Gulden, Pastor

Our Covenant

We the members of this congregation welcome you with gladness into our lives. We renew our covenant of faith and offer you our support, encouragement and love to the end that all of us may grow in the boundless mercy of God. By loving and being loved, forgiving and being forgiven, serving and being served, let us go forward together with courage as Christ's disciples glorifying God by being fully alive.

Open and Affirming Statement

We the members of the First Congregational Church of Rockport are called upon to love one another as God loves us, freely and unconditionally. Therefore, we covenant to be an Open and Affirming congregation welcoming persons of every age, ability, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, nationality, ethnicity and immigration status into full membership and participation in our community life and ministry. We embrace and support those who experience rejection and exile from spiritual community and commit ourselves to the struggle against injustice.



Beloved,

A few weeks ago, I preached about prayer using *The Lord's Prayer* and *Psalm 23* as examples. At the funeral of a friend's mother, I heard a beautiful eulogy by one of the grandsons. He spoke reverently about his

grandmother and finished by sharing the prayers that she loved to recite. He added that his grandmother often spoke about the *hope* she found in the prayers.

What he did next was both beautiful and seemingly "out of the box" for many in attendance. He had taken both the Lord's Prayer and Psalm 23 and blended them together in the following way:

Blending of the Lord's Prayer and Psalm 23

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.

Give us this day our daily bread.

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

He leads me in the right paths for his name's sake.

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.*

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.*

After the service, I had a chance to thank this young man and ask if he knew what words spoke to his grandmother. He said, "yes, of course." Here are the words which spoke to his grandmother:

- thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
- *I shall not want.*
- *He restores my soul.*
- *You prepare a table before me; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*
- lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
- *you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.*
- thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
- *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me*

As I drove home, I continued to hear both of these beautiful pieces of scripture in my head. Now as I pray the *Lord's Prayer*, I hear *Psalm 23* in my head at the same time. I find hope in the very beginning of each piece; *Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.... I shall not want... She restores my soul.*

Do you find hope in these or other prayers we use often? If so where is the hope for you?

I encourage each of you to pray the *Lord's Prayer* and *Psalm 23* slowly and see what words jump out to you. No matter what prayers you use, I encourage you to pray daily. If you have trouble getting into a routine of prayer, please come and see me and together we can get you started. For now, I continue to use the blended prayer above as part of my daily prayer life.

Shalom, Rev. Derek



TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 13, 2020

Trustee Meeting – called to order at 7:03 PM. Walter opened the meeting with a prayer.

Present: Bruce Coates, Treasurer; Mark Jurewicz; Bonnie Gray; Walter Vining; Chip Kistner; Bill Elwell; Geof Lyon, Building Study Committee; Jack Reed, Moderator; Louisa Casadei-Johnson, Stewardship; Steve Lindo

Absent: Kevin Love; Rev. Derek van Gulden

- **Minutes:** Minutes from the December 9, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Bruce presented the Treasurer's Report. Due to New Year's Day falling on Wednesday (normal payroll day) three payroll checks were dated 12/31/2019. A motion was made and approved to move the accounting of those payments to January 1, 2020. In a subsequent email discussion that decision was reversed as there is already one extra payroll date in 2020. A second motion to transfer the balance remaining in the Net Income account on 12/31/2019 to the Contingency Fund was also approved.
- **Monthly Reviews:**
 - Bank Statements:** Not reviewed.
 - PEX Statements:** No issues noted.

Old Business:

- **2020 Budget** – There was a lengthy discussion surrounding issues related to the 2020 budget. Factors preventing balancing the budget include loss of rental income and a significant reduction in pledges. Jack suggested forming a sub-committee to investigate rental opportunities. Stewardship will continue their efforts to increase pledges. Trustees have committed to presenting a balanced budget at the Annual Meeting. To honor that commitment and avoid impacting replenishment of the contingency and sabbatical funds and/or eliminating staff wage increases, the Trustees voted to increase the annual withdrawal from the endowment to 5% for 2020. In order to balance the budget, it is expected that at least half of the remaining outstanding pledges will eventually be made.
- **Building Study Committee (BSC) Update** –

- **Sanctuary Ceiling Paint** – available Trustees will meet with painting contractor on Wednesday 1/15/2020.
- **Law House Back Steps** – the steps, stringers and railing have all been replaced.
- **Front Corner Fellowship Hall** – the rotted corner boards have been replaced with Azek. Thankfully no structural damage was found to the sheathing or corner post.
- **Narthex Blue Doors** – work has commenced to repair the blue doors and replace worn weatherstripping. Door repairs will improve security and reduce heat loss. One of the 2 center doors has warped and may need to be secured at the bottom to hopefully pull the bottom of the door back into place. People need to be aware and may need to be encouraged to use one of the other blue doors for periods of time.
- **Grease Trap** – the kitchen grease trap failed and need replacement. The repair was labor intensive and required modifications to the cabinet. The waste pipe was also cleaned out.
- **Exit Door Replacement** – No update.
- **Steeple Lighting** – Project has been completed.
- **Critical Incident Committee (CIC) Update** – A summary report of the 2019 CIC activities was submitted. Armed Intruder/Active Shooter training is being planned for either 2/20 or 2/27. Basic information and links to online video & training program will be made available through bulletin inserts, email and Log article prior to the presentation to be made by members of the Rockport Police.

New Business:

- **Trustees Annual Report** – draft version was reviewed. Finalized version will be submitted to the Office Manager.
- **Fund Creation** – Trustees voted to approve the creation of a special fund needed to receive a stock donation.
- **Baptismal** – Diaconate has approved funding from the Living Memorial Fund to have a new baptismal created using wood from the old steeple. Trustees approved the use of steeple wood.
- **Rental Ideas** – Ideas for new tenants are not limited to schools but include yoga/dance studios, art galleries and perhaps a retail shop of some kind. Advertising possibilities include posting to Facebook, For Rent signage and perhaps contacting a realtor to explore other opportunities. It was suggested a sub-committee be formed to study this closer.
- **Cell Tower** – Verizon has asked to install additional equipment in the steeple. Tom Moylon is working with them to increase the monthly payment accordingly. Trustees will also ask Tom to explore opportunities for an additional cell phone company.
- **Playground Equipment** – it is unclear who actually owns the playground equipment (Sandy Bay Preschool or Rainbow Day School) but the Trustee will work to have it removed.

A copy of this report will be forwarded to the editor of The Old Sloop Log. There being no further business, the Board of Trustees adjourned at 8:55pm.

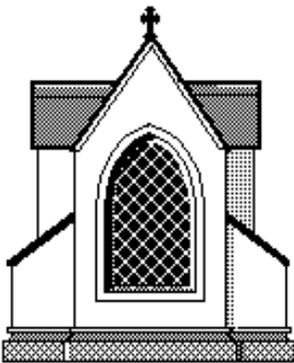
The next scheduled meeting of the Trustees will be Monday, February 10, 2020.

Walter Vining

Chair, Board of Trustees

Mark Jurewicz

Recording Secretary



Stewardship Committee

STEWARDSHIP FEBRUARY 2020

The Stewardship Committee extends our gratitude to all of you who made our annual pledge drive a success on many levels. In early January, we had hit a plateau and were concerned about raising the funds needed to provide a balanced budget. In collaboration with the Trustees and with the help of our Assistant Treasurers, Geof Lyon and Fred Witte, we reached out personally to the few donors from 2019 from whom we had not yet heard. These friends and members responded generously and by the third week in January, we had surpassed the goal requested by the Trustees, receiving a total \$186,340 in pledges. Going into our Annual Meeting with a \$5000 surplus says a lot about the commitment our congregation feels towards our church and made the work of your Stewardship Committee worthwhile and rewarding. The new unified pledging ensures that the operations, outreach and maintenance of our church will be predictably and consistently supported.

We believe that setting clear goals helped the congregation to carefully consider the amounts they were able to pledge. The Trustees had advised our committee that we would need to increase last year's pledges by 6% to meet this year's budget needs of about \$181,000. We shared these goals with you and in the end, your pledges reflected an 8% increase over last year. With about the same number of pledges received both years, that is a tremendous increase in generosity, especially for our small congregation—small in numbers, enormous in their spirit of abundance.

Enough of the numbers for a while! The Stewardship Committee is planning a restaurant fellowship fundraiser in April or May, perhaps at our old favorite Shea's Riverside in Essex or perhaps somewhere new. Stay tuned to upcoming Log and Bulletin news. Our committee says good-bye and huge thanks to Fred Witte and Marcia Myers for their many combined years of service to Stewardship. We welcome Dan Bing whose fundraising and public relations experience is sure to broaden our horizons. Joe Chambers, Kathie McCarthy and I will remain aboard and attempt to continue our efforts as trustworthy stewards of the Old Sloop.

With gratitude,

Louisa Casadei-Johnson for the Stewardship Committee

MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 7, 2020

In attendance: Louisa Casadei-Johnson, Kathie McCarthy, Joe Chambers, Rev. Derek van Gulden. The meeting began at 4:40 with a prayer led by Rev. Derek.

The minutes for the 11/5/19 meeting were approved.

The first item was a review of Louisa's draft of the committees' 2019 Annual Report. Louisa to redraft and send it out for review.

The next topic was the resolution regarding the sharing of pledge information, which was drafted by Derek. With a few additions and some correction of typing errors was approved by the committee. Derek will make the changes and it will be presented at the Annual meeting on January 26th.

The next item discussed was the Stewardship Campaign and the 2020 pledge results to date which Louisa will discuss with Walter Vining, Chair of the Trustees. We are about \$20,000 short of the goal and pacing about \$11,000 short of where we were last year at the same time. There are 10 new pledgers in 2020 vs. 2019 at this time.

We briefly discussed the status of the all fundraiser dinner at The Fish Shack. Joe will find follow up.

New Business: Louisa asked for ideas to keep Stewardship all year long rather than just a Fall focus.

Next meeting date: Tuesday, February 18 at 4:30PM

Meeting adjourned at 5:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Witte

Membership Committee
MEETING NOTES JANUARY 16, 2020

- I. Attending: Geof Lyon, Ruth Janet Taylor, Jim Schell
- II. Ruth Janet began the meeting with a prayer.
- III. The minutes of November 21, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved with minor changes. They will be submitted to the Log.
- IV. New Members: There is no update at this time.
- V. Baptism. New members to the UCC must have been baptized before they join. This will add a layer of complexity and could be done before they join.
 - a. Who has given their decision(s) waiting on update from the Pastor?
 - b. Has anyone talked to new people?
 - c. Next steps: What date will be the service for those joining?
- VI. Rolling Panels:
 - a. Jim Schell has asked the Diaconate if the Living Memorial Fund could be used. They appeared to be in agreement but would like an itemized bill to vote on. Overall it was well received.
 - b. Next step: Jim and Geof will contact the bulletin boards supplier and make arrangements to pick them up in NY.
- VII. Practices of Faith-(Mission): Is under review and Sigi will continue to work on it.
- VIII. Mission Statement: We discussed developing a Mission Statement and it will require more work.
- IX. Organization Charts: Jim Schell and Ruth Janet will continue to work on them.
- X. Additional member(s): Nominating Committee needs to find replacement members for the Membership Committee. There has been one person who is interested in joining.
- XI. Other projects:
 - a. Our Ministries handbook needs to be updated.
 - b. The Church Directory also needs to be updated.
 - c. The Church Website.
 - d. The Panels of our Ministries and Committees.
 - e. Power Church Book.

Power Church could generate a new directory, but the data base also needs many corrections.

These are four closely related projects that share and use some of the same information. There was discussion whether an updated Power Church directory and a church picture archive could be the backbone of these closely related projects. Responsibility would be mainly be on Membership committee, with continued input from all of the other Church Committees to keep their panels and activities updated.

Geof Lyon will present at the next meeting the forms and needed requirement to update the Church Power Book.

XII. Proposed date for next meeting: February 20.

XIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Practices of Faith in the United Church of Christ

At the First Congregational Church of Rockport, all are welcome. We are happy to receive new members and welcome friends with gratitude, who for various reasons, have decided not to become members. Many of these friends function the same as members, taking leadership positions in the church and giving many volunteer hours to church activities. In fact, at FCCR, membership is required only for voting on congregational issues and serving as a Deacon or on the Membership Committee.

Foundation

For where two or three are gathered in my name. I am there among them.

– Matthew 18:20 (NRSV)

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you are called that you might inherit a blessing.

– 1Peter 3:8-9 (NRSV)

I enjoy attending the church. Isn't that enough?

Is it necessary to actually become a member?

Joining a congregation is an important step and not one to take lightly. It is significant not only for the individual who becomes a member, but also for the congregation. In becoming a member, a person says, "Yes, I am a part of the church. This community is central to my life." A congregation says, "Yes, you are part of this congregation. We are blessed by the gifts and perspective of persons who are new among us."

Why become a member of a congregation?

One of the distinctive characteristics of Christian faith is that it is shared. It occurs in community, in the company of others. From its Old Testament beginnings -- Genesis

12:2, "I will make of you a great people" -- to the New Testament -- Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst of them" -- this faith has drawn people into community with others who share their vision, story, values, hopes, and dreams. While personal faith and individual commitment are essential, it is God's purpose to create a *people*, who are "salt of the earth and light of the world" (Matthew 5:13-14).

Furthermore, a congregation, said the early Christian teacher Paul, is like a body. He described the church as "the body of Christ." No one person is the whole body, each is a part. We need each other's gifts to complement our own. Our own faith is strengthened, tested, and deepened as we share in the life of a community of faith.

What is the process for becoming a member?

You may look at this as a combination of informal and formal processes. Initially, you will explore membership informally by attending worship and participating in aspects of a congregation's life long enough to get to know the congregation. You would not ordinarily want to decide for or against a congregation based on a single experience. You might want to arrange a visit with the pastor or a member of the congregation to discuss your interest and find out more. You might ask about the congregation's history and its vision for the future, its requirements for its members, and important events in its life. Ask questions which will help you assess whether the church is compatible with your needs and interests.

At the First Congregational Church of Rockport, the pastor and the Membership Committee hold "get-acquainted" sessions at which we explain the organizational structure of the church, we share our faith journeys, present the church's many ministries, and respond to questions you may have.

When and how does someone actually become a member?

Most congregations receive new members during their regular services of worship on a Sunday morning. There are a number of ways in which new members are received. One is by *affirmation of faith*, (in the FCCR, we usually use the UCC Statement of Faith) or by *baptism* for those who have not been baptized. Another is *confirmation/the reaffirmation of baptism*. Congregations of the United Church of Christ accept baptism of other Christian churches. If you have been baptized previously, you will have the opportunity to "reaffirm your baptism" as you join a new congregation.

Yet another way is *transferring one's membership* in another church to our church. Some persons are coming from another congregation where they have been active members. This often happens when people move to a new town or city.

What are the responsibilities of church members?

Different congregations will respond to this question with different specific answers. It is one you should ask of the pastor or lay leaders. But, it is generally true in congregations of the United Church of Christ that the following are expected of members of the church:

- First, that you make a genuine commitment to Christian faith and life, and seek those experiences that will help you grow in your faith and the practice of it.
- Second, that you participate regularly in worship, the center of a congregation's life.
- Third, that you make it a point to be an informed member who takes part in congregational meetings and decision-making.
- Fourth, that you support the church financially, by committing a proportion of your income to the work of the church.
- And, finally, that you seek to build relationships with others in the congregation through conversation, small groups, retreats or similar opportunities.

What follows becoming member?

Often, by the time a person has become a member, they are already greatly involved with the life of the church. Some may serve on a board, be involved with a ministry, have joined the choir, a prayer group or task force. Giving of oneself is the way congregants come to feel they belong.



Christian Education Youth Ministry News

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 2	5:00	No Youth Group (Family Promise)
Wednesday, February 5	5:00	Creating your story (potluck to follow)

Friday, February 7-9		Winter Retreat Monadnock Ministries
Wednesday, February 12	5:00	Creating your story (potluck to follow)
Sunday, February 16	5:00	No Youth Group (President's Day)
Wednesday, February 19	5:00	Creating your story (potluck to follow)
Sunday, January 23	5:00	Youth Group: "Thrive Challenge!"
Wednesday, January 26	5:00	Creating your story (potluck to follow)

Photo release forms!

With the new website within our reach, we will start being proactive with a photo release form, be on the lookout during coffee hour. We will be first trying to get under 18 families all set and then we will eventually be working on everyone else in the congregation.

"Creating your story with God's story" Bible Study

Wednesdays @5:00PM.

Please join Katie Welch and Rev. Derek for this new Bible study gathering on Wednesdays at 5 pm.

We will listen to the stories of the Bible--God's stories and see where they connect with our own stories. Through this process we will delve deeper into the biblical story. And we will learn different methods of storytelling to tell others our story and its connection with God's story.

We will be meeting in the CE room on the 2nd floor of the Law Building.

Community Babysitting Nights! 5:45-8:45PM

March 13th and May 1st

\$10 per child (\$25 cap for three or more children per family) [CASH or CHECK]

Potty Trained (PRE-SCHOOL) through 5th graders welcome!

Coming this August 2020! Vacation Bible School will be back!

In the upcoming months we will start planning our VBS "Knights of North Castle." Stay tuned and let me know if you would like to be part of the planning process or volunteer! At Cokesbury's VBS 2020, Knights of North Castle: Quest for the

King's Armor, children grow strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power by exploring how we put on the armor of God. Brave Knights (boys and girls) begin their quest each session by opening the King's Book. They explore Old and New Testament stories and discover different pieces of protective armor - the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, the Shoes of Peace, the Shield of Faith, and the Helmet of Salvation - at work in the lives of familiar Bible characters, and explore how that armor works in their own lives as they follow and serve God.

Christian Outreach Committee



MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2020

Present: Stephen Kalaghan, Ann Kistner, Sarah Mowitt, Marge Schell, Darlene Spittle, Diane Westman, and Wendy Woodbury.

Marge and Wendy called the meeting to order at 11:30 with a prayer.

Treasurer's Report: The balance in the Wider Mission Treasury at the end of December was \$319.57. Receipts during the month included \$1,586.68 from pledges, \$1,935 for the Christmas Fund, UCC, and \$685 collected during the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. During the month, \$4,709.98 was disbursed. Budgeted recipients included the UCC Massachusetts Conference Basic Support (\$1,180), as well as \$400 to the Northeast Association Scholarship Fund, and \$400 to Wellspring Inc. The \$684 collected during the Christmas Eve service was sent to Family Promise North Shore Boston.

Pastor's Fund: Funds in the Pastor's Fund are adequate. Members of the committee discussed a request for help with expenses that are ongoing and that are greater than what is available in the Fund. We felt that there was not enough information about the situation or about what help might be available from other sources. The Pastor's Fund was established for help with one-time needs. It was decided to table this request until more information is provided.

Mission Budget 2020: Because we anticipate lower income for the coming year, the committee worked to trim the budget for the coming year. The planned disbursements were cut from the \$23,710 budgeted in 2019 to \$20,000 for 2020.

Action Lunches: We will prepare sandwiches on January 28.

Open Door: We will serve dinner on February 1. Diane Westman raised the need for a driver to help in taking the food that has been collected at the church to Open Door

Family Promise host week: Our guests will be here from February 2 through 9. Two families are expected, one with a newborn baby. We are in the process of signing on volunteers, with an especial need for people to spend the night at the church during our host week.

Affordable Housing: Andrew De Franza, of Harborlight Community Partners spoke during our worship service in October. Now it is time to continue the discussion to identify follow-up actions to provide affordable housing in Rockport. It has been suggested that we brainstorm for ideas during a conference call including the Outreach Committee and the Social Justice Sub-committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.

We will meet again on February 9.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Mowitt

CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS

The Church through the Outreach Committee awards three \$500 scholarships to high school graduates attending higher education in the Fall. Two scholarships are funded by the McLean-Hooper endowment of the church, intended for Rockport High School graduates. The third scholarship, from the Outreach treasury, may be awarded to a graduate of another high school.

Those attending RHS may seek a church scholarship through Rockport High's scholarship committee. For other high school seniors, you will find the scholarship application on the church website, rockportucc.org. Deadline for submission of applications is April 1. Place the completed application in the church office's Outreach mailbox.

Scholarships are awarded according to three criteria: strength of association with the church, financial need, and demonstrated interest in community service.

OLD SLOOP COFFEEHOUSE UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Friday, February 28 at 7:30PM – RUNA

Quickly gaining recognition as one of Irish music's new "super-groups," RUNA has been pushing the boundaries of Irish folk music into the Americana and roots music formats since their formation in 2008. Interweaving the haunting melodies and exuberant tunes of Ireland and Scotland with the lush harmonies and intoxicating rhythms of jazz, bluegrass, flamenco and blues, they offer a thrilling and redefining take on traditional music.

The group has been honored internationally, winning Top Group and Top Traditional Group in the Irish Music Awards and four Independent Music Awards including Best Live Album, Best World/Traditional Song and Best Bluegrass Song.

Tickets for this concert can be purchased in advance for \$20 from the coffeehouse web site at oldsloopcoffeehouse.org, at John Tarr Store in Rockport, at The Bookstore of Gloucester, and at coffee hour following worship on Sunday, February 13. The suggested contribution at the door is \$25 for adults, \$5 for those age 18 and under, and \$50 for families.

ACTIVE SHOOTER/ARMED INTRUDER TRAINING INFORMATION

While there is currently no known threat to the Old Sloop, the Critical Incident Committee has arranged to have members of the Rockport Police Department present an Active Shooter/Armed Intruder Response training customized for the FCCR on Thursday February 27th beginning at 6pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome to attend. Pizza dinner to follow.

Why should we have this training? Having a known plan for dealing with an armed intruder, whether armed with a gun, knife, bomb, etc. is essential in any organization and can minimize the loss of life and injury should an incident occur.

Profile of an Active Shooter - An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the

immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims.

Because active shooter situations are often over within 10 to 15 minutes, before law enforcement arrives on the scene, individuals must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

How to respond when an active shooter is in your vicinity - Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life. Remember that congregants are likely to follow the lead of the Pastor or other church officials during an active shooter situation.

RUN > HIDE > FIGHT

<p>RUN - Getting out of harm's way is your #1 priority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is an escape path, attempt to evacuate. • Evacuate whether others agree to or not. • Leave your belongings behind. • Help others escape if possible. • Prevent others from entering the area. • Don't let others encourage you to stay. • Call 911 when in a safe location. 	<p>HIDE -If you can't get out safely find a place to hide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act quickly. • Secure your hiding place the best you can. • Lock and/or blockade the door if possible. • Make the room dark. • Conceal yourself. Be quiet and calm. • Silence your cell phone. • Stay out of shooter's view. • Look for protection if shots are fired in your direction. • Look for a spot that is not a trap or restricts your options for movement. 	<p>FIGHT - This is a last resort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attempt to incapacitate the shooter. • Act with physical aggression. Yell. • Improvise weapons. Throw items at the intruder to confuse and disorient him/her. • Commit to your actions. Your chance of survival is much greater if you try to incapacitate him/her.
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When responders arrive remain calm and follow directions - Law enforcement's purpose is to stop the active shooter as soon as possible and will proceed directly to the area where the last shots were heard.

Officers:

- Usually arrive as a team
- May wear regular/patrol uniforms, bulletproof vests, helmets or other equipment
- May be armed with rifles, shotguns or handguns

- May use pepper spray or tear gas to control the situation
- May shout commands and may push individuals to the ground for safety.

How to react when law enforcement arrives:

- Put down any items in your hands (i.e., bags, jackets)
- Immediately raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming and/or yelling
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating, just proceed in the direction from which officers are entering the premises

Information to provide to law enforcement or 911 operators:

- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters, if more than one
- Physical description of shooter/s
- Number and type of weapons held by the shooter/s
- Number of potential victims at the location

Assembly location:

- Our emergency assembly location is front & back garden areas of the Rockport Library
- Once you have reached a safe location or an assembly point, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control, and all witnesses have been identified and questioned
- Do not leave until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so

Online active shooter training and video can be found at these links:

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-907>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>

Onsite Active Shooter/Armed Intruder Training Details

- Thursday 2/27/20 at 6pm
- Meet in the Sanctuary
- Pizza dinner to follow in Fellowship Hall
- All are welcome to attend
- Staff, ushers & members of major committees are highly encouraged to attend
- Please be familiar with information in this handout and the YouTube video linked above

Weekly Church Events

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
POTLUCK DINNER
6 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL**



POTLUCK DINNER



**THURSDAY MORNING
BOOK GROUP**

**MORGAN CONFERENCE ROOM
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**



The Fellowship Hour Schedule

- February 2 Evelyn and Jack Reed**
- February 9 Wendy and Mark Woodbury**
- February 16 Rick Kasten and Kathleen Morgan**
- February 23 Ann Kistner and Sue Morris**

If there are any questions or concerns or if you would like to be a part of our fellowship hour by baking or hosting, please contact Liz-Rice Smith or Wendy Woodbury.

With Gratitude for our Church Servants for December

Ushers

- January 5 Celene Lyon & Geof Lyon
- January 12 Celene Lyon & Beverly Bernhard
- January 19 Celene Lyon & Jeff Taylor
- January 26 Celene Lyon & Barbara Sachs

Readers

- January 5 Joe Chambers
- January 12 Mary Cresse
- January 19 Bob Cannon
- January 26 Bob Cannon



CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>First Congregational Church of Rockport, UCC</p> <p>12 School Street Rockport, Massachusetts 01966</p> <p>Phone: (978) 546-6638 Email: office@rockportucc.org Website: www.rockportucc.org</p> <hr/> <p>During non-business hours:</p> <p>Rev. Derek van Gulden can be reached at (508) 818-0616 or revdvan@yahoo.com</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Old Sloop's Log</i> Susan Lillis, Editor Please submit articles to: oldslooplog@rockportucc.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">** All articles are due on the 18th of each month. **</p>	<p>Church Office Hours</p> <p>Tuesday – Friday 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service</p> <p>Nursery Care is available</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>No Sunday School in August</p>	<p>Church Staff</p> <p>Pastor Rev. Derek van Gulden</p> <p>Office Manager Regina Reis</p> <p>Music Director Dr. Phil Swanson</p> <p>Youth Choir Director Kristina Martin</p> <p>Youth director and Interim Christian Ed. Director Kaitlyn Welch</p> <p>Sexton Phil Bynarowicz</p>
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