

Waterville United Church of Christ
First Congregational Church
September 18, 2022
9:30 AM



"Leave your land, your family and your father's household. . . . I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing." — Genesis 12: 1-9

Leaving everything we have known before to set out for the unknown can feel unsettling, to say the least. But at 75 years old?! Abram trusted this new path — this new way — and the promise of God's presence and blessing anywhere. We take the first significant step on our journey with God when we accept a blessing that we believe is too large for us to deserve and a responsibility that we feel is too large for us to fulfill.

Words of Greeting

Mission Statement

Seeking to walk in the Way of Jesus, we are an Open and Affirming church, faithfully using who we are and what we have to serve those on the margins of our community. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Thorny Theological Question

Can God trust us?

Music for Gathering

Daily Praise

Eric Lewis

Threshold Moment

Opening Hymn

The God of Abraham Praise

NCH 24

Presentation of Scripture

Genesis 12:1-9 (Inclusive Bible)

YHWH said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people, and the home of your parents, and go to a place I will show you. I will make of you a great people. I will bless you and make your name so great that it will be used in blessings. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse those who curse you. And all the people on the face of the earth will be blessed through you." Abram, who was 75 years old when he left Haran, began the journey as YHWH had instructed, and his nephew Lot went with them. Abram took Sarai his spouse, Lot, all their possessions, and all the dependents they acquired in Haran, and set out for Canaan. When they arrived in Canaan, Abram and his family traveled through the land until they arrived at the sacred place at Shechem and came to the oak grove of Moreh. The Canaanites occupied the land at that time. YHWH appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants." Abram built an altar where YHWH appeared to him. Then they moved off toward the hill country east of Bethel and set up camp, with Bethel toward the sea and Ai to the east. Abram built an altar to YHWH and invoked the Name of YHWH. After that they traveled in stages toward the Negev.

Time with Children

Sermon

Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People

Prayer of our Savior

(say the one that is in your heart)

A Traditional Version

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

A Contemporary Version

Our Creator in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Do not lead us into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Word in Music

Stand By Me

Ben E King

Offering

What will you offer that can save some part of the environment?

Announcements

Closing Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

NCH 76

Words of Blessing

Musical Blessing

Festive Fanfare

Edward Broughton

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Ian R. Lynch - Pastor

David Dean – Soloist/Pianist

Nancy Godfrey - Liturgist

Bethany Oliver – Deacon of the Week

Copyrighted material used and broadcast with permission.

Christian Copyright Solutions license #12114, One License #A-724635 and CCLI license #20883655

Worship series design © Worship Design Studio by Marcia McFee. Used and adapted with permission

www.worshipdesignstudio.com

Thanks to Darkwood Brew and Namoli Brennet namolibrennet.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHALL WE GATHER

INSTALLATION
OF
REV. IAN LYNCH
AS PASTOR/TEACHER/CHAPLAIN

WITH A CHARGE FROM
REV. ERIC ELNES PHD

Waterville 

First Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
to serve those on the margins

on site:
21 College Avenue
masks required, vaccinations expected

on-line:
Zoom meeting ID: 852 9792 4135
passcode: 304002

Sunday, September 18, 2 PM
Reception following

Eric Elnes is author of several books, creator of Darkwood Brew, and a founding member of the Tri-Faith Initiative. He is an insightful thinker and great preacher. He and Ian have been friends for many years, sharing a passion for teaching and creating community through technology. He lives in that other Portland on the west coast, so he will be joining us virtually.

Share the invitation to this hybrid service with anyone you think might be interested (a Facebook event has been created which you can share as well). Here is the Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/4zedhvvh> If you would like to contribute food for the reception, speak with Betty Jane Meader or Linda Roy. The reception will be outdoors under canopy tents. If the weather is horrendous, we will send folks off with doggie bags.

A WAY OUT OF NO WAY

Faith Formation & Fellowship

Thursdays 7PM on Zoom
(use the Sunday Worship link)

10:00 a.m. Daily Prayer Check in password

The safest and most effective way to connect to a Zoom meeting is to manually enter the Meeting ID, 914 158 897 - and then the password - 693668

If you want to try just clicking on this link with the password embedded, it should also work:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/914158897?pwd=VkEwUG5rbEdwaFB3NGJyU3NhV2hGUT09>

And you can always call in: 1 929 205 6099 US

And enter the Meeting ID: 914 158 897 Password: 693668

Our Church Life: This Coming Week

September 18, 2022

Today, Sept.	18	9:30 a.m. Worship Service in-person and on Zoom and You Tube 2:00 p.m. Installation Service
Monday,	19	10:00 a.m. Daily prayer/check-in time on Zoom Stone Soup Café Closed
Tuesday	20	Office Closed 10:00 a.m. Daily prayer/check-in time on Zoom
Wednesday	21	9:00 a.m. Essentials Closet 10:00 a.m. Daily prayer/check-in time on Zoom
Thursday	22	10:00 a.m. Daily prayer/check-in-time on Zoom 11:30 a.m. Stone Soup Café in Winslow 5:00 p.m. Essentials Closet 7:00 p.m. Study Group on Zoom
Friday	23	9:00 a.m. Essentials Closet 10:00 a.m. Daily prayer/check-in-time on Zoom 11:30 a.m. Stone Soup Café in Winslow
Saturday	24	10:00 a.m. Daily prayer/check-in-time
Sunday	25	9:30 a.m. Worship Service in-person and on Zoom and You Tube 10:30 a.m. Deacons Meeting

CHURCH STAFF and OFFICERS

Rev. Ian R. Lynch - Pastor

Sally Melcher-McKeagney, R.N. - Faith Community Nurse

Rev. Maureen Ausbrook – Starfish Village Ministry

Pete & Lora Downing – Essentials Closet

Nancy Flynn – Administrative Assistant

Bill Lee – Diaconate Chair

Carl Daiker – Treasurer

Jackie Dalton – Assistant Treasurer

Mike Seavey – Financial Secretary

Herb Oliver – Moderator

Chet Manuel – Vice-Moderator

Mary Lou Ogden – Clerk

207-872-8976

21 College Ave Waterville, ME 04901

watervilleucc@gmail.com

www.watervilleucc.org