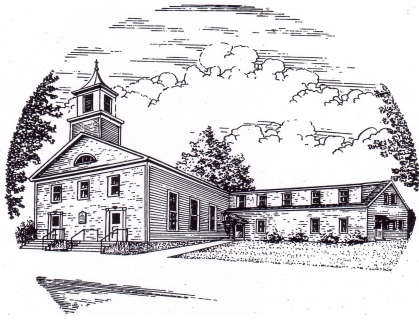


“So that the Gospel may be preached amongst us here”



FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 2025



Upcoming Events

- Jan. 12 – Parish Cupboard collection
Jan. 21 – Council
Jan. 26 – CWW lunch/service at Parish Cupboard
Feb. 9 – Church annual meeting

Worship Assistants

Jan. 12 Matt
Jan. 19 O P E N
Jan. 26 O P E N

Social Time Refreshments

Cindy
Sandi & Dave
Mimi/Deb

February Communion

O P E N

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING –
OUR CHURCH WORKS WHEN WE ALL DO OUR SHARE!
See the blue sign up book in Griswold Hall.

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Rev. Janet Brown, Pastor

pastorjanetfhcc@gmail.com

Web Site: fhccucc.org

21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030-1672 413-786-5061

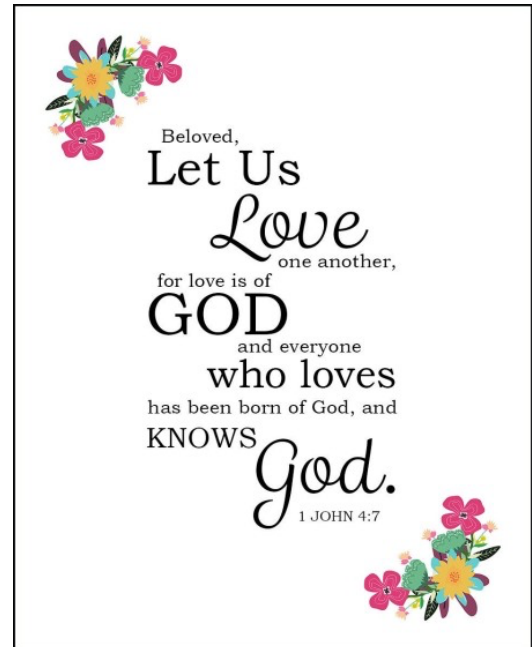
Newsletter: fhcc.communications@gmail.com

 [Feeding Hills Congregational Church UCC](http://FeedingHillsCongregationalChurchUCC)

(The latest newsletter is also available on the church website)

Happy New Year!

I pray that you had a wonderful holiday season and are ready for the blessings a new year brings! Our Advent and Christmas celebrations were so joyful, and our Blue Christmas Worship brought comfort to those in need. Many thanks to Sean and our Choir for leading music in this season. Their songs and direction brought immeasurable joy to our worship! I pray that we will each continue living out hope, joy, peace and love and grow in our relationship with God all through the year!



As we enter this new year, I hope that you are ready to jump in wholeheartedly here at FHCC! We need every single one of you to be an active member of our community, as we care for each other and God's creation.

As you consider your goals and hopes for the new year, I pray that you would consider how the fruits of the spirit are being lived out in your life, especially in your relationships, at work, at home and yes, at church. We are so blessed to have this extended family of support and care, and I personally want to thank you for all the love shown to my family and myself. It is truly a joy and a blessing to be your pastor. In this new year, I pray that we will find new ways to build connections in our church community and beyond!

As we live into what God calls us to in 2025, may we worship, fellowship, serve and grow together, in unity, giving thanks for the gifts and graces of God!

Blessings,

Pastor Janet (617) 640-2061 (call/text) PastorJanetFHCC@gmail.com

"In that silent baby, lying in that humble manger, there pulses more potential power and wisdom and grace and aliveness than all the rest of us can imagine." -Brian D. McLaren



New Choir Robes

The choir both sounded and looked wonderful during the recent Christmas services! The look was due to the new choir robes, made possible by an anonymous donor. The robes add a special element to the service; thank you very much.

If you are interested in wearing one yourself, there is always room for more musicians, whether your interest is singing or an instrument. Feel free to speak to anyone in the choir if you are interested.



Church Without Walls Mission Jan. 26

The next Church Without Walls (CWW) is Sunday January 26.

On the 3rd Sunday of odd numbered months, FHCC provides bagged lunches for the CWW mission at the Parish Cupboard.

One of the sign-up sheets at the church is to provide the various lunch ingredients. Please consider helping out this month, by providing ingredients, preparing the lunches, or attending the service.



Church Facility Issues – Contact Tom or Dave

Tom Chapman & Dave Pitzer have generously volunteered to be the contacts for any building issues at the church. This includes something in need of repair, or if basic supplies are getting low. You can speak to either of them directly, leave a message on the whiteboard in the sexton’s closet, or call/text Tom at 413-348-6050.



Church Receives UCC Operations Grant

Thanks to Pastor Janet’s efforts, the church was recently awarded a UCC “Operational Love of Ministries” \$2500 grant. These grants are intended for church building operations. This grant is expected to be applied to sanctuary insulation. These were

suggested by utility energy audits this past fall to improve efficiency of our energy systems and provide long term savings.



Parish Cupboard Collection/Mission

The next collection will be Sunday Jan. 12.

This will be the last chance to provide any mittens/hats/scarves etc. you may forgotten for the Christmas tree!

All non-perishable, unexpired food items can be used. Cash donations are always welcome also.

Items especially in need can be found on their latest wish list at

<https://theparishcupboard.org>. The latest list includes:

Cereal	Pancake Mix	Canned Tuna and Salmon
Coffee	Canned Meals	Cat Food
Jelly	Canned Meats	



Church Mailing Address Change

The church no longer rents a PO box number at the post office.

If you need to use the church mailing address, the address should be:

21 N WESTFIELD ST
FEEDING HILLS MA 01030-1672



Sanctuary Drapes Cleaned

The curtains on the large sanctuary windows had a much-needed cleaning in December. Many thanks to Linda for locating a reasonably priced company in Connecticut to get the drapes cleaned in time for Christmas!



2025 Annual Meeting The FHCC 2025 annual meeting will be held Sunday February 9, 2025 following worship. More information will be available as the date approaches.



Christmas Caroling and Party

In December, a group of FHCC carolers traveled to 6 different locations to offer a selection of carols to cheer up each audience. At one stop, there was even a number by a young trumpet student! Many, many thanks to King Gray Coach Lines for donating the use of a mini-bus.

Later, many gathered for the church Christmas party. After a potluck dinner, there was a robust yankee gift swap. For future reference, lottery tickets are very popular!

Thank you to Linda H. for the arranging the decorations, door prizes, and party games.



? Bible Trivia

How many wise men (Magi) visited Joseph, Mary, and Jesus in Bethlehem?

- A. Three
- B. Two
- C. The Bible does not say

(See the correct answers below the prayer requests)

Prayer Requests **Keep In Our Prayers**

- Betty, George, and David
- Paul & David
- Krista
- Irvina
- Family of Kevin S.

Please feel free to send any prayer concerns to include in future newsletters.

Bible Trivia Answers:

C, The Bible does not say (Matthew 2)

The Bible does not specify how many Magi visited Jesus, but tradition holds that there were three. The number three is likely due to the three gifts the Magi presented to Jesus: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.