



**Prelude:** "Three Voluntaries" Powell

**Silent Meditation:** I used to despise this word. I felt it carried such judgment with it when people would say "Repent." I read the Amplified Bible and saw that the word was expanded with the phrases: "change your mind for the better," "heartily amend your ways, with abhorrence for your past sins." I like it when God dispels ignorance, and mine was dispelled after reading this expansion of "repent."

-Ntandose Gamede

**Bringing the Light**

**Call to Worship**

**\*Hymn of Praise:** "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" R. 589

**Greetings and Announcements**

**\*Covenant**

We covenant with God and with one another, and do bind ourselves in the presence of God, to walk together in all His ways, according as He is pleased to reveal Himself unto us in His blessed Word of Truth. (Salem Church Covenant)

**\*Invocation - The Lord's Prayer - Gloria Patri** B. 575

**Children's Moment** After the Children's Moment: "Jesus Loves Me" (one verse) R. 113

**Musical Offering:** "Trust and Obey" arr. Smith and Hustad  
Barb Ross, piano; Caroline Valentine, organ

**Psalm:** Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

**Scriptures:** Philemon: 1-21

**Prayers of the People**

**Invitation to Giving**

**Offertory:** "Sarabande" Held

**\*Doxology:** B. 572

**\*Dedication of Gifts**

**\*Hymn of Dedication:** "Take My Life" R. 609  
Verses 1, 3, 4, and 6

**Hymn Sing:** Fermen Dillon

**Gospel:** Luke 14: 25-33

**Sermon:** "REPENT! (Or Words to That Effect)"

**\*Hymn of Commitment:** "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult" R. 337

**\*Taking the Light into the World**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response** "On Eagle's Wings" Inside back covers of the hymnals

**Postlude:** "Chant and Chorale" Held

(R=Red Hymnal; B=Blue Hymnal)

**\*Congregation is invited to stand**

**Please join us for conversation downstairs.**

### *Flowers were given by The Erricos Flowers from Carrs on DeBarr*

Welcome to First Congregational Church. We're delighted to have you with us this morning. We hope that you will find something of substance to take home with you and that you will meet new people who will become friends.



Everyone is invited to sign the green visitor cards, which are located in the pews. If you are a visitor or new to our community and would like to receive our newsletter and other church information, please include your address, email address, phone number, and check any appropriate boxes.

We invite each of you to join us downstairs for coffee, tea, juice, and cookies following the service. Stop in and greet the people you know and meet those you don't.

If you choose to bring your children to the service and they become restless, the boardroom is equipped with speakers, and you are welcome to take them there.

### *Anniversary Celebration Next Week*

Fifty years ago, an intrepid group met for the first time officially as First Congregational Church of Anchorage, Alaska. On Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, we will gather downstairs after the service for an Ice Cream Social (and maybe a short speech or two), to honor our pioneers and all those who have been a part of our fascinating history. Plan to join the festivities, and invite folks you haven't seen in church for awhile as we observe this special birthday.

### *The Pins Are Here!!*

You may have noticed your fellow members wearing wooden pins to commemorate our 50th anniversary. The Membership Board had the pins designed and are selling them for \$5.00. We wanted to celebrate our anniversary, but we also want to encourage members to wear them on their coats at community events, church. The pins will be on sale today and next Sunday.

## *Coming Up*

### *Sunday, Sept. 5*

11:30 Fellowship Hour—Reception to welcome Rev. O'Connell

### *Tuesday, Sept. 7*

5:15 Trustees

### *Wednesday, Sept. 8*

6:00 Camp Erin Pizza Party

### *Thursday, Sept. 9*

6:30 Auction Committee

### *Sunday, Sept. 12*

#### *Spirit Sunday*

10:30 Communion Service

Sunday School

11:30 **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ice Cream Social**

### *Looking Ahead*

**Sun. 9/19** Church Council

**Sun. 9/26** CROP Walk and

Interfaith Youth Gathering

**Tues. 9/28** Dinner and Discussion

**Sat. 10/23** "Golden Harvest" Auction

**Sun. 11/21** Organ Concert



*Why then should we...murmur and complain when punished for our sins? Let us examine ourselves instead, and repent, and turn again to the Lord.*

-Lam. 3:39



Help me remember that there are always consequences to my actions. Give me the strength to choose Your way. Amen.

## PEOPLE OF FCC

### Ministers

#### Interim Senior Minister

Rev. Dianne O'Connell

#### Ministers of Music

Peggy McBride, Choir Dir.  
Caroline Valentine, Organist  
Ellen Sutphin, Handbells

#### Interim Minister of Youth

Randy Tomson

## Serving Today

**Deacon:** Sandy Skaggs

**Fellowship:** Gordon Shortman

**Greeting:** Sharon Higgins

**Lay Reader:** Verona Gentry

**Liturgist:** Kathleen Bailey

**Hymn Sing:** Fermen Dillon

**Ushers:** Deacons

## Contacts

#### Admin. Asst. & Editor

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Marcia Brumbaugh – 337-7810

Ron Broome – 561-3030

Gordon Higby – 274-4023



## Articles

### *Dinner Koinonia Begins this Month*

The 2010-2011 sign-up sheet is in the white notebook (on the stand in the Narthex). You'll be glad you included these relaxed and friendly dinners in people's homes on your overfull calendar. Our first dinner will be Friday, September 24.

If you're the host(s), you will provide the main course and, if you wish, set the menu theme for the evening. Kate will collect the names of who's coming and what they're planning to bring. Please let her know if you have a limit to the number of people you can accommodate.



### *"Golden Harvest" Auction October 23rd*

If you haven't already picked up your donation form, you will find them on the information table in the Narthex. You may not have anything to donate yourself, but we all patronize businesses and use services from members of the community who might be willing to contribute, especially if you contact them personally. Please check with Auction Chair, Sharon Higgins, to make sure your contacts aren't already on our list because we don't want to duplicate our efforts.

This is our major, annual fundraising event, so all of our efforts to make it a success are crucial, especially this year with the expenses of our pastoral search added to the budget. Since we can definitely use your time and energy, plan to attend the Auction Committee meeting in the Board Room on Thursday, September 9, at 6:30 pm.

### *Fun and Fellowship with the Oxymorons*

The CE board has planned activities for the Oxys for September (a swimming party) and October (a Halloween party). All that is needed is one or two enthusiastic adults to help oversee them. It should be fun and simple. If anyone would like to volunteer, they can contact me or Deb Stauffer for details. Thanks! Kathleen Bailey

### *FCC Board Retreat*

All Board members and anyone from the FCC congregation who wishes to join them are called to participate in the Fall Retreat, Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to noon, in Cary Mead Hall. This is a very important gathering that focuses on our planning for the year ahead. We will spend time thinking together about our vision for the Church and how we can best achieve it. We'll also take care of some details, such as which Board will host our potluck after the service on the last Sunday of each month.

Many of our Boards have vacancies, which often means they are shorthanded when the time comes to do the work. If you aren't on a Board now, please give serious consideration to volunteering for this means of contributing to FCC's mission of service both within our walls and out in the wider community. If you've never served on a Board, this is an excellent way to learn about how these groups carry out the functions that are crucial to the Congregational Way. To be nominated for a Board, you need to speak to Sandy Skaggs, who is the representative of our Nominating Board.



## First Congregational Church

September 5, 2010

*Member – National Association of  
Congregational Christian Churches*



Learning to Live...

With passion, meaning,  
and dignity in the  
presence of God's Love

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