



First Edition

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Spring 2017

Hope springs eternal!

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Sunday Worship
8:30 and 10 AM

Church Office Hours
Mon-Thurs, 9 AM to 12 Noon

Church Council
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Dianne Chase, Gerry Levesque,
Mike Lewis, Jim Savage,
Pastor Thom Christian (ex-officio)

First Edition

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summer issue, to be published
in June 2017, are due in the
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OK, I'm in shock! Yesterday after church Sue and I saw lilies popping through the ground next to the parsonage porch. Now if I lived in Georgia or the Carolinas, I guess this wouldn't be such a big deal, but for those of us in upper New England, it's a *big* deal! And it got me thinking that, like those lilies, who would have believed only ten days ago when we were getting snowfall upon snowfall that we would ever see *sun* again, never mind lilies?!

Yet, isn't that like our lives? There's a saying that "hope springs eternal!" However, during the storms of winter we may often wonder whether spring will ever come again! Yet here it is! And with it comes the hope of nicer weather, joyful hearts, and an excitement of what the next cycle of life will bring. Now, yeah, we still may have the occasional snow storm (let's face it, we're in New England!), but hope has germinated and given us the expectation and excitement that gentler times are near.

I wonder if this is how the disciples felt on that first Resurrection Sunday. On Good Friday they would certainly have been in a "winter" mindset, engulfed in fear and doubt and unsure if they would even make it to the "spring" of their lives. The sun seemed to be hidden and the fragrance of blossoms distant. Yet then it happened! An excited story from Mary Magdalene, an empty grave, a visit from their risen Savior, and *hope* was back on the table!

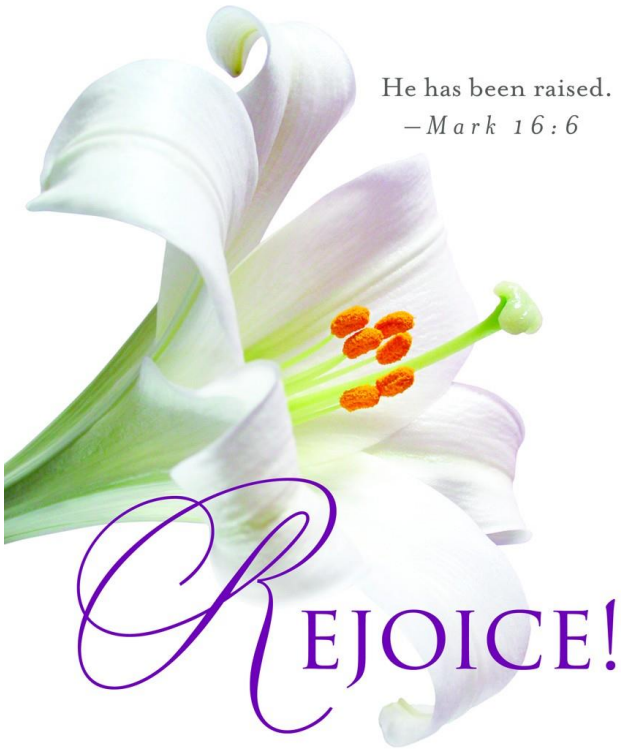
So, with that as a backdrop, this spring I want to encourage each of you that may have been going through a *winter*, wondering if *spring* would ever come, it has! And it has come in the person of Jesus Messiah to all who will believe in the empty tomb! And what He voiced then to His disciples, He echoes to each of us anew: "**FEAR NOT!**" Yes, there may be an occasional snowstorm still in the future, but behind those clouds reigns *the SON* supreme!

May this spring of your lives be filled with much warmth, fragrant blossoms, and a new hope eternal!

▪ *Til next time, I remain,
Unworthy, but His, Thom*



You're invited! Please join us!



He has been raised.
— Mark 16:6

Easter Services

Sunday, April 16th

- **Sunrise Service 6 AM** (Wolfeboro Inn dock)
- **Refreshments** (church fellowship hall)
 - **Worship, 8:30 and 10 AM**
 - **Fellowship Hour, 9:30 AM**

*First Christian Church
83 North Main Street,
Wolfeboro*

You're invited to join with the First Christian Church family on Easter Sunday in a joyous celebration that includes a beautiful instrumental prelude, favorite seasonal hymns, special music by our Men's Choir, enthusiastic worship, and an inspirational message by our Pastor.

Nursing home ministry alive and well

Under the caring leadership of George LeClair, along with his wife Joan, Dot Lyons, Dick and Ali Nelson, and Lois Bittiger, First Christian Church regularly reaches out to the residents of two local nursing homes. On the third Sunday of the month, at 1:30 PM, visits are made to Genesis/Wolfeboro Bay on Clipper Drive in Wolfeboro, and on the fifth Sunday of the month, at 2:00 PM, to Mountain View Nursing Home in Ossipee. The residents are blessed by the hymn-singing, stories, messages, Scripture, special music, and one-on-one visits that FCCers share with them. Anyone is welcome to be a part of this wonderful outreach. Just show up at the nursing home and join in!



Two friends at the Genesis nursing home enjoy the church service provided by FCC.

Moms enjoy paint night!

Instructor Kimberly Merritt led women from First Christian in Paint Night, hosted by the Mom to Mom group, on February 10. Many thanks to Stacey Farley and Kate Edmunds for organizing this fun event!



Valentine Dessert held for 10th year!

Twenty-two ladies attended the 10th annual Valentine dessert party on February 14th. I am so grateful that the weather cooperated beautifully and that everyone was in good health. As the hostess, usually I "know" everyone. However, it was a pleasure for me to get acquainted with three new women. I hope that everyone who attended also met some new friends! You made the day so special! Thank you for joining the party!

Please save the date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018!!

▪ Bette Frazier



Men's Choir practicing for Easter

Dave Harubin and Dave Snell warmly welcome all FCC guys to join them for Men's Choir practices held on the first Sunday of the month following the 10 AM service. You don't have to be a professional singer; just come and lift your voice in worship and praise!

The Men's Choir is currently practicing special music for Easter Sunday, and their next rehearsal is March 5th.



Spring forward!

It's that time of year again. Spring is in the air! And with it comes the changing of our clocks. Don't forget to set your clocks one hour *ahead* on Saturday night, March 11th.



Annual Meeting

All members and friends of First Christian Church are encouraged to attend the annual business meeting to be held on Sunday, May 7th, following a luncheon after the 10 AM service. The important business and budget of the church will be discussed.

Getting to know our church family *through Game Nights*

Wonderful evenings of fun and fellowship were enjoyed at Family Game Nights this winter, which were held on Friday evenings, January 27th and February 17th, playing Bunco and Bingo. The games involved a lot of interaction and opportunities to meet new people, and there were also times for refreshments, chatting, and catching up with friends.



A third game night—playing Mexican Train—is planned for Friday evening, March 17th, from 6 to 7:30 PM. All are welcome!

Many thanks to Bette Frazier for organizing and leading these fun evenings.



The game of Bunco offered fast-paced fun!



Players concentrate on their Bingo cards.



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