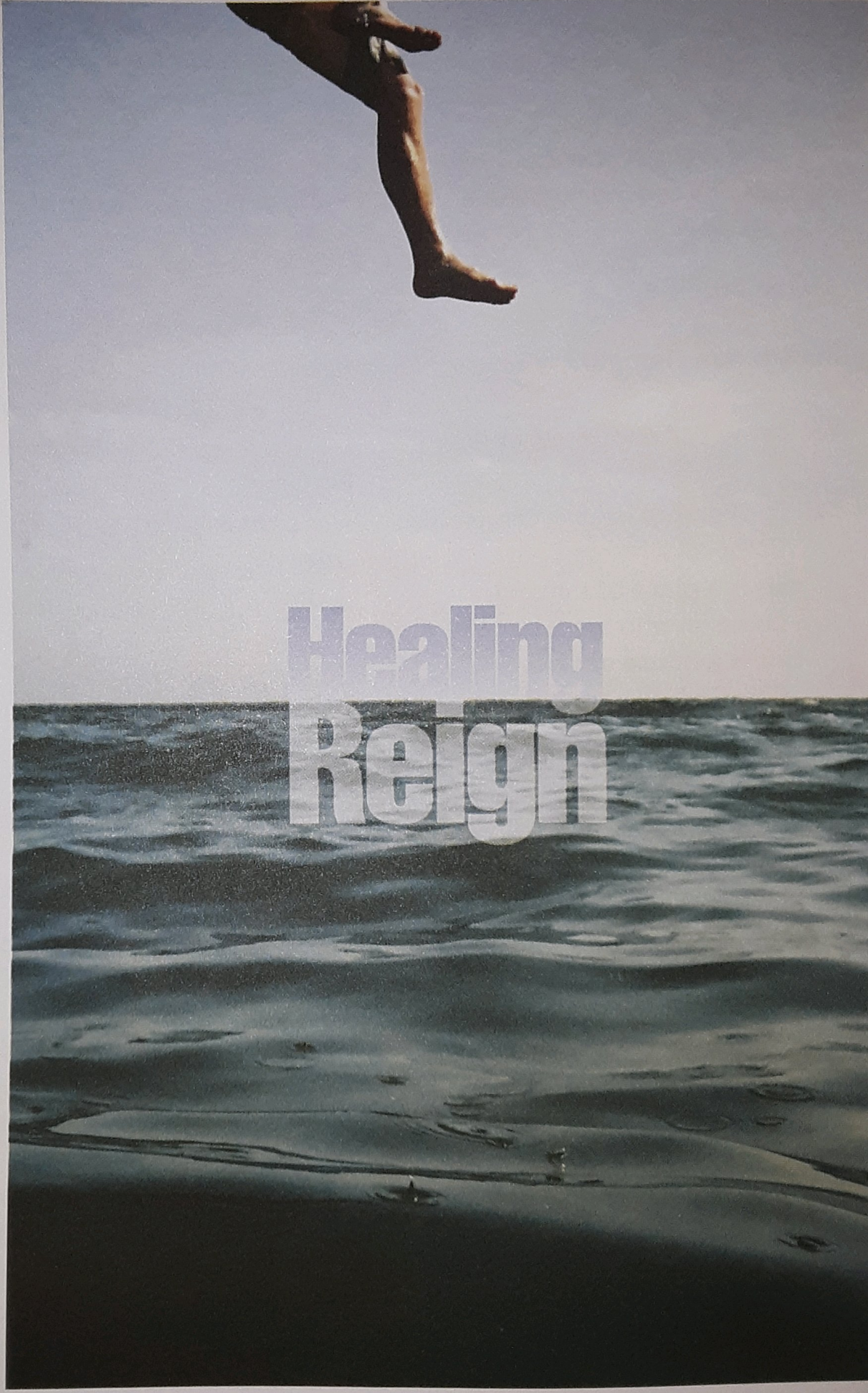
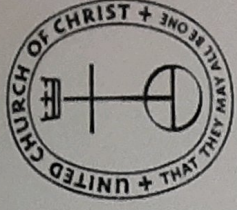


The Congregational Church of Laconia
United Church of Christ
18 Veterans Square
Laconia, NH 03246-3425

Rev. Neil H. Wilson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Paula B. Gile, Associate Pastor
K. Robert Bengtson, Director of Music
Church office: (603) 524-0668



Gathering ~ for Worship

August 25, 2019

www.laconiaucc.org

9:00 a.m.

11th Sunday after Pentecost

* + * + * + * + * +

The Congregational Church of Laconia, United Church of Christ, is a welcoming Christian community with a scriptural foundation seeking Justice and peace for all.

Preparing

Organ Prelude

K. Robert Bengtson

Meditative Thought: *"Fear cripples, but God's truth sets us free."* Dr. Michelle Bengtson

Welcome & Announcements

Praising

Call to Worship (seated: Congregation respond with bold print.)

Come all who are bent over with worry,
this is a place of sanctuary.

Come all who are burdened with life,
this is a house of care.

Come all who are lost,
this is a place of welcome.

Come all who travel with questions,
this is a community of seekers.

Come all who reach out to God,
this is a sacred space of worship - let us worship together.

*Opening Hymn

"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

#410

Invocation (unison) *Lord's Prayer* is from The Inclusive Bible

Loving God, We come to you today with heavy hearts. We come to you burdened by life. We come to you carrying too many fears and worries. Set us free; teach us to live life with your abundant love in our hearts. *Abba God in heaven, hallowed be your name! May your reign come; may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven: give us today the bread of Tomorrow. And forgive us our debts, as we hereby forgive those who are indebted to us. Don't put us to the test, but free us from evil. For You are the Glory forever. Amen*

Musical Offering

"The Kingsfold"

Marilyn Ayer - Violin, Diane Wells - Cello
Kathy Smith - Cello, Phil Breton - Piano/Oboe
Jaylene Bengtson - Biolin, Vickie Wood Parrish - Viola

Kath y Giovanni

A Moment with Our Children

***Passing of the Peace & the Gloria**

*Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah, Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah, Halle,
Halle, Hall-lu-jah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah*

Reflecting & Praying

Scripture Reading

Luke 13: 10-17

Sermon

"We are Set Free"

Rev. Paula Gile

Meditative Moment

Prayer Preparation

"God Help the Outcast" [sing 2 x]

The Hunchback
of Notre Dame

God help the outcasts hungry from birth,

show them the mercy they don't find on earth.

God help my people we look to you still,

- God help the outcasts where nobody will.

Pastoral Prayer (Yellow prayer cards may be placed in the offering plate.)

Committing

Stewardship Invitation

Offertory

"Gabriel's Oboe"

Doxology (Note the change in words)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen*

***Prayer of Consecration/Dedication** (unison)

Surprising, delighting God, you give us much, and we return today but a portion.

Bless these gifts and send them out to delight and bless your world. Amen

Going to Serve

***Closing Hymn**

"The Summons" [verses 1-4]

Insert

Pastoral Benediction

Organ Postlude

***Rise, if able and moved.**

This Week's Committee Meetings and Gatherings

Today Aug 25 - 9:00 a.m.	Summer Worship
10:30 a.m.	Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
4:00 p.m.	Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
9:30 p.m.	Channel 25 Worship Broadcast
Tuesday Aug 27- 6:30 p.m.	Planning Meeting for Bedtime Reading
7:00 p.m.	Stiches of Love
Wednesday Aug 28- 6:30 p.m.	Diaconate Mtg
Thursday Aug 29- 10:00 a.m.	Faith Walk, Beane Parlor
Sunday Sep 1- 9:00 a.m.	Summer Worship

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LACONIA, UCC ("Church")

NOTICE AND CALL TO

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

To Be Held On

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

In accordance with Article IV, Section (b) of the Bylaws of the Church, the Executive Committee of the Church hereby notifies the members and associate members of the Church of a Special Meeting of the Congregation to be held in the **Church Sanctuary** on **Sunday, September 8**, commencing at approximately **10:45 a.m.** (promptly following the conclusion of the 9:30 a.m. worship service). All are cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

The purposes of the meeting:

- To consider the proposal from Property and Finance Committee to proceed with Option #1 from Eckhart & Johnson to install new gas burners to both boilers complete with new gas lines for \$24,700.00 plus gas lines to meter installation;
- In addition to authorize the church to borrow up to \$25,000.00 from the Bank of New Hampshire at 5% interest for ten years;
- To conduct any other business related to the foregoing which is proper to come before the meeting.

Welcome & Information

Welcome to our service of worship! Please introduce yourself to those sitting near you & use a pew rack card to inform us of requests.

Summer church office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Wireless hearing assistance devices, back cushions, large print bulletins are available; please ask an usher.

Nursery & Child Care: Children younger than 1st grade are welcome in the Nursery before the service begins or following the Moment with our Children. Please escort your child to the Nursery room across The Bridge and pick them up after the service. Visitors are always welcome!

Yellow prayer request cards are available in pews. Write your request(s) and place them in the offering plate. Our prayer disciples will pray during the week.

Our Service is video recorded and published. Please speak to one of our ushers if you have any concerns.

Our Greeters today are Martha Kruse, Doug Teegarden

Today's Ushers are Janet Jenke, Diane Wells, Kathy and Andy Giovanni

Today's altar flowers are given by the Harrington Family, *In loving memory of my wife, Mary, and of Malcolm and Helen Harrington.*

Join us for a time of fellowship outside weather permitting following the service for refreshments served by the Diaconate Ministry.

Some Announcements

Tuesday Aug 27 6:30 p.m. - Planning mtg for Bedtime Story Reading at Belknap House
Outreach is organizing a bedtime story time at the Belknap House beginning in Sept. If you are interested in being a reader please attend an organizational meeting Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Library. If you are unable to attend, please give Pastor Paula your name. All who wish to participate will need to complete a State of NH Background check. Please bring your driver's license with you to the meeting, a notary will be there so you can complete your forms right at the meeting.

Saturday Aug 31 at 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - INTL Overdose Awareness Vigil: Bartlett Beach
Too many of our neighbors are afflicted by a disease called addiction and too many are dying of overdoses. Gather at Bartlett Beach for music, speakers, a dedication and a candle-light vigil.

August 25, 2019

Luke 13:10-17

Healing Reign

The right time for healing is now. The right place for healing is here. And the right person to receive healing is the one in front of you.

A missionary from the Evangelical Protestant Church of the Ukraine, Louis Nollau was heading for the Pacific Northwest in 1852, when he was somehow waylaid in St. Louis, Missouri. Even by today's travel methods, Missouri is pretty far from Oregon, but Nollau did not let his dislocation stop him from following God's call. Soon he had started a church and began ministering among the German immigrants in St. Louis.

The right time for healing is now. The right place for healing is here. And the right person to receive healing is the one right in front of you. Even if you are two thousand miles from where you planned to be.

When he heard that the local hospital had turned away 200 patients in a single year because of lack of space, Nollau saw another need. He would found a hospital, but not one that would heal only certain people when the conditions were favorable. The Good Samaritan hospital, operating in a pre-Civil War slave state, had a mission statement that stated that "No distinction of creed, race, nationality or color would be made in the acceptance or treatment of patients."

The right time for healing is now. The right place for healing is here. And the right person to receive healing is the one right in front of you. Regardless of "creed, race, nationality or color."

St. Louis in the 1850's was a dangerous place. Cholera epidemics and fires swept the city. When Nollau proposed to the congregation that they meet a growing need by opening an orphanage, he was met with protests that it was not possible. "Pastor," a church member protested, "we don't have what we need to start an orphanage." "Yes, we do," Nollau replied, "We have an orphan." The German Protestant Orphan's Home was formally incorporated just three years later.

The right time for healing is now. The right place for healing is here. And the right person to receive healing is the one right in front of you. Even if you think you are not enough.

When Jesus healed a woman in the temple on a Sabbath day, he brought the wrath of the establishment down upon him. In their eyes, this was not the right time, not the right place, not the right person. Jesus showed them, showed Louis Nollau nearly two hundred years ago and shows us today that this is always the right place, the right time, the right one.

