A golden needle is shown vertically against a black background. A vibrant rainbow thread is threaded through the needle's eye, extending from the top left towards the center. A grey thread is also threaded through the needle's eye, extending from the top right towards the center. The threads are slightly blurred, giving a sense of movement or depth.

**Wherever you are born.
You breathe the same air.
And when you are in trouble,
you say the same prayer.
Differ we may in color and creed,
language, religion, and the breed.
Whatever we crave for,
we have the same need.
Same are the emotions love and hate,
joy and sorrow, we long and we wait.
However far, we share common interest.
We all are tied together, by an unseen thread.**

by Geetanjali Jadhav

**August 18, 2019
FUMC Portsmouth**

Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light

Gratitude Moments

***Call to Worship**

L: We are called to God

P: **As the supreme source and sustainer of all energy and life throughout the universe.**

L: We worship God

P: **As children of the world who accept our role of treasuring and managing all that God has given us.**

L: We accept God

P: **Whose gift of grace bestows upon us everlasting life.**

L: We know God

P: **As the all embracing source of love throughout the universe we know and don't know. Help us to see you in all that is.**

*Hymn: "Praise the Source of Faith and Learning" TFWS #2004

**A Time for the Child in All of Us
Pastoral Prayer for the Children**

Prayer (Unison)

Gracious God of Life, bring us to an understanding of your love and grace for this world and beyond that we so humbly enjoy as your children. Keep us ever mindful of all that you have created – both what we understand, what we seek to understand and what is beyond the grasp of understanding. Let the power of your presence be known through the wonder and presence of your creation so that we can better serve you as followers of your gracious love. Amen.

Sung Response: "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" TFWS#2200

Ministry of Music

Reading the Word: Acts 17:24-28 & 1 John 4:10-15

L: The Word of God for the People of God

P: **Thanks be to God.**

We Respond to God's Word

Message: "Our Common Thread" Kevin Fickenscher, MD

Special Music

"Indescribable"

Kaya Sarosiek

*Hymn: "All Creatures of Our God and King"

UMH #62

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison):

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 in temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology: *(Please join in singing the following)*

UMH #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God, all creatures here below Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts. Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication (unison):

Oh God, we humbly stand before you by offering our time and our possessions as gifts for the ministry you've taught us. We offer ourselves as servants to the world you have created for all to richly enjoy and through the gifts you have given to us that lie within our hearts and minds. Amen.

We Go Forth to Serve

*Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

UMH#77

Choral Benediction: *(Congregation encircles the Sanctuary)*

May the Lord, gracious God bless and keep you forever. Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God bless and keep you forever.

***Pastor's Charge**

Postlude

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

*TFWS = The Faith We Sing UMH = United Methodist Hymnal
Large print bulletins are available from the greeters*

Welcome!

Whether you are joining us for worship for the first time or after many years of attending here at First UMC, we want you to know that you are welcome!

We are an inclusive community that invites everyone to be part of our church fellowship. Thank you for being here, and we hope that you have had a meaningful experience of worshipping our God so you leave this place feeling that you have been blessed to be a blessing. Please join us again!

Rev. Deb Hanson



Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson
Pastor's Assistant - David Richards
Liturgist - Marilyn Stebbins
Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek
Lay Servant - Dave Richards
Acolyte - Alexa Langs
Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal
Greeters - Silanpaa Family
Ushers - Ken Westbrook & Ken Young
Sound Tech - Sue Sarosiek
Worship Service Tech - Nancy Chesser
Photographer - Dave Atkinson
Sunday School - Aerial Silanpaa & Rosie Buswell

Sunday Worship Team



WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER...



Gayle Gardei
Marion Collinshaw
Sue Goodhue
Hunter Pinkley
Sylvia Bartlett
Brian Thompson
Malia Broe
Gil Stebbins
Rev. Bill Gardei
Woodie Lange
Roseanne
Kerr Family
Jim New
Bobbie Noble
Pastor Sue Ellery
Judy Doyon
Charles Gilman
Diederich Family
Our Church Family
Barbara & Jim Slater
Barbara Sylvester
Pauline Boynton
Barbara Millar
Irene Derosier
Barbara Clement
Joette MacKenzie
Vicky Fernandez
Alissa Fernandez
Jessie
John Richards
John Erickson
Maria Fernandez
Anne & Mike Coffey
Gigis Family
Jamie Mohr & Family
Rev. Charles & Anona Hartman

Come join us for coffee hour
after church service in
Sanborn Hall.. We'd love to
catch up with you and see
how your week has gone.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 8/24; 10-12 at FUMC, CRASE (Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events) will be held. The Portsmouth Police Department is conducting training for businesses, schools, churches, and community members for direction what they should do if confronted with an Active Shooter event. It provides strategies, guidance, and a plan. This is a church-wide training. **All are encouraged to attend.**

On **8/31/19**, at 5:30, the Saturday Night Supper Club will meet at The Old Salt in Hampton. Please see Ken Westbrook for more information.

September 11, our **11th Annual Golf Tournament** will be held at Pease Golf Course. Team sign-up sheets are on the office counter. Golf teams are needed.

On **9/14**, Help is needed for Trustee Clean Up Day, from 8 -12 pm.

September 21, is **Pumpkin Patch** set up. Help is needed!

September 28, **Pumpkin Delivery** will be at 9:00 am at FUMC.

Just a friendly reminder, please try to keep your pledge up to date so we can meet our financial obligations as a church. Thank you for your faithful giving!

School Supplies Collection

The Sunday school children invite everyone to help them collect school supplies for foster families and for a school in Cameroon, Africa. A basket has been placed in Narthex for any donations. A list of needed supplies is near the basket, feel free to take one with you shopping.

From **Sept. 1st – Oct. 31st**. Need an excuse to clean out your “stuff” and have the church get paid?! Bag or box up your good, clean, working, sellable condition items and put them on Sanborn Hall stage (stage available *after* 9/1). We need to deliver everything all together to Savers on Nov. 6th., for weighing. Here’s an example: 14 lbs. of “Soft Goods” = about a 13 gal. trash bag and a black garden leaf bag from 30 to 40 lbs. Our goal is 10,000 pounds which equals approximately \$2000.00.

We continue to celebrate those in **Senior Living**. Please send a card from the table in Sanborn Hall to brighten their day. Stamps are available in the office or leave on counter for mailing. Thanks!

Reverend Deb is on vacation through August 19. Our Lay Servants Dave Richards and Kevin Fickenscher are preaching in her absence. Thank you Kevin and Dave!





**Altar Flowers are in
Loving Memory of
Rev. Dr. David Kerr**

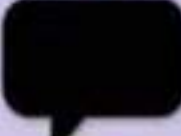
Love Your
Neighbor

who doesn't

 Look like you

 Think like you

 Love like you

 Speak like you

 Pray like you

 Vote like you

Love Your Neighbor

No exceptions

Love God, Love People

Mark 12:28-34



The Greatest Commandment

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

“Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.



FUMC PORTSMOUTH A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

We, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, are dedicated in worshipping, learning, and serving with all people as we embrace Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church we stand fully behind the statement "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors". We celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, gender, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, physical or mental ability into full membership and participation in the life of this community of faith.



New England Annual Conference Tri-State District
The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop
The Rev. Taesung Kang, District Superintendent

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
129 Miller Avenue - Portsmouth, NH 03801
Office Phone 603-436-6038 office@fumcportsmouth.net
Pastor office hours - Tuesday and Thursday 9 am - 12 pm
[call to ensure availability]
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Check out our website at www.fumcportsmouth.com

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