

If your committee or group meeting or meeting place is not on the calendar, Rev. Debbi and the church office do not know about it. You can double check upcoming months at [www.fcchanoverucc.org](http://www.fcchanoverucc.org)>Calendar. Please e-mail the church office with your upcoming DATES, TIME and PLACE for future meetings so there isn't a double scheduling issue. Thanks for your help as we get more organized!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>September 20</b> 8:30 & 10 am Worship Evening Worship 7:30 Stewardship meeting 11 am - Choir rm	<b>21</b> <i>Spire deadline at 9 am</i> 7:30 pm - Faith Conversations - Vestry Hanover Clergy - St Andrews	<b>22</b> Rev. Debbi in Kansas	<b>23</b> Rev. Debbi in Kansas 7-9 pm Firewalk 9 am Bulletin/ InSpire Deadline	<b>24</b> Rev. Debbi in KS 1 pm <i>Spire</i> assembly - Rm 5 7:30 Yth Diaconate - Sanctuary	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:30 & 10 am Worship Middle School Youth 5-6:30 Stockholders Dinner 7 pm - Riley Hall	<b>28</b> 7:30 pm - Faith Conversations - Vestry 6:30 - Faith Formation - Rev Meg's Office	<b>29</b> 7:30 Outreach & Svc - Choir Rm 7 pm Diaconate - Vestry	<b>30</b> 9 am Bulletin/ InSpire Deadline	<b>October 1</b> Labyrinth 6:30-8	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 8:30 & 10 am Worship Junior High Fellowship 5-6:30 Senior High Fellowship 7-8:30 Mainspring	<b>5</b> 7:30 pm - Faith Conversations - Vestry 6:30 - Faith Formation - Rev Meg's Office	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6 pm - Called to Care Potluck 7:30 Prayer Shawl Mtg	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Labyrinth 9-noon
<b>11</b> 8:30 & 10 am Worship Junior High Fellowship 5-6:30 Senior High Fellowship 7-8:30	<b>12</b> 7:30 pm - Faith Conversations - Vestry 6:30 - Faith Formation - Rev Meg's Office	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 8:30 & 10 am Worship Junior High Fellowship 5-6:30 Senior High Fellowship 7-8:30	<b>19</b> 7:30 pm - Faith Conversations - Vestry 6:30 - Faith Formation - Rev Meg's Office	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>

## Stay Connected!

Check us out online in these various ways:

**Church Website:** [www.fcchanoverucc.org](http://www.fcchanoverucc.org)

- **SCHEDULES:** Next week the schedule of Church School, Book Conversations, Youth Diaconate Schedule and Youth Fellowship Activities will be online. Click on the **PROGRAMS** link.
- **MEETING TIMES:** In the **CALENDAR** link, the Riley Hall Calendar can be viewed to see the activities at the hall and vestry of church and community events. Current and archived issues of the *Spire* and *InSpire* are online too.

As we now have a new interim pastor, it becomes imperative that we communicate meeting dates of groups and committees to the church office. Our church secretary, Stacey Stahl, is compiling a new church calendar at Rev. Debbi's request. **Would you please contact the church office with the date, time and place of your upcoming group and committee meetings?** Stacey will add these to our online calendar.

Please double check the calendar to make sure your committee's meetings are listed. If not, please e-mail [office@fcchanoverucc.org](mailto:office@fcchanoverucc.org) with upcoming meeting dates, times and where you will be meeting (Vestry, Room 5, etc.).

## Facebook Group

Group name is First Congregational Church of Hanover - Youth Fellowship. Please sign up so Rev. Meg can send group messages and make announcements.

## Contact Information

- Please make a note of Rev. Debbi's new phone number: 617-610-3488 (this is a change from what was listed in the September *Spire*). Her e-mail is [dcarter@ants.edu](mailto:dcarter@ants.edu).
- You may reach Rev. Meg at 617-843-9289 or [pclapp@comcast.net](mailto:pclapp@comcast.net).
- The church office phone number is 781-826-4762 and Stacey's e-mail is [office@fcchanoverucc.org](mailto:office@fcchanoverucc.org).



Weekly announcements from First Congregational Church of Hanover, UCC

## *God Saves People*

One of the first and greatest themes that run through the Bible, (both the Old and the New Testaments), is the proclamation of God as one who saves people. When you first learn to study the Bible, you begin with the story of the exodus, the deliverance of the Hebrew people from servitude in Egypt. Although this does not take place in the first book of the Bible, the exodus is a real "Beginning," for it shaped the Old Testament belief in a saving God. The story of the exodus takes place in the Old Testament book of the same name, "Exodus."

Traditionally, English translations of the Bible have associated God's saving acts of the Hebrew people with the Red Sea. The Hebrew people were fleeing Egypt and came to a stop in the face of the Red Sea, or the Sea of Reeds. We cannot know exactly what happened, but the Hebrew people were delivered safely from slavery and the pursuing Egyptian warriors, relying on God's ability to help them to safely cross through the sea, while the warriors were not. Yahweh (God) delivered them to freedom and stayed with them until they reached the Promised Land.

May God save and deliver you safely from all peril, allowing you to plant your feet firmly on the fertile soil of the Promised Land.

Founded, formed and framed in the practices of prayer, our Church's strengths include: Caring for Youth & Children, Meaningful Worship, Empowering Leadership & Focus on Community

**The following announcements show these strengths in action**

## PRACTICES OF PRAYER

**SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER:** We will keep our Sanctuary open until 12:30 following our 10 am worship for those who would like to pray.

## CARING FOR YOUTH & CHILDREN

**CHURCH SCHOOL:** Rotation-style church school is today. Our theme is Jacob & Esau. Children are dismissed during the second hymn in the 10 am service and go to Riley Hall for their lessons and activities.

**7th-8th GRADERS:** Rev. Meg will begin Faith Formation classes on Monday, September 28. You'll meet in her office in Riley Hall each week. Schedule will be online and in the "Walk by Faith" brochure next week.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** Rev. Debbi will begin Confirmation Classes on October 18 after church. Schedule is online and in the "Walk by Faith" brochure. Please e-mail the church today so we have your e-mail address and can communicate through e-mail if need be.

**JUNIOR YOUTH:** Our first gathering is Sunday September 27 from 5-6:30. This year's theme is "Footprints." Schedule will be online and in the "Walk by Faith" brochure next week.

**SENIOR YOUTH:** The Stockholders Dinner is Sunday September 27 at 7 pm. Schedule will be online and in the "Walk by Faith" brochure next week. This year's theme is "Footprints."

## MEANINGFUL WORSHIP

**EVENING WORSHIP:** Join us for an informal and beautiful service of healing and prayer on TONIGHT at 7:30 in the sanctuary.

**FAITH CONVERSATIONS:** Join Rev. Debbi on Monday nights at 7:30 in the vestry for a discussion on the Biblical topic that is the focus of Church School for the children. The first conversations will be on twin brothers Jacob and Esau, the grandsons of Abraham. Everyone is welcome to attend, and if you are feeling intimidated to join the conversation, please don't let that stop you from coming and just listening. 9/21 - Biblical Background of Jacob & Esau; 9/28 - Rivalry In The Ranks.

**LABYRINTH:** Join us at the outdoor Labyrinth on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 for a Firelight Walk.

**INDOOR LABYRINTH:** October 1 and 10 are the first fall dates at 6:30 pm and 9 am respectively.

**FLOWERS:** The flower sign-up sheet is in the coat room. Many days are open for you to donate flowers in memory of loved ones. The cost is \$18, and you may take the flowers or have someone from the Flower Committee deliver them to a shut-in.

## FOCUS ON COMMUNITY

**HABITAT WORKDATE INFO:** Our congregation has been invited to a work-date on Saturday, December 5th. People who are interested in participating in this program and will be contacted the latter part of October..

**HABITAT - PROVIDING LUNCH FOR THE WORKERS:** People who have signed up to prepare lunches will be contacted in late October. If you are interested in being part of this program there is a sign-up sheet located on the coffee table in the Vestry.

**FALL FOOD FEST:** Please join the fun at a fundraiser to benefit the Habitat house on Walnut street. Tickets are \$25 for the October 11 event at Hanover Mall can be purchased from Dick Bancroft. Please call him at 781-871-0871. He will deliver your tickets!

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our own Laura's Country Church Fair is the first Saturday in November, the 7th, from 9:30 - 2 pm.

**CALLED TO CARE:** Please save the date Wednesday, October 7, from 6-7:30 pm for a potluck supper in the Church Vestry. The Spire will have detailed information. Present members and those who would like to find out more about Called To care are invited.

**PRAYER SHAWL MEETING:** If you are interested in joining the Prayer Shawl group, join us on October 2 at 7:30 in the Vestry.

## EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP

**BULLETIN/INSPIRE DEADLINE:** Please e-mail the church office by Wednesday at 9 am with your announcement and volunteer names for greeters, lay readers and flower donations.

**SEARCH COMMITTEE:** The Search Committee scheduled a meeting on Sept 29, but the Diaconate rescheduled for that night because Rev. Debbi is out of town on Sept 22, and Outreach & Service meets that night. Hal Thomas is working on an alternate date. Look for an e-mail from him on a new date.

**FALL MEETING - PILGRIM DISTRICT WOMEN:** Tuesday, October 27, 2009 at Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC in Scituate. Rick Ferguson of the First Trinitarian Church in Scituate will tell us about the Appalachia Service Project, an organization that gathers groups of both youth and adult volunteers to travel to rural areas of Appalachia. Join us for coffee at 9:30 am; Worship and program presentation at 10; hot lunch at noon.

**FALL CLEAN UP:** Troop 1 has volunteered for an outdoor clean up on the parish hall and parsonage grounds. Please join us to work outside on Saturday, October 3 at 9 am. See Don Morrison if you have questions.

