

First Congregational Church Weekly Newsletter

East Longmeadow, MA

September 23, 2026



CHURCH MEMBER LEADING WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Special Request!

On September 27th a church member will be filling in for Rev. Hawkins.

We are asking everyone to bring spare change. During Children's Time we are going to do a change collection for part of the children's message. Please dig around in your car or bottom of your purse for coins. The big idea is to have the collection plate be really heavy for a child.

Thank you.

SUNDAY WORSHIP in the sanctuary or livestream link: <http://www.facebook.com/churchontherotary/>

YOUTH GROUP

****Church friends and members are welcome to join us in the Crop Walk****

Next Event: Sunday Oct. 1:30 ~ 4 pm

What: Crop Walk through Forest Park: We are again raising money for CWS – Church World Service, that supports hunger prevention both locally and globally. You can visit our fundraising website here:

Note: currently there is someone that is matching all our donations 100%

When: Arrive Sunday Oct. 4th by 1:30, if meeting us at the church (7 Somers Rd). We will drive over to Trinity United Church for the start of the walk at 2:00pm. Kids can be picked up back at the church around 4:00.

Where: Meet at the church and we will caravan Trinity Church.

Questions? Contact anyone from the leadership team.

ADULT BOOK STUDY

The second adult book study is on short novella, *The Foster* by Irish author Clair Keegan. It is a short read less than 100 pages. *The Foster* was produced as a film in Ireland and won an 2023 Academy Award nomination for best foreign film.

We will meet after worship on Sunday, October 11, from 11:30 – 12:30 to discuss *The Foster*.

The Western Massachusetts interlibrary loan system has 107 copies of *The Foster*.

The Foster, writes the publisher, "is story of childhood, loss, and love... It is a hot summer in rural Ireland. A child is taken by her father to live with relatives on a farm, not knowing when or if she will be brought home again. In the Kinsellas' house, she finds an affection and warmth she has not known and slowly, in their care, begins to blossom. But there is something unspoken in this new household-where everything is so well tended to-and this summer must soon come to an end."

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flower committee invites you to remember, and honor loved ones or offer celebration for a joyous event. We have following open dates are all Sundays in November. Call the church office if you are interested or sign up in Butler Hall.

COLLECTING NEW AND/OR GENTLY USED WARM CLOTHING

Starting October 1 until Thanksgiving, we will once again start collecting new and/or gently used warm clothing for our neighbors in need right here in the Springfield area. As you switch your wardrobe, remember that your donation can keep someone warm as the cold season will be here before we know it. More info will be coming soon.

Mission & Outreach



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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