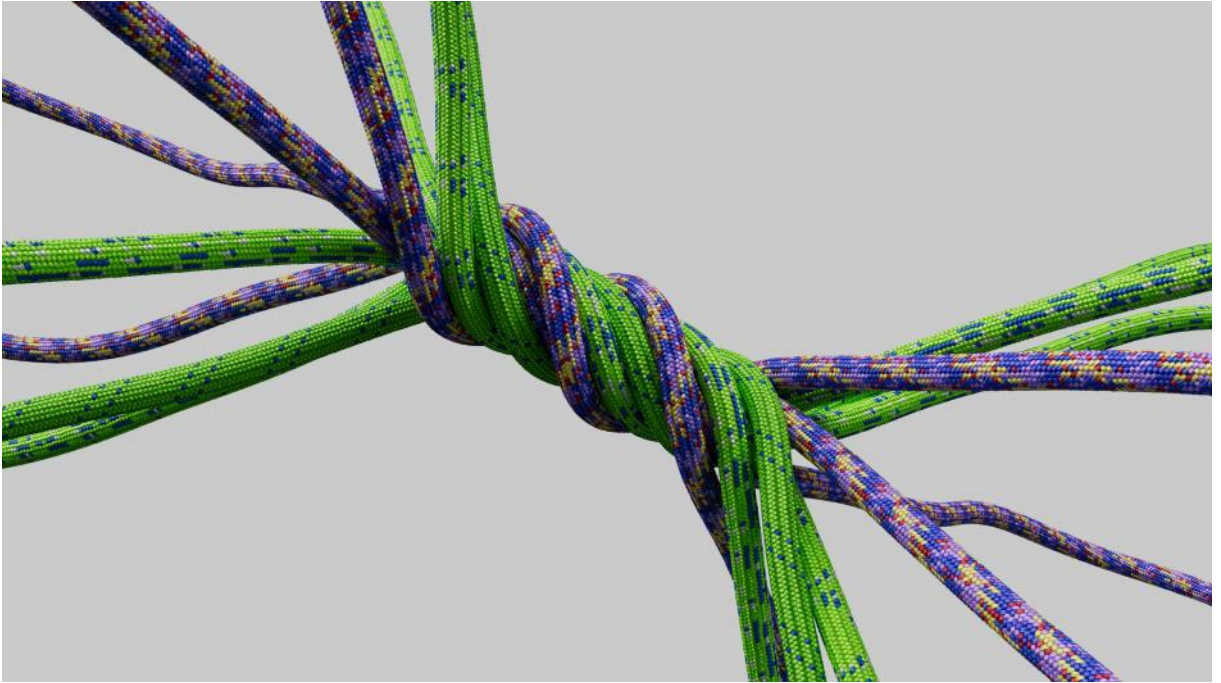


Midyear Congregational Meeting

June 28, 2026



Vision Statement:

We Are a Nurturing, Beloved Community.
We Are Growing Authentic Christian Faith.
We Are Living Christ-Inspired Action.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
June 28, 2026 10:00 am

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME SONG

"Let It Breathe on Me"
by Magnolia Lewis-Butts

Let it breathe on me, let it breathe on me, let the
breath of the Spir - it breathe on me. Let it
breathe on me, let it breathe on me, let the
breath of God now breathe on me.

**Rise in body or spirit*

WELCOME

Rev. Sharon Benton, Pastor

We love children in worship—their noises and wiggles are welcome, too. There are pillows and a coloring, book, and play area in the corner near the windows.

Younger kids may enjoy the Narthex play area. Their movements back and forth are a joy for us as they participate fully.

CONFIRMING A QUORUM

Leigh Hjelmseth, Clerk

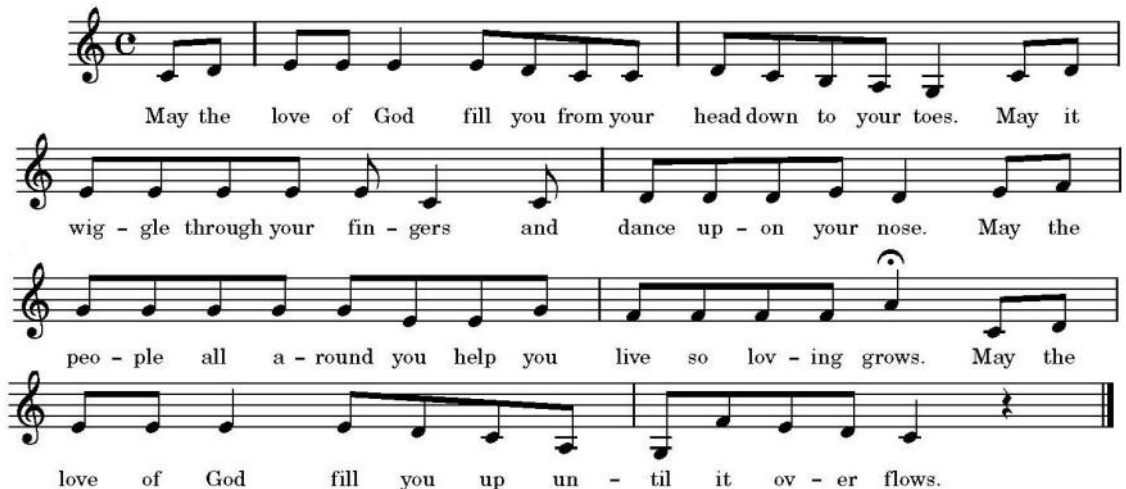
APPROVING PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Jordan Sandoval, Moderator

All voices are welcome; only covenanted members may vote.

SONG**“May the Love of God Fill You”**

by Tom Hunter



May the love of God fill you from your head down to your toes. May it wig - gle through your fin - gers and dance up - on your nose. May the peo - ple all a - round you help you live so lov - ing grows. May the love of God fill you up un - til it ov - er flows.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Meg Best

*After Time with Children, children may go with Maya to church school in the social hall
or remain in the sanctuary as they choose.*

***HYMN 393** (black hymnal) “Blessed Be the Tie that Binds”

DENNIS

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Kris Johnson

One Voice: Holy One, our community is not one in mind, but we are one in spirit.
We have individual hopes and dreams, but we pray they all lead to
your Shalom. We are different people, but we love your church and
seek your guidance—not just in this congregational meeting, but every
time we work as your faith community. Sometimes that work is difficult
and sometimes it’s joyful but most of the time it’s quite mundane.
Thank you, God, for bringing us together, where we can care for one
another and your world together. Grant us unity as we pray for what
Jesus also prayed:

**All Voices: Our Creator 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

VOTING ON HOW WE ORGANIZE

2026 Bylaws

Craig Jennings, Bylaws Committee

Links

Scott Ward, Director of Community Life

Slate of Nominees: Ryan Douglas, Nancy Fayram, Paula McGrath

GIFT OF MUSIC

“Carry the Light”
by Andy Beck

One Accord

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12
Common English Bible

Kris Johnson

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Kris Johnson

One Voice: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us:

All Voices: Thanks be to God.

INVITATION TO MUSTARD SEED PLANTING

Jordan Sandoval, Moderator

*HYMN 558 (red UMC hymnal)

“We Are the Church”
verses 1 & 3

PORT JERVIS

FINANCIAL UPDATE & OFFERING

Darlene Mathias, Treasurer

Your generosity allows us to serve God in this place and beyond.

There are several ways to give: 1) Go to: fcb.net/giving. 2) Make a check out to FCCB.

3) Use the Breeze app, if you're connected. 4) Text a dollar amount to (360) 205-1297.

5) Scan the QR code on the back cover of this bulletin.

6) Place cash or check in the offering plate.

Thank you!

MUSICAL OFFERING

Judy Widrig

COMMISSIONING COUNCIL

Rev. Sharon Benton

*(note Moderator, Vice Moderator, Past Moderator, Treasurer, & Clerk
are voted at each Annual Meeting at the beginning of the year)*

Links (pending vote): Ryan Douglas, Nancy Fayram, Paula McGrath

Trustees Representative: Jill York

***HYMN 391** (black hymnal) "In the Midst of New Dimensions"
verses 1, 2, 5

NEW DIMENSIONS

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Open and Affirming (ONA): As an Open and Affirming congregation believing in a loving God, all people are welcome in this church without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, economic or social status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

We Try To Use Language which will help people feel included in our worship. Since not everyone is comfortable with the same language, we invite you to amend the words of the service as we sing and pray if they do not adequately express your faith. We invite you to assist us in creating new expressions of our common faith and life together.

Technical Support: If you need help streaming our worship services or connecting in other ways, please let us know.

APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTORAL STAFF

Our pastor is available by appointment virtually or in person. Contact her by email or call the pastoral care line, 360-733-4255.

Sharon sharon@fccb.net

Our Chaplain is also available at chaplain@fccb.net.

Or you can email our Office Manager Cydne at office@fccb.net and she'll pass your message on.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ

An Open & Affirming Congregation

2401 Cornwall Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225

Church Office: 360-734-3720

24/7 Emergency Pastoral Care: 360-733-4255

office@fccb.net • www.fccb.net

Facebook: facebook.com/fccbucc

Office Hours:

10:00 am-2:00 pm, M-F

PASTOR: Sharon Benton, she/her

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE:

Scott Ward, he/him (scott@fccb.net)

CHAPLAIN: Charlene Epp, she/her

ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her

MUSIC COORDINATOR:

Dallas Geil, he/him (music@fccb.net)

CHURCH SCHOOL/YOUTH

COORDINATOR:

Maya McEachern, she/they

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR:

Moxxy Rogers, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

BOOKKEEPER: Eric Bowen, he/him

MODERATOR: Jordan Sandoval, she/they

VICE MODERATOR: Kate Destler

PAST MODERATOR:

Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her

CLERK: Leigh Hjelmseth

TREASURER: Darlene Mathias

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