Congregational Church of Laconia
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.

69 Pleasant Street
(mailing address: 18 Veterans Sq.)
Laconia, NH 03246
www.laconiaucc.org
Welcome

Located in the heart of the Lakes Region, the Congregational Church of Laconia, United Church of Christ (UCC), has been a downtown church for more than 100 years. We are a welcoming community...a worshipping community...an educational community and a community of service. We are willing to think, explore new ideas, care about one another and reach out with acceptance and compassion. Like the rainbow you see over the church, we are a blend of young and old, conservative and liberal, refugee and New Hampshire native united in one fellowship of faith.
Our Mission

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

- To promote vibrant public and personal worship;
- To inspire the spiritual development of every person;
- To provide a place of warm and friendly community gathering;
- To express our concern for our neighbor's near and far through sharing and caring;
- To express the joy of our communion with God and with each other as revealed through Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit to guide and sustain us.

God is still speaking,

Never place a period where God has placed a comma.
- Gracie Allen, 20th century American comedian

http://www.ucc.org/god-is-still-speakingpages/laconia-
Our Outreach

We often describe ourselves as a community of people who care about each other. With approximately 170 active members, our congregation has a strong sense of mission that is demonstrated in words and action both locally, nationally and internationally. Whether we are packing food for delivery to Laconia’s school children during the summer months or in South Dakota building accessible ramps for people living on Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, we are curious, engaged and ready to get to work. Theologically our backgrounds differ and we may not always agree, but we do share Christ’s love and his message to the world. As our peace sign says “May Peace Prevail on Earth.”

The central location of our church calls us to intentionally serve the downtown community. Various community-based, secular and spiritual outreach programs our church and its members are involved in include:

- Got Lunch! Laconia
- Stitches of Love
- Convalescent Supply Loan Closet
- Providing classroom space for over 40 weekly support meetings
- Welcoming refugees to our community and church
- Interfaith Friendly Kitchen located at the Salvation Army
- Common Pantry and Laconia’s Community Action Program (CAP)
- Hands Across The Table
- Annual citywide multicultural festival
- Belknap House, a cold weather homeless shelter for families
- Habitat for Humanity
- Emergency financial assistance through our Dorcas Fund
Our Worship  

We offer vibrant worship services, full of music and tradition. Each Sunday (8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m., fall through spring, 9 a.m. in summer), our liturgy based services invite us to blend our faith with the way we live our lives. Baptism takes place within the context of Sunday morning worship. We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month. Childcare is provided for infants through preschool while our school-age children join us for the Welcome, Call to Worship, and Opening Hymn. Then, following the Time with God’s Children, they cross the Faith Bridge into the Parish House to attend Church School classes. After our worship service, we gather in Fellowship Hall to visit and connect with each other.

Our Music

Music is a vital part of our worship and serves to lift our souls. Under the leadership of our Music Director and Organist, K. Robert Bengtson, and Bell Choir Director Chandra Hazelton, our Chancel Choir, Sanctus Bells, soloists, and organ music combine in a warm yet traditional setting, creating an intimate worship experience. Holiday services and summer music offerings include vocal solos, duets, quartets, and a wide variety of instrumentalists. Our sanctuary and our organ are blessings we are pleased to share with the community. Our church hosts several community concerts including a Lenten Musical Series, contemporary musicians, Christmas Carol Sing-a-long, and our annual Christmas Pageant.
We are dedicated to providing learning and fellowship experiences for the entire church, young and old. All children, infant through grade 8, are invited to participate in Church School and then complete a mentor-based confirmation program as a high school teen. Intergenerational activities have included movie nights, game nights, and fellowship suppers. Various adult education opportunities include the Advent Study group, Marriage Enrichment, Lenten Soup and Studies, Brown Bag Lunch & Learn, Adult Sunday School, and Thirsty Thursdays.

Our church is a stone structure of English Norman design. The nave seats 350 people with a small chapel at one side seating 30 people. The chancel, decorated in dark stained woods, is dominated by the pipes of the three manual Austin organ and choir loft. Connected by our Faith Bridge is the Parish House. This building contains the church offices, classrooms, and meeting rooms. It is busy throughout the day with church meetings and serves as a gathering place for local community service organizations.
The Lakes Region is a year-round destination recognized for its mountains, rivers, and lakes. Known for its ski slopes, boating opportunities, fishing, and hiking, recreational activities abound. The region plays host to Laconia Motorcycle Week in June, the annual Pumpkin Festival in the fall, and the World Champion sled dog derby in the winter. Church fellowship activities include hiking to Rattlesnake Mountain, boating on Squam Lake, tubing at Gunstock Mountain Resort, and apple picking at Stony Brook Farm. Cultural activities include the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, the Interlakes Summer Theater, SoulFest, and the iconic Weirs Beach Drive-In. Concord, NH, the state capitol, is 40 minutes from Laconia and Boston is a 2-hour drive.

The Congregational Church of Laconia seeks a Senior Pastor with a commitment to assist others at any stage of their faith journey, the ability to promote vibrant worship, a desire to reach out into the community to act on our concern for our neighbors, and the ability to communicate in a thoughtful, compassionate manner. We are prepared to offer a comprehensive and competitive package that follows the guidelines set forth by the NH Conference, UCC and is commensurate with education and experience. We invite you to contact our Search & Call Consultant, The Rev. Michael S. Bennet, at 28 A Cataract Ave, Dover, NH 03820, 603.923.0073, or consultantmike@frostbennett.com to indicate your interest in this position.