Peacham Congregational Church
56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862
802-592-3330



Early Image of the Reverend David Merrill, second minister of the Peacham Congregational Church

Presenter: Susan Chandler

Worship Leader: Patty Gardner

We are an Open and Affirming Church

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

www.peachamchurch.org

Order of Worship
November 22, 2026

Prelude: "Firmator Sanct"

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship (Psalm 100)

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.

We come with grateful hearts for all the Lord has done.

Give thanks to the Lord and bless God's holy name.

For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us worship God together in joy and thanksgiving!

Opening Hymn #23: "We Gather Together"

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

Response

Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O God.
Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.

Offering & Mission

Doxology #46

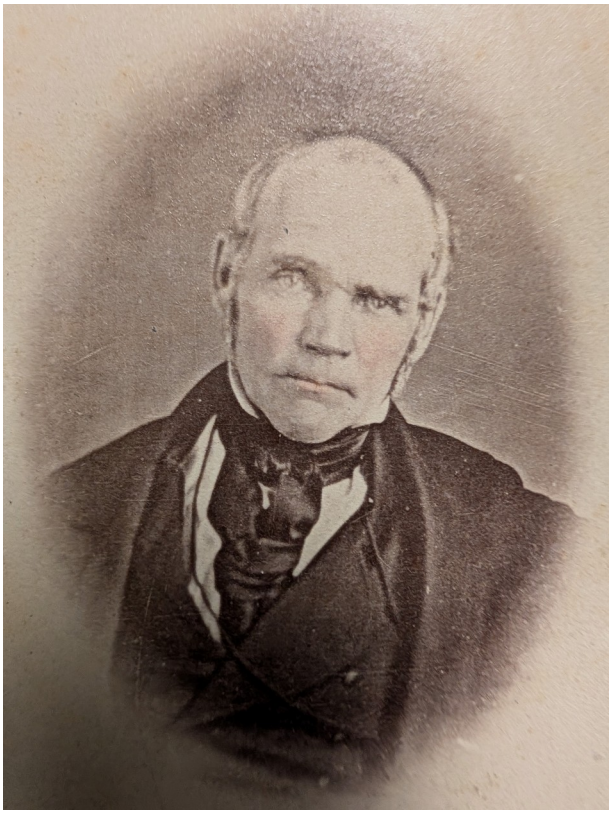
Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Creator, receive these offerings as we dedicate them to you and your kingdom. Magnify them and continue to bless us so that we may collectively meet the needs and hopes of our community and world. Amen.

Hymn #8: "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

Rev. David Merrill: The Man Who Moved Hearts, Minds, and Timber – Susan Chandler, Historical Presentation



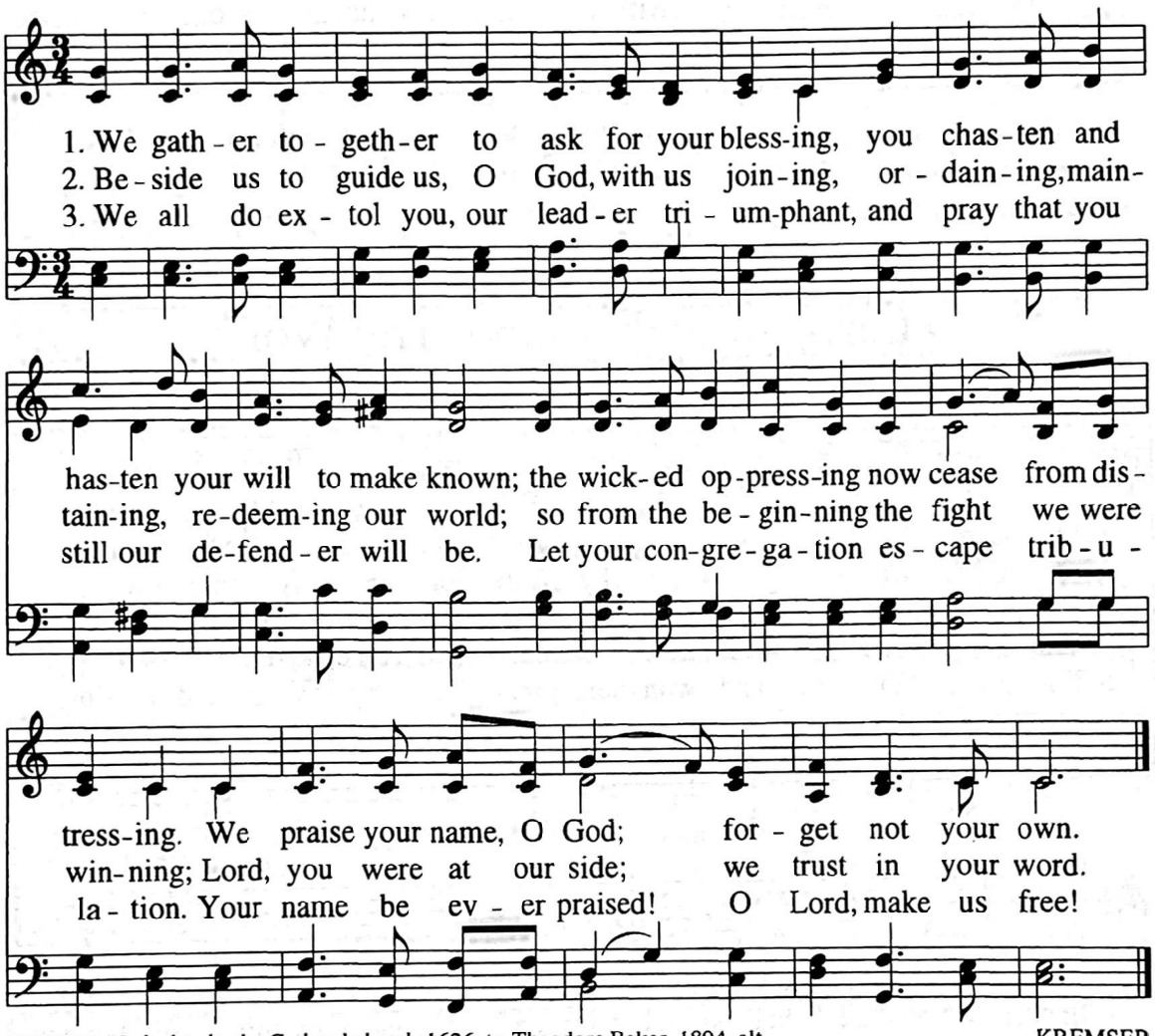
Reverend David Merrill

Closing Hymn #57: “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Choral Benediction

Postlude: “November” – Michael Smith (1941-2009)

23 We Gather Together



WORDS: *Nederlandtsche Gedenckclanck,* 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894, alt.
MUSIC: Dutch melody, 16th century, arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

KREMSER
12 11.12 11

Written by an unknown Dutch patriot to celebrate the Netherlands' freedom from Spanish rule, this text was originally sung to this folk tune, later named for choral director Kremser who rescued it from obscurity.

24 We Praise You, O God

1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator,
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you,
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

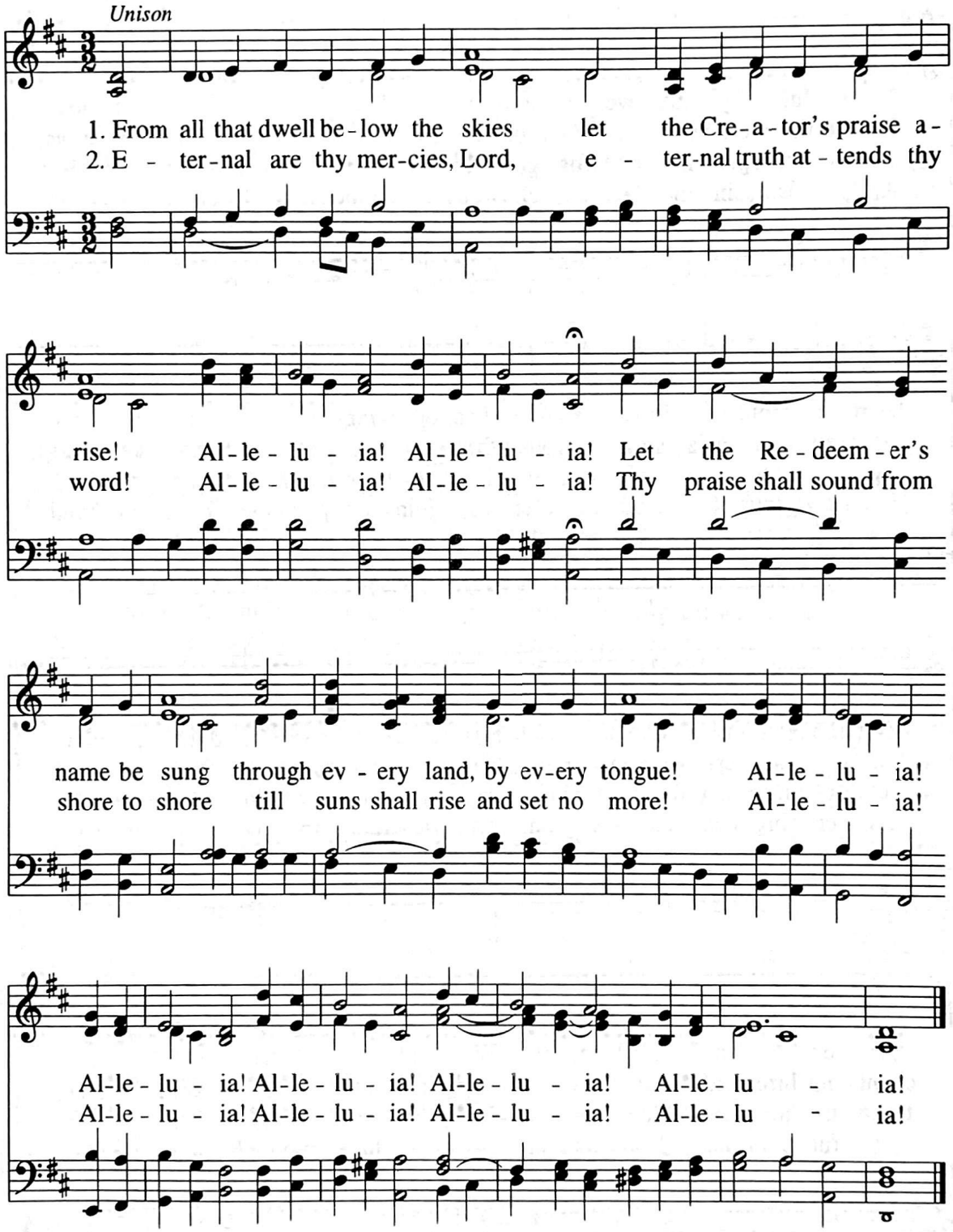
2. We worship you, God of the ages, we bless you;
through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, life's battles we win.

3. With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our songs of true worship we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing;
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.

WORDS: Julia C. Cory, 1902, alt.
MUSIC: Dutch melody, 16th century, arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

KREMSER
12 11.12 11

8 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

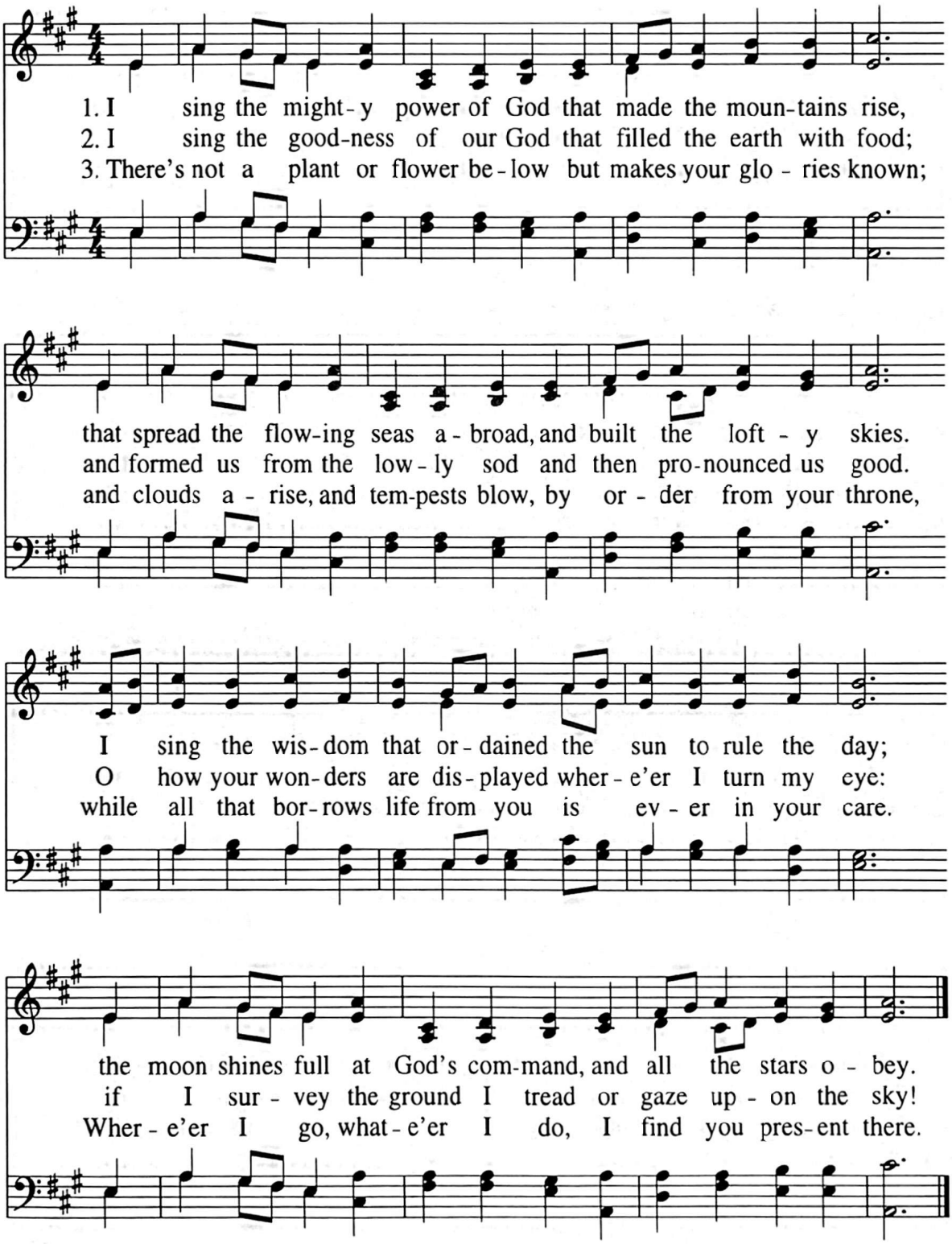


WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719
MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge,* Cologne, 1623;
harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal,* 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
88.44.88 w. alleluias

This text is Watts' paraphrase of Psalm 117. *Geistliche Kirchengesänge,* Cologne, 1623, is an important Catholic hymn book that introduced several tunes still in wide use.

57 I Sing the Mighty Power of God



WORDS: Issac Watts, 1715, alt.
MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzoglichen Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle,* 1784

ELLACOMBE
CMD

This text is taken from Congregationalist Watts' *Divine Songs attempted in Easy Language for the use of Children,* 1715—
the first hymnal written exclusively for children.

PEACHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
& MEETINGHOUSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

November 22, 2026

Weekly Worship – Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Join us online at peachamchurch.org/watch-us-live-on-sunday

For general inquiries, email information@peachamchurch.org

Church Admin.....Patty Gardner
Collector.....Ann Goss
Sexton.....Jeff Lane
Treasurer.....Bruce Westcott
Accompanist .....Bruce Westcott
Web Ministry.....Jonathan R. Potter
Church Council President & Moderator .....John Marshall
Administrative Staff.....Meghan Hovey, Emma Kaplan

Deacons: Susan Chandler, Chris Danielson, Carolyn Deasy,
Patty Gardner, Anita Vann, Rick Witt, Bruce Maclean, Deacon Emeritus

Peacham Congregational Church is an open and affirming congregation, welcoming all who earnestly seek faith and fellowship in Christ to share in the life, leadership, ministry, membership, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church. We invite and welcome into our community persons of every age, race, ability, economic and social status, nationality, faith background, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital standing and family structure

How God is calling us to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of our community and congregation.
We believe that we must walk with all in our community, helping to bring it together at a time when divisiveness as well as economic, cultural and climate-related challenges are pulling us apart. Peacham is an exceptionally tight community, as the response to the July 2024 flood event showed, but many are lonely or shut-in, suffer from health conditions or feel excluded. We believe our Church has historically been and must continue to be a resource to promote community and reach out to those individuals in need of community support.

TODAY: Sunday, November 22, 2026 – 9:30 a.m. worship time, with Coffee Hour hosted by Dart Thalman immediately following the service.

Susan Chandler graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's Museum Studies Program and worked for the National Park Service and Shelburne Museum. Susan is a member of the Peacham Congregational Church and is on the Board of Peacham Historical Association. She has researched every aspect of the Church and Meetinghouse and has a wealth of knowledge on the subject.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS

The Annual Appeal is in full swing. Thank you to those who have already returned their pledge cards. We want to remind everyone that we would like to have them returned by November 15th so that the Business Committee can prepare next year's budget. Thanks!

MISSIONS

Our 4th quarter mission is **Church World Service.**

Following a natural disaster, CWS distributes kits with supplies like versatile blankets, cleaning agents, articles for hygiene, and other items immediately useful after a disaster

CWS helps refugees navigate the often unfriendly and confusing government "system" to help them settle and rebuild their lives in new and unfamiliar country.

CWS their

They teach farmers planting techniques that will make their crops less vulnerable to drought and floods.

FOOD COLLECTIONS

The Peacham Congregational Church collects food for the Danville Food Shelf every Sunday morning from 9-11 a.m. Food is collected in a basket at the back of the Sanctuary. During the week, donations of non-perishable food can be placed in the green bins on the covered walkway outside the kitchen door. Please note that the Food Shelf cannot use food that is beyond the expiration date or that has been opened.

The Danville Open Door Food Shelf is asking for the following weekly rotation of donations:

1st Sunday - Bread
2nd Sunday - Butter
3rd Sunday - Cheese (8oz. blocks)
4th Sunday - Eggs
[5th Sunday - Cheese]

Upcoming Worship Schedule of Leaders & Speakers for November:

November 29, 2026 – Nancy Fowler (First Sunday Advent)

Hertha Forrai, a long-time member of the Peacham family and a member of this church, passed away last Sunday. Hertha Viewed our services every Sunday and commented about them often. She will be missed.

She and her husband Zoltan ran Twin Mount Farm riding camp for 25 years before their retirement. A Celebration of Hertha's life is planned for this summer, and a full obituary will be available soon.

Please Pray For:

Bill Blachly	Kiera	Cindy Young
Brady Nally	Paul Clemons	Q
Jenna Goguen	Anthony	Asylum Seekers
Robin	Larry	
Noyes Family	Zach	

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please reach out to Patty at peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com.

Attendance at Previous Church Services

November 1, 2026:	29
November 8, 2026:	20
November 15, 2026:	18



Coffee Hour Hosts:
November 22: Dart Thalman
November 29: Susan Chandler



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS
23rd – Julie Ann Morrison

"Uncomfortable Convictions: How Faith Moves the Work of Vermont Activism."

On three separate Thursday evenings, we will gather in our sanctuary to explore a central guiding question: *"How does your faith give you the courage to challenge systems of power and bring a divided community together?"*

Series Schedule (Thursdays at 7:00 PM):

- **December 10:** *Agencies for Social Change Panel* — Featuring representatives from Umbrella, Northeast Kingdom Asylum Seekers Network (NEKASAN), Indivisible St. Johnsbury, and The Open Door sharing how deep-seated values fuel community advocacy and care.
- **January 14:** *Keynote Address by Bill McKibben* — Author, environmental scholar, and founder of Third Act, speaking on solar energy, climate solutions, and intergenerational mobilization.
- All events are free and open to the public at 87 Hill Street in Danville, VT.