

Peacham Congregational Church

56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862

802-592-3330



Guest Speaker: Rev. Steve Winkler

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
October 4, 2026**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Hymn Medley, Nancy Maclean

Lighting of the Candles

Responsive Call to Worship (Japan)

In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, seeking to make us one.

Today we gather around one table in answer to God's will.

What do we find at today's table?

God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

What is not at today's table?

The many powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

Let us repent and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all.

Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love. Let us worship together the true God, who makes us one.

Unison Opening Prayer (Australia)

We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers. We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service. We serve our God in this community and throughout every land. Let us serve by working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred. The Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us! Amen.

Opening Hymn #238: "The Church's One Foundation"

Passing of the Peace

Leader: As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background, no matter what their social status; as Christ welcomed enemies and friends, outcasts and leaders, foreigners and neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Peace be with you.

Congregation: **And also, with you.**

Leader: Now share the Peace of Christ with one another.

Joys and Concerns

Prayer of Confession (South Africa)

For our failure to feel the sufferings of others, and our tendency to live comfortably with injustice,

God forgive us.

For the self-righteousness which denies guilt, and the self-interest which strangles compassion,

God forgive us.

For those who live their lives in careless unconcern, who cry 'Peace, peace' when there is no peace.

We ask your mercy.

For our failings in community, our lack of understanding,

We ask your mercy.

For the times when we are too eager to be better than others, when we are too rushed to care, when we are too tired to bother, when we don't really listen, when we are too quick to act from motives other than love,

God forgive us.

Assurance of Pardon (Bangladesh)

Know that God loves you. From the very beginning God's loving mercy has been poured out upon you. On behalf of Jesus Christ, our Savior: you are forgiven; forgive others. You are restored; restore others. You are reconciled with God; be reconciled with others, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (using debts/debtors)

Words of Assurance

Listen to the Good News: "Here is love. Not our love of God but God's love for us." In the name of the Son of God-light of the world, friend of sinners, rescuer of the lost, healer of the broken, joy of the redeemed-I declare to you: Yours sins are forgiven and the pages of your life made new!

Thanks be to God!

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 #45

Praise God for love we all may share.

Praise God for beauty everywhere.

Praise God for hope of good to be.

Praise God for truth that makes us free. Amen.

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Praise be to God who calls us to imagine and believe that another world is possible. Deliver these our gifts, O Lord, to the work of bringing hope and wholeness to all our neighbors. God of all times and all places, remind us of the world as You intend it: free from hunger, poverty, violence, and oppression. Embolden us, O God, to imagine and believe that another world is possible! Amen

Anthem "Children of the Lord", Patsy Ford Belvins

Scripture: Philippians 3: 10-14, John 17: 13-23

Sermon: "Oneness! Really?" – Rev. Steve Winkler

*Call to Communion Hymn #318: "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether"

Words of Institution

Communion Prayer

Holy Spirit, breathe upon this bread and this cup and upon all who receive them. As Christians around the world gather today, make us mindful of one another: of those who worship in crowded churches and those who gather in small communities; of those who celebrate with joyful music and dancing and those whose worship is quiet and contemplative; of those who have enough to eat and those who cry out for bread; of those who worship in freedom and those who gather amid conflict, displacement, or persecution. Make us one in the love of Christ. As this bread is broken and this cup is shared, teach us that communion is more than what happens here. Make us people who share what we have, who welcome the stranger, who seek reconciliation, who stand with those who suffer, and who work for the peace and flourishing of all creation. Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of every nation and generation, gather us into the great company of your people—those who have gone before us, those who worship beside us, and those we may never meet in this life. Until the day when every people and every nation are gathered into your eternal feast, keep us faithful to one another and to you. Send us from this table as people of Christ's peace. One body. One Spirit. One Lord. One faith. One hope. One table. Amen.

*Hymn #368: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

*Closing Response #345: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

*Benediction

Postlude: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand", Nancy Maclean



PEACHAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
& MEETINGHOUSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INFORMATION

October 4, 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	Treasurer.....	Bruce Westcott
Collector.....	Ann Goss	Accompanist	Bruce Westcott
Sexton.....	Jeff Lane	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, October 4, 2026 – 9:30 a.m. worship time, with Coffee Hour immediately following the service.

This morning we welcome Rev. Steve Winkler: *The Rev. Steven Winkler is our preacher today. Steve is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ who*

has served churches in South Royalton, VT; Lima, OH; St. Johnsbury, VT; and Medford Lakes, NJ. After retiring in 2016, Steve and wife Heather have lived in Woodbury, and he has continued to preach in area churches, including a shared bridge ministry with friend and colleague Jay Sprout at the United Community Church in St. Johnsbury, and yearly two-moth stints as Minister-in-Residence at the Community Church of San Miguel de Allende, MX. The Winkler's three children (Jeremiah, Gabriel and Zoe) graduated from SJA and are now the parents of Steve and Heather's four grandchildren.

We are also delighted to have Nancy MacLean, Bruce's sister with us today to play piano during the service. While originally from New England, Nancy moved to the west in 1974. She is a long-time resident of Colorado, and she and her husband live just down the road in Boulder from her sister, Barb.

Music has long been her first love, from majoring in piano, to teaching and performing professionally for the last 35 plus years. Singing in various Colorado choirs and playing in blues bands have rounded out her musical enjoyment.

She has from Natural Habitat Adventures based in Boulder.

A **Memorial Service** for Margaret "Peg" Clemons, who passed away on September 4, is scheduled at **noon on October 24th** in the sanctuary, The Rev. Jay Sprout will officiate. A reception will follow the service.

If you would like to bake for the reception, please call Patty at 413-883-2842 or email peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com

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 their new and unfamiliar country.

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 October:

October 11, 2026 – David Bullock – “It’s Complicated”
October 18, 2026 – Ed Nilson
October 25, 2025 – Ken Vos – “Another Look at Jesus”

Please Pray For:

Brady Nally
Paul Clemons & Family
Jenna Goguen
Our World

Attendance at Previous Church Services

September 20, 2026	22
September 27, 2026	18



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

10/4 – Nancy & Brad Toney
10/11 – Melissa Hough & Nick Greyling
10/18 – Patty Gardner & Ann Goss
10/25 – Dart Thalman

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4th – Norah Hovey
5th – Dave Edwards
5th – Ken Vos
14th – Steve Engle
15th – Sarah Deasy Spaeh
17th – Gracia Berwick
19th – Stan Fickes

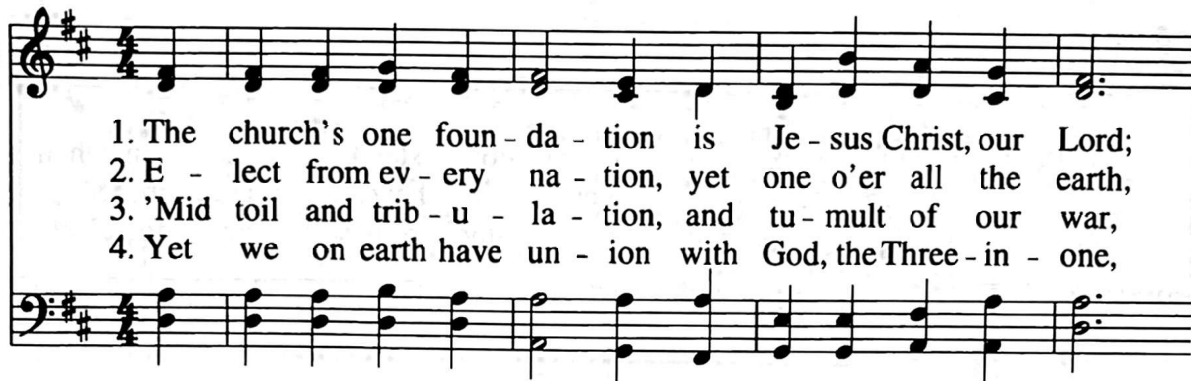


ANNIVERSARIES

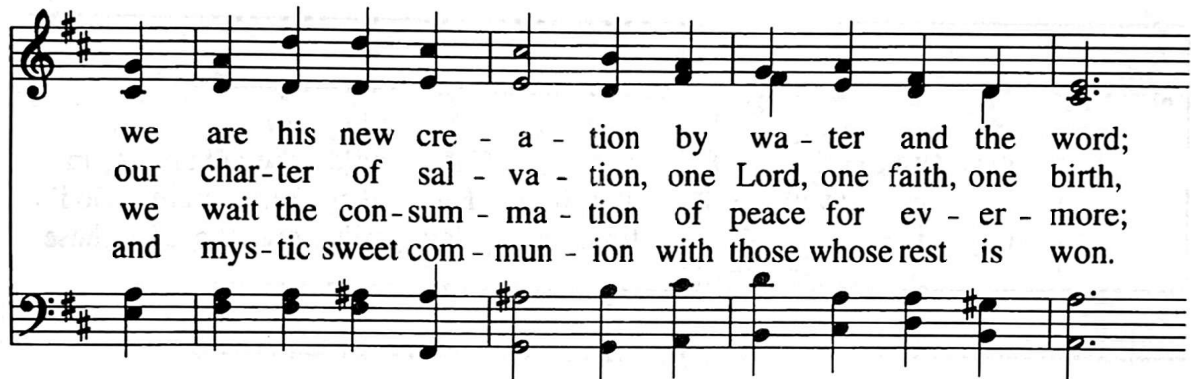
10/11 – Chip & Carolyn Deasy
10/14 – Dylan & Meghan (Deasy) Hovey
10/24 – Harry & Anita Vann

The Church's One Foundation

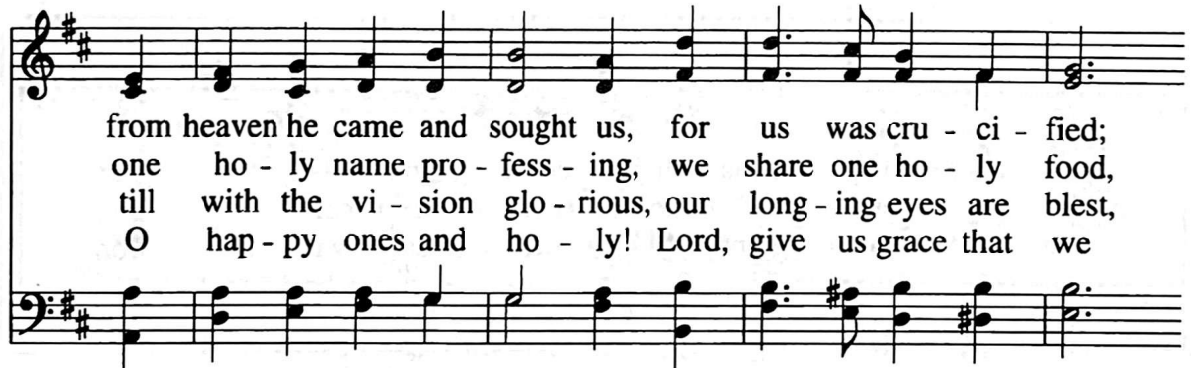
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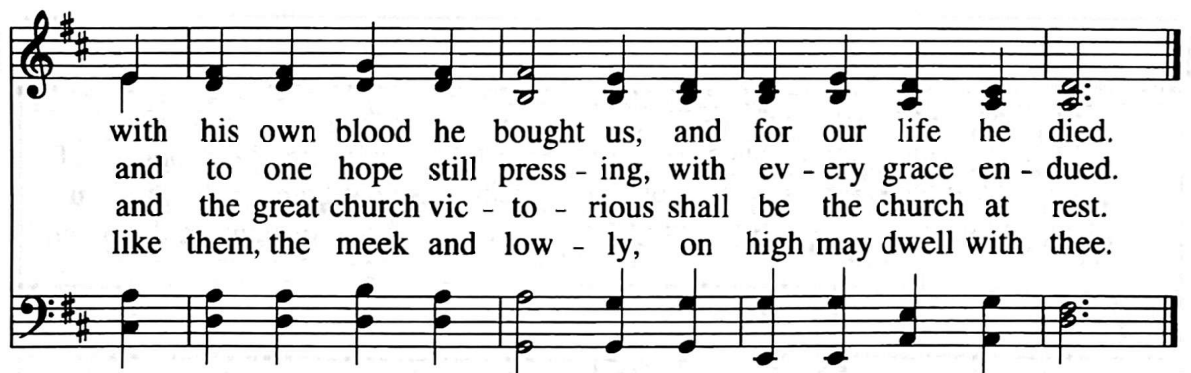
1. The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, our Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
 4. Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three - in - one,



we are his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
 our char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth,
 we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



from heaven he came and sought us, for us was cru - ci - fied;
 one ho - ly name pro - fess - ing, we share one ho - ly food,
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious, our long - ing eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



with his own blood he bought us, and for our life he died.
 and to one hope still press - ing, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, alt.
 MUSIC: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

AURELIA
 76.76D

Anglican Londoner Stone's hymn was written in the midst of a doctrinal dispute and was inspired by the phrase from the Apostle's Creed, 'I believe in . . . the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints.'

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
 2. Be - fore God's gra - cious throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3. We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
 4. When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,

the fel - low-ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

WORDS: John Fawcett, 1782, alt.

MUSIC: J. G. Nägeli, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS
SM

This text was written when 'ties that bind' convinced Fawcett that he should remain with the small Baptist congregation at Wainsgate, Yorkshire, England.

A New Commandment

A new com-mand-ment I give un - to you: that you love one an-oth-er as

I have loved you, that you love one an-oth-er as I have loved you.

WORDS: John 13:34
MUSIC: AnonymousNEW COMMANDMENT
10 12.12