## HOLIDAY EVENTS FOR FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, SPRINGFIELD, VERMONT

**DECEMBER 3rd** AT 4 PM- <u>Acoustic Worship</u>, an alternative way to worship together. What a joy it's been to raise our voices in song, hearing God's Good News and sharing time in fellowship. Pastor Michael on guitar and banjo.

**DECEMBER 5**<sup>TH</sup> FROM 9 AM TO 4 PM-We welcome the <u>Springfield Garden Club's Pop</u>
<u>Up Market</u> - fresh greens made up into Christmas decorations for the table or on the door. This is a major fundraising event for them to support all that they do for our town.

<u>LATER THAT DAY</u> FROM 4PM TO 6 PM-<u>Cocoa and Cookies</u> served to our neighbors as they join in an all town event welcoming Santa who arrives on the Square at 6 pm.

**DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>** AT 3 PM-Springfield Community Chorus Holiday Concert-SHOUT FOR JOY. A program of lyrical winter and lively holiday music, concluding with an invitation to sing along with carols and the "Hallelujah Chorus. Donations are appreciated.

**DECEMBER 10TH** AT 7 PM-A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF SONG AND STORY with Gypsy Reel and their guest Jon Clinch. You'll enjoy modern Christmas favorites, beloved carols, traditional Celtic instrumentals, and a few unexpected surprises, too. In between, Jon will share a favorite passage or two from Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* and his own award-winning companion novel, *Marley*. Free will offering.

**DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>** AT 2 PM- Blue Christmas/Longest Night service. This is an opportunity to recognize that Christmas can be a very difficult time for others and perhaps for yourself. The expectations, missing loved ones and busyness can be exhausting. Let this be a time for you.

**DECEMBER 20TH** FROM 10 AM – 3 PM-<u>CHRISTMAS FOOD FESTIVAL</u> in our Vestry. Food prepared and packaged for you for the holiday. Our church will have a table of baked goods. Think what you would like to contribute. Great hostess gifts!

**DECEMBER 24**<sup>TH</sup> AT 5PM –<u>Christmas Eve Service</u>. This is a family friendly service with songs, stories and expectation.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*