

The Federated Church of East Arlington



April 2022

Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

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Parsonage phone: 375-2427

"A visual image is a simple thing, a picture that enters the eyes." - Roy H. Williams

The war in Ukraine has evoked so many powerful images. When a photograph or video can be shared in real time it brings the rest of the world to that place. A few of the images over the past couple of weeks that have moved many of us include the line of empty strollers donated by families at the train station in Poland, waiting for arriving Ukrainian parents to be able to safely place their little ones after the long journey from their homeland to a new life in a foreign land. Then there was the video this past week of a lone cellist, Oleksandr Osipov, performing Bach in front of bombed out buildings in Kharkiv. And then just this weekend, the image of a line of Jews praying, leaning on the Wall of the Planet in Jerusalem, as their ancestors had for two thousand years. But for the first time since the Holocaust, they wore a draped flag over their shoulders. It was not their own flag but instead the flag of Ukraine as they raised their prayers for peace.

Imagery is what has carried our Christian tradition to us in such a vivid way. As we approach Holy Week and Easter, we will once again remember the story of those events of Jesus' final days and death and resurrection with objects and practices that help us tell the familiar story all over again. On April 10, at our Service, we will replace the Lenten display of desert plants, rocks, and sand with fanned out palms and we will wave palms from the pews to take us back to Jesus' glorious entrance into Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday, our imagery will turn to the water and towel with which Jesus humbled himself to wash his disciples' feet. At our 7:00 p.m. Service on April 14 we will also recall the Last Supper with the Service of Holy Communion and end with the story being told in parts as more and more light is extinguished. A bare sanctuary on Good Friday is intended to provide a space without distraction for quiet reflection and prayer between 9:00am and 3:00 p.m.

Then, on Easter Morning, the glory of the Risen Christ will be welcomed just as the sun rises when we gather outside on the grounds of the Mack Corporate Headquarters at 6:15 a.m. followed by a continental breakfast in Bailey Hall. The flowers and glorious music of the 10:00 a.m. Service of Worship will be our way of expressing deep and heartfelt joy through beauty, with extra meaning attached having not had the opportunity to worship in the church sanctuary for the last two Easter Sundays.

Through the power of Zoom, we also are able to share these images and experiences beyond our four walls. As we move toward and beyond the cross, consider which images have been with you, allowing your mind to take you to places that you hold sacred. May the vision of all that God makes possible be a blessing.

Peace and grace,
Kathy



The Federated Church of East Arlington

Website: federatedchurchofeastarlington.org

Facebook: Federated Church of East Arlington

Email: federatedchurch05250@gmail.com

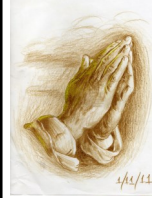
YouTube: Federated Church of East Arlington, Vt

Church office: 802-375-2548

Report of the Financial Secretary, Sandra Grover

2022 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving 1/1/22-3/28/22	\$ 9,683.00
Ukraine Crisis Response, as of 3/28/22	\$ 1,636.00

*Thank
you!*



Church attendance

	Adults	Children
3/6	21	1
3/13	14	5 + Breezy
3/20	23	4
3/27	20	0

And many on Zoom or telephone.

The Church Council is working hard on several projects. Olavi has taken over as treasurer from Alyson. We know that she is very busy, and we appreciate all her work for the Church.

We are looking for equipment to purchase for Zoom. We have figured out how the organ can be heard over zoom. There are two mics that pick up the sound. Thanks to Walt Berger for running the zoom.

We are having a fundraiser, an Italian buffet, on April 30th. There will be 2 servings, at 5:00 and at 6:30. Please sign up for many things – cooking an Italian dish, serving, clean up. This is a celebration of fly fishing and promoting the town of Arlington. Reservations handled through Arlington Common.

We are hoping to get a tent for the summer depending on the cost. Dorset loaned us their tent last year, but they will need it this year. I can't wait for warm weather!!

Thanks,

Peace be with you.

Sue Congdon - Church Council Chair

Our Church Council

Chair, Susan Congdon	Treasurer, Olavi Wirkki	Ex Officio, Pastor Kathy Clark	Secretary, Sandra Grover
Building & Grounds	Olavi Wirkki	1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Jeff McConnell
Christian Education	Tammy Lang	1. Scott Lang	2.
Finance	Brian Allen	1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Scott lang
Worship & Ministry		1. Linda McDevitt	2. Phyllis Warren
Missions	Sandy Grover	1. Wendy Bahan	2. Gail Rice

April Birthdays

- 9 – Raymond Grover
P.O. Box 113
Cherokee, KS 66757
- 13 – Phyllis Warren
61 Borough Road
Sunderland, VT 05250
- 25 – Arianna Barrios
827 South Road
Sunderland, VT 05252



**Southwest Association, UCC
Prays for their Churches**

Each week one of the churches in the Southwest Association, UCC, will be prayed for by the other churches in the association.

- April 3:** Congregational Church of Rupert
- April 10:** Shrewsbury Community Church
- April 17:** First Congregational Church, Wallingford
- April 24:** United Church of West Rutland

April Helping Hands Needed

Greeters
Altar Flowers after Easter
Refreshment/Coffee time

There are sign-up sheets on the table in Bailey Hall

Thank you to all who volunteer.

Lectionary Readings for April

- April 3:** Isaiah 43: 16-21; Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4-14; John 12: 1-8
- April 10:** Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19: 28-40
- April 17** Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2:14-25
1 Corinthians 15: 19-26; John 20:1-18
- April 24:** Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

CHOIR

Anyone interested in joining the choir, please see Mary.



In the White Mailbox

- Church Directory
- April Newsletter
- The March/April UPPER ROOM devotional, "Where the World Meets to Pray"

Italian Buffet Dinner

As part of the Vermont Fly Fishing Weekend (April 29-May 1) that is happening here in Arlington, we, the Federated Church of East Arlington, will be hosting an **Italian Buffet Dinner in Bailey Hall on Saturday, April 30** that will feature a wide range of favorite dishes and will also include Macaroni & Cheese. Salad, bread, dessert, and beverages will also be provided. A free will offering will be gathered at each table as our fundraiser.

A **sign-up sheet** to provide food and assistance with set-up, serving food, serving beverages, working in the kitchen and clean-up will be on the "Do Something" table in Bailey Hall.

There will be two seatings at 5:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. with a limit of 60 people at each seating by reservation only that is being handled by the Arlington Common, the sponsor of this special weekend.

Thanks to all who volunteer.

The Federated Church of East Arlington

Christian Education

Children's Sunday School



Sunday School, April 24th, 10:00 a.m.

We are collecting wrapped candy for the Easter Egg hunt on Saturday April 16th at 9am for 1-10 year olds. Candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit in plastic Easter eggs.



Easter Egg hunt will be Saturday April 16th at 9am sharp for 10 years and under please bring a container for your eggs Refreshments will be served.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Donations to OGHS will be collected through the month of April. Checks to the Federated Church with OGHS in the memo. OPGHS is the mission arm of the UCC to assist people in need around the world and our own country to show love and support due to natural disasters and many other ways.

Thank you!

Girl Scouts

Junior Girl Scouts will meet Sunday April 24th from 12-12:45 in Bailey Hall Only 1 meeting for Juniors this month.

Cadettes and Seniors meet Sunday, April 10th and 24th in Dunlap Hall at 12:00 pm

Arlington Area Food Shelf 2022

The Arlington Food Shelf
P.O. Box 723
Arlington, VT 05250

46 pounds added

Please donate non-perishable food.

Place in box in church entry or in the box in the garage (small door).



Feeding the Community

Federated Church Scholarships Available to Local High School Graduates and Those Continuing Their Education

The Federated Church of East Arlington will once again be offering "Bentley Family Scholarships." The Bentley Scholarship Fund was established by the Trust of June A. Bentley who taught both music and business in Arlington schools and who believed in developing the potential that each of us has within us.

Anyone who lives in Arlington, Sandgate, or Sunderland, or who went to Arlington Memorial High School, and will be attending college or graduate school in the Fall of 2022 is welcome to apply.

Scholarship applications (different for college and graduate school) can be found on the Federated Church's website, www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.com-scholarshipinfo.

Scholarship applications are due to the church office (102 Ice Pond Rd, Arlington, VT 05250) by April 15th, 2022, at which time they will be reviewed by the scholarship panel. The scholarship panel will contact potential recipients to schedule virtual interviews if deemed necessary. Scholarships funds will be awarded after transcripts depicting a successful semester have been submitted to the church office. Any and all who meet the requirements should apply!

"7 Things you should never say in church"

Take the Pledge!

Over the course of many conversations with church leaders, I hear some phrases that make me cringe. So below is a whimsical, but I hope truthful collection of phrases that I never want you to say in church. I hope you will take the pledge to never repeat these!

- 1) "Everyone I know goes to church": With less than 20% of people in this country going to church anywhere, it is a statement that usually reflects a fear of invitation. If it is true for members, then they need to get out and expand their circle of acquaintances.**
- 2) "I remember when...": This is usually followed by a litany of stories about a previous pastor or what life was like in 1955. Jesus said we can't look back and plow the field (Luke 9:62). We have to look forward to be effective today.**
- 3) "I can't wait until we resume the (rummage sale, church fair, Apple Blossom festival, etc.)": Most of these large, fund-raising events take up tons of time and energy and do very little to further the mission of the church. We couldn't do these events during Covid, why re-start them?**
- 4) "I don't pledge to the church but I give my time": We should give our time and talent, but Jesus reminded us that our treasure and our heart are intertwined. Even if we can only give the "widow's mite", we need to give financially for our own spiritual growth.**
- 5) "Let's get back to "real" worship in person": Most of the world is online and if we are going to connect with people we need to be there as well. Online worship is real worship and if we do it well, it will help people grow in faith.**
- 6) "Wouldn't you like that 8 year term on stewardship (or C.E. or whatever)": More and more churches are streamlining their church structure, so that people may engage in ministry, rather than talking about ministry.**
- 7) "Why can't we just sing all of the old hymns?": As one writer said, listen to the Top 40 songs of today, listen to your hymns and then ask why younger generations aren't engaged by your worship.**

So, will you take the pledge with me to never say these 7 things in church? Your ministry and mission will be stronger for it.

Blessings,

Paul Nickerson

Nickersoncoaching.com

HOLY WEEK and EASTER 2022

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.		Sunday Service of Worship and Zoom
April 10	10:00 a.m.	Palm/Passion Sunday Service and Zoom
April 14	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service of Worship with Holy Communion and ending with Tenebrae extinguishing of candles, in person and via Zoom
April 15	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Church Sanctuary open for Good Friday prayer and reflection
April 16	9 a.m. sharp	Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 1-10 years old who are encouraged to bring a basket or bag for gathering eggs.
April 17	6:15 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service at Mack Headquarter followed by continental breakfast in Bailey Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Easter Sunday Service of Worship in person followed by fellowship time in Bailey Hall.
		All are invited to bring a goodie to share.

Easter Flowers/Plants

We all have the opportunity to make our sanctuary beautiful to celebrate the Risen Christ! by donating a potted flowering plant. In memory of _____
 Given by _____

If you would like someone to purchase a plant for you, give \$10.00 for each plant for Easter Sunday (checks to The Federated Church).

The plants can be brought to Bailey Hall on Friday, April 15th or Saturday, April 16th, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



Sunday, 4/10, 10:00 a.m.



Thursday, 4/14, 7:00 p.m.



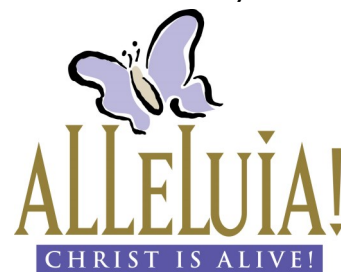
Friday, 4/15



Saturday, 9:00 a.m.



Sunday, 4/17, 6:15 a.m.



Easter Sunday, 4/17, 10:00

Worship With Us

Sundays in the Sanctuary in person, 10:00 a.m.

Masks optional

Also: via Zoom using this link:
<https://us02web.zom.us/j/89119439251>.

Or join by phone at 1-646-876-9923 and you will be asked for the Meeting ID and you should enter 891 1943 9251 followed by the # sign.

Our services are on GNAT Sundays at 9:30a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on channels 1074, 1084 and 1094 or go to the GNAT -TV website to view them anytime after Tuesday of each week.

Also on our Youtube channel: the federated church of East Arlington. There's a link on our website:

federatedchurchofeastarlington.org

Watch for an email from Kathy with the Sunday bulletin and link to join.

Sign-up Sheets in Bailey Hall

We need helpers to assist with our services.

Greeters – 2 per service

Readers – 1 per month, or share with another person

Refreshment time

Altar flowers after Easter Sunday

Many thanks to all volunteers!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

There will **not** be a Prayer Shawl gathering in April.

Have a happy and blessed Easter!

Jesus is Risen!

We pray that God will continue to bless this ministry, it's participants and the shawl recipients.

Many thanks to those who have made prayer shawls, lap robes, hats and mittens to be given out.

Yarn is available for anyone needs more to continue knitting and crocheting.

Questions?

Raebeth Hitchcock

375-9294

Adventures In Reading

8 members of Adventures In Reading met in person in Bailey Hall on March 23. We shared and discussed books read and books that will be recommended for 2022 - 2023 List. We enjoyed refreshments provided by Gail Rice and Phyllis Warren.

The next meeting will be in May. Please get your lists ready and turned in to Phyllis by May 15.

You can hand them to me, mail, or email them. To be a qualified reader, you must read one book from each list. The only acceptable substitutions are books of the same genre by another author on the list or books of the same group from an earlier Adventures in Reading List.

For books recommended, provide author, title, and possibly a short blurb.

Contributions to the Janet Wilson Fund at the Martha Canfield Library are appreciated. Funds will be used to purchase books from the 2022 - 2023 list that are not already owned by the Library. Books from the list can also be donated.

Happy Reading!

Phyllis Warren, Coordinator



Book Study (and, no, you do not need to know anything about it to participate)

Our study via Zoom happens on Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. We will meet each week during Lent. Feel free to join us any week you can. Here's the link that will be used each Friday morning:

Topic: Lent devotional book, "Good Enough" by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie.

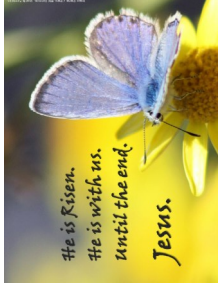
Time: Fridays at 9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91377329294>

*He is Risen
with a Speed*

April 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Dunlap Hall					1 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	2
3 One Great Hour Sharing collection 10a-Worship/Communion pick up your altar plants 11a-Fellowship time	4	5 12n-Senior Meals	6	7 12n-Senior Meals 2pm-Annie Howard's funeral and reception	8 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	9
10 10a-Worship 11a-Fellowship time *12p-G.S. Cadettes/Seniors	11	12 12n-Senior Meals	13	14 12n-Senior Meals 7p-Maundy Thursday Service	15 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	16 9:00am SHARP-Easter Egg Hunt, ages 1-10
17 He Is Risen 6:15a-Sunrise Service & continental breakfast 10a-Worship 11a-Fellowship time	18	19 12n-Senior Meals	20	21 12n-Senior Meals	22 Vermont Conference Annual Meeting on Zoom	23 12pm-Ken Nicholson memorial service Vermont Conference Annual Meeting on Zoom
24 10a-Worship & Sunday School 11a-Fellowship time 11:15a-Church Council 12p-G.S. Juniors *12p-G.S. Cadettes/Seniors	25	26 12n-Senior Meals	27	28 12n-Senior Meals	29	30 Italian Buffet Servings at 5pm & 6:30pm