

# The Federated Church of East Arlington



November 2022

## Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

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Cell 733-2162

Parsonage phone: 375-2427

*“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.” - Hebrews 13:2*

I write this while looking out at the still beautiful but fading fall colors along Ice Pond Road and the mountain beyond with my thoughts already turning to Advent. Maybe that’s because this year it begins on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend, and we can pretty much predict that our airwaves and newspapers and store shelves will be marching toward Christmas with a fury before the Halloween candy is eaten.

This Advent and Christmas season we will be focusing here at the Federated Church of East Arlington on angels. The theme for each week’s Worship as well as the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (on a Sunday this year) Services will be “Angels Among Us.” Each week we will explore the role that angels play in proclaiming the good news before and after the birth of Jesus. We will also devote our Advent Friday Book Study via Zoom to the book *The Angels of Christmas* by Susan Robb. The group is open to everyone and will meet at **9:00 a.m. on November 18, December 2, December 9, and December 16** (please note we will not meet on the day after Thanksgiving). If you would like a copy of the book ordered for you, please let me know via phone or email by **Sunday, November 6**. The cost of the book is \$17.00.

Of course, angels will also appear in two of our traditional Advent/Christmas celebrations. There will be an angel to create on **Sunday, December 4 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.** as part of our beloved Advent Workshop. We will also keep our eyes open for an angel or two on **Sunday, December 18** at our Christmas Pageant during the 10:00 a.m. Service of Worship.

You, too, will have the opportunity to be another type of angel by picking up a **Red Stocking**, available beginning Wednesday, Nov., 23rd or pick up on Sunday, Nov. 27th, to then buy and wrap a Christmas gift for a child here in our community. Attach the red stocking to the wrapped package and return on or before December 11th.

Let us hold dear then these words from the French poet and statesman, Alphonse de Lamartine, “To love for the sake of being loved is human, but to love for the sake of loving is angelic.”

Peace and blessings,

*Kathy*



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

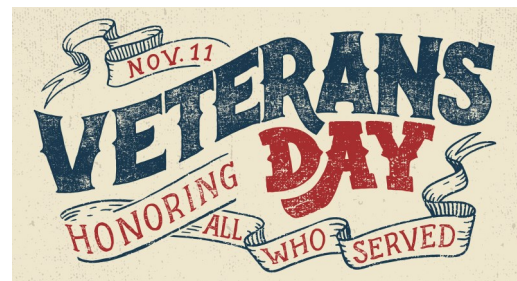
2022 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving 1/1/22-10/28/22	\$ 44,148.00
Building use 1/1/22-10/28/22	\$ 2,275.00
Fundraising 1/1/22-10/28/22	\$ 1,234.61
Capital Campaign as of 10/28	\$ 15,075.00
UCC Hurricanes 2022 Fund as of 10/28	\$ 600.00

*Thank you!*



### Church attendance

	Adults	Children
10/2	29	2
10/9		7
10/16	27	0
10/23	20	2
10/30		



### 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. Phyllis Warren	2. Linda McDevitt
Missions	Sandy Grover	1. Wendy Bahan	2. Gail Rice



### ARLINGTON AREA CHRISTMAS PROJECT

#### (RED STOCKING):

To take part in this Red Stocking Christmas Project.

Pick a red stocking in Bailey Hall, buy the gift, wrap it and return it on December 11th.

Write a check to the Arlington Area Christmas Project.

If you have questions or to donate, call Nathalie Caler at 375-6135.

Beginning Nov. 23 – take stocking from tree in Bailey Hall, sign on list, buy gift, wrap, **attach red stocking**

By Dec. 11 return gifts to worship, bring to office or Bailey Hall

Questions? Contact Nathalie Caler (802-375-6135)

#### Faith Is Not a Puzzle

Faith is not a puzzle  
but a mystery  
into which we are invited  
to enter and engage,

It's not about  
finding one right answer,  
but being found  
by better questions;

Not about competing  
for a prize,  
but building a community;

not about a ticket  
to a future paradise,  
but participating  
in love's unfolding now.

The question,  
"What are we afraid of losing?"  
Can only be eclipsed,  
and our souls and lives  
rerouted, by a question like,  
"what might we possibly find?"

Only the open,  
upturned palm  
can be filled with hope.

Let us dare to let  
our questions be changed.

2022 Todd Jenkins



#### Daylight Savings Time

Turn your clocks **BACK**



Saturday, November 5th

**November Birthdays**

16 – Cheryl Hess  
PO Box 88  
East Arlington, VT 05252



22 - Chet Kosciński  
52 Dutch Lane  
Arlington

**November Anniversaries**

16 – John & Cheryl Hess  
PO Box 88  
East Arlington, VT 05252

**Children & Youth**

14, 2010 Kayden Cole-Abel  
18, 2011 Ezra Barrios



# CHILDREN'S Sunday School

**Christian Education**

Sunday November 13th is Sunday School.

**Some dates to remember:**

Sunday December 4th from 2-4pm Advent Workshop  
Sunday December 11th-Sunday School Pageant Rehearsal  
Sunday December 18th-Christmas Pageant

juniors



Junior Meetings Sunday November 13th and Sunday November 20th-  
from Noon-1pm in Bailey Hall

**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.

**Nov. 6:** First Congregational Church of Fair Haven  
**Nov. 13:** First Congregational Church of Hubbardton  
**Nov. 20:** First Congregational Church of Manchester  
**Nov. 27:** Congregational Church of North Bennington

**Lectionary Readings for November**

**Nov. 6:** Haggai 1:15-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38  
**Nov. 13:** Malachi 4:1-2; Psalm 98  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19  
**Nov. 20:** Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46  
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43  
**Nov. 27:** Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

**November Helping Hands Needed**

We need helpers to assist with our services.

Greeters/usher – 1 per service

Readers – 1 per month, or share with someone

Altar flowers – each Sunday

Refreshment time – thanks to all who bring goodies to share and help clean up.





**Worship With Us in person and on Zoom**

**10:00 a.m.**

Masks optional

**Also:** via Zoom using this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.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.

[federatedchurchofeastarlington.org](http://federatedchurchofeastarlington.org)

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

**Adventures In Reading**

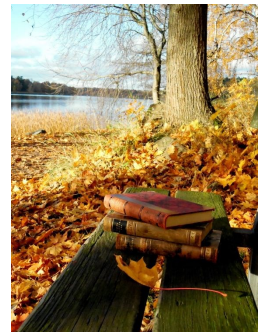
Nine of us met for Soup and Bread lunch/meeting. Thank you to Gail Rice, Karen Coy, and Liz Luca for their additions to the lunch. Thank you also to all who pitched in with set-up and clean-up. I think we all agreed that it was a success.

The next meeting will be in mid-January. If we meet in Bailey Hall, Tuesdays and Thursdays are off the schedule. Right now Mondays and Wednesdays are best for me. Check your schedules and make suggestions.

Please be sure to vote! H

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

*Phyllis*



**VOTE**

**In the White Mailbox and on**

**“Do Something” table in Bailey Hall**

November Newsletter

The November/December UPPER ROOM devotional, “Where the World Meets to Pray”



**KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.**

We will gather together on Saturday,

November 19th at 11:30 a.m.

Bring your lunch; coffee and tea provided.

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, mittens, scarves to be given out.

There is plenty of yarn in Bailey Hall if anyone needs more to continue knitting and crocheting.

Raebeth Hitchcock

375-9294

**Arlington Area Food Shelf 2022**

The Arlington Food Shelf

P.O. Box 723

Arlington, VT 05250

510 pounds donated

Please donate non-perishable food.

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



## AdventWord releases daily prompt words for 2022!

Forward Movement has announced the 2022 reflection words for AdventWord, a global online advent calendar and community of disciples. For nearly a decade AdventWord has inspired followers of Jesus who wish to add an accessible prayer practice to their daily routine during this holy season.

Daily meditations and images—inspired by a prompt word selected from the daily lectionary readings—will be released at [adventword.org](https://adventword.org), beginning Sunday, November 27.

Participants can sign up to receive this daily message, in English and Spanish, by email or by following AdventWord on social media.

Many followers join the creativity each year by sharing their own personal reflections across social media using #AdventWord. Participants respond with photos, written responses, crafts, drawings, poems, found art, and other creative expressions inspired by the day's selected word.

"This year we enlisted volunteer community members to help with the selection of prompt words from the daily lectionary readings," said Richelle Thompson, managing editor at Forward Movement. "The online gathering of dozens of AdventWord community members was an inspiring way to kick off the planning for 2022 and a strong reminder that AdventWord is community-driven."

[www.AdventWord.org](https://www.AdventWord.org)

[www.instagram.com/adventword](https://www.instagram.com/adventword)

[www.twitter.com/AdventWord](https://www.twitter.com/AdventWord)

[www.facebook.com/AdventWordOrg](https://www.facebook.com/AdventWordOrg)

[AdventWord@forwardmovement.org](mailto:AdventWord@forwardmovement.org)

**AdventWord**  
NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 25  
**2022**

27	WALK	12	WILDERNESS
28	TOGETHER	13	STRANGER
29	TEACH	14	BELOVED
30	MOUNTAINS	15	THIRSTY
1	MAKE	16	TRAVELER
2	READY	17	MAJESTY
3	UNITY	18	PURIFY
4	DELIGHT	19	SIGN
5	RAIN	20	HEAR
6	WELCOME	21	OBEDIENCE
7	WINNOWING	22	CHOOSE
8	BREATHE	23	RESTORE
9	FIRE	24	BIRTH
10	FLOURISH	25	EMMANUEL
11	MESSENGER		

adventword.org 

## Pastor Search Committee Update

The pastor search committee has been meeting regularly since late August.

Members Donna Stone, Karen Tibbetts, Karen Underhill, and Christy Wood have been plowing through lots of preliminaries and gathering data so we can develop a job description and package on our church for prospective candidates.

We've been attending to what kind of minister we want, too. That, of course, is a question for the entire congregation.

To that end, we're assembling focus groups for November and early December.

Each member of the church will be invited to a discussion group of about eight people facilitated by two search committee members. The groups will meet in Bailey Hall. We're aiming for an open conversation lasting 90 minutes or so and addressing the following questions:

What gives you satisfaction at church?

What are our strengths and challenges?

Who are we as a church family, and who is God calling us to be?

What qualities are you looking for in a minister?

In the next week or so, everyone will get an invitation to a session. We want to keep the groupings small but we also want everyone's opinion. Rest assured, then, they'll be flexibility if you can't make the date on your invitation. Since some members are shut-ins, we'll be doing personal visits here and there.

We're scheduling two groups, one on November 13 and the other on November 20 to occur right after church. We'll schedule others in the next few days, aiming at different times to accommodate those for whom Sunday morning isn't best. Onward and upward!

Brian Allen

### From the Pastor Parish Relations Panel:

The Pastor Relations Panel (PPRP) is your church committee that seeks to support and maintain an open and healthy relationship between the pastor and members of our congregation. One of the main ways we can do this is to hear from you, the congregation. If you have any issues you feel we should be aware of or any comments regarding our pastor or any other church-wide issues, please email or contact one of the listed panel members.

Peace,

Susan Wirkki at [susan@wirkki.org](mailto:susan@wirkki.org)

Karen Tibbetts at [ktibbs103@gmail.com](mailto:ktibbs103@gmail.com)

Brian Allen at [Briantallengnyc@gmail.com](mailto:Briantallengnyc@gmail.com)

Sunday, November 20th we will do our Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for those who've died in the past year as part of the Service of Worship.

### Mission Team Report

Your mission team continues to collect for Holy Joe's Café each Sunday at fellowship time. Holy Joe's Café is an organization formed to supply our military chaplains with coffee and related products that helps them have conversations with service persons.

We will match your donations to UCC Hurricanes 22 fund to help those affected by disasters here and around the world.

We are available to help those in Arlington, Sunderland and Sandgate needing assistance.

Sandy Grover at [sandragrover@gmail.com](mailto:sandragrover@gmail.com)

Wendy Bahan at [sjcwl@yahoo.com](mailto:sjcwl@yahoo.com)

Gail Rice at [tiggyrice11@gmail.com](mailto:tiggyrice11@gmail.com)



## 21st TSC Chaplains Keep Coffee and Conversation Flowing with Holy Joe's

By Eleanor Prohaska October 14, 2022

The 21st Theater Sustainment Command Chaplain, Col. Stanton Trotter, knows how to get Soldiers' attention. He tries to always have candy at his desk, donuts at special events, and hot coffee wherever chaplains are near.

"Many times a Soldier will come for a cup a coffee to a coffee ministry sponsored by a chaplain and pour a fresh cup of coffee, linger over the joy of the libation, and then turn to the chaplain and say, 'Chaplain, as long as I am here, I would like talk with you about something. Do you have a minute?'" said Trotter.

The 21st TSC chaplains got a boost to their coffee supply last month, from the nonprofit organization Holy Joe's, which donated 16 pallets of coffee for distribution throughout Germany and forward operating sites in Poland.

Trotter and Holy Joe's have a decade-long track record, going back to when Trotter was deployed to Afghanistan in 2012, and Holy Joe's supplied coffee for the Spiritual Resiliency Center at Bagram Air Base.

Thousands of free cups of Holy Joe's coffee are served to U.S. troops in 70 countries throughout the world each day. Holy Joe's founder and executive director Thomas Jastermsky estimates they have supplied more than two billion cups of coffee to Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, Special Forces and the Coast Guard since their modest beginnings in 2006.

"We are happy to be of service through the chaplains," said Jastermsky. "It's more than just a cup of coffee. People can connect with the chaplains if they are going through something heavy, and know that it will be confidential. It also lets Service Members know that people back home are thinking of them."

Jastermsky added that Holy Joes allows individuals and organizations that do not necessarily have a military affiliation, show their support for Service Members and their families. "As a civilian, it's my way of giving back," he said, acknowledging the tremendous support Holy Joe's receives from businesses that share that commitment.

It is a commitment that keeps coffee and conversations flowing.

"Think of the amount of connections this will allow for chaplains to talk with soldiers in many coffee connection ministries," said Trotter. "Holy Joe's, and all of the corporations that donate goods and services, continue to be a blessing to our chaplains and Soldiers."








# November 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10a-Worship/ Communion in person and on Zoom person and on Zoom 11a-Fellowship time	7	8 12n-Senior Meals	9 3-4:30p-Serenity Singers	10 12n-Senior Meals	11	12
13 10a-Worship in person and on Zoom and Sunday School 11a-Fellowship time 12p-Junior Girl Scouts	14	15 12n-Senior Meals	16 3-4:30p-Serenity Singers	17 12n-Senior Meals	18 9a- Book study "The Angels of Christmas"	19 11:30a-Prayer Shawl Ministry
20 10a-Service of Thanksgiving and Re- membrance in person and on Zoom 11a-Fellowship time 11:15a-Church council	21	22 12n-Senior Meals 7p-Interfaith Thanksgiving Ser- vice at Zion Epis- copal Church, Manchester	23 Red stockings available in office 3-4:30p-Serenity Singers	24 	25	26
27 10a- Worship in person and on Zoom 11a-Fellowship time 12p-Junior Girl Scouts	28	29 12n-Senior Meals	30 3-4:30p-Serenity Singers			