

The Federated Church of East Arlington



February 2019

Inside This Issue

Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

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This is a sunrise photograph, taken by a member of the Arlington Rescue Squad. The sight you see is the Arlington Rec Park on the day after the heavy rains that then froze when the temperatures dropped dramatically. In the foreground of this beautiful picture is the bright spot as it is the one place where the ice was wanted - the ice skating rink. This image brings me back to my very first winter in our new town of Clifton Park when I was nine years old. I distinctly remember skating on the pond next to the golf course in the heart of our housing development. It was nighttime and they had skates for us newbies to borrow. There were a lot of kids but also many adults who oversaw those of us who tiptoed cautiously onto the ice. They were there to help pick us up from our repeated falls and it was glorious. We were safe because folks were looking out for us, people who didn't laugh at our clumsy moves and who were happy to let us begin by holding our mittened hands in theirs and guiding us until we could go it alone.

Kindness in the midst of a cold and hard world is something each of us is capable of extending. In the midst of the widening gulf within our nation, folks attach themselves to one side or the other, convinced that they are right and the other side is misguided at best or just plain wrong at worst. The ability to offer simple acts of kindness without questions or assurances that the recipient is deserving may be what saves us from a complete breakdown in communication. To seek out opportunities for kindness each day - letting a great parking space go to a stranger, leaving the quarter in the shopping cart at Aldi's when finished with it, sending a positive

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Please submit your articles for the March 2019 issue of the newsletter by

February, 20th

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!

The Federated Church of East Arlington

Report of the Financial Secretary, Sandra Grover

2019 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving Received 1/1-1/30	\$ 1,933.00
Building Use 1/1-1/31	\$ 628.00
Fundraising	\$ 0.00

Thank You!



Church attendance

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>
1/6	20	0
1/13	30	3
1/20	No worship-snow storm	
1/27	20	3

YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 3, 2019

Following worship with soup and bread lunch

VERY IMPORTANT

Vote on proposed 2019 budget with potential significant cuts

Sincerely

Sue Congdon, Council Chair

My home phone number is 802-442-9574

Our Church Council

Chair	Susan Congdon		
Treasurer	Alyson Grzyb		
Clerk	Tammy Lang		
Ex Officio	Pastor Kathy Clark		
Building & Grounds	Charlie Jenks	1. Olavi Wirkki	2.
Education	Anne Marie Webber	1. Bernice Gaudette	2. Fred Kerner
Finance	Brian Allen	1. Herb Taylor	2. Raebeth Hitchcock
Worship & Ministry	Fred Kerner	1. Linda McDevitt	2. Phyllis Warren
Missions & Outreach	Sandy Grover	1. Wendy Bahan	2. Jen Rosenthal

February birthdays

- 2 – Anne Marie Webber
- 5 – Gina Shaler
- 10 – Olavi Wirkki
- 15 – Sue Wirkki
- Jen King
- Maria Cornwell
- 21 – Martha Cornwell
- 22 – Carol Thompson
- 26 – Andrew McKeever
- 26 – Michael Welther



February anniversaries



Fellowship/Coffee Hour

- February 3:** Annual Meeting-soup and bread lunch
- February 10:**
- February 17:**
- February 24:**

Altar Flowers

- February 3:** Brian Allen
- February 10:** Ginny Wilkins
- February 17:** Dot Koscinski
- February 24:**

**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.

- February 3:** First Congregational Church of Manchester
- February 10:** Congregational Church of North Bennington
- February 17:** Pawlet Community Church
- February 24:** Peru Congregational Church

February Helping Hands

- Lay Reader:** Janet Wilson
- Council Member:**
- February 3:**
Usher: Alyson Grzyb
Communion Servers: Karen Underhill, Sandy Grover
Greeter: Michelanne Sylvester
Sunday School Teacher:
Sunday School Helper:
- February 10:**
Usher:
Greeter: Karen Underhill
Sunday School Teacher:
Sunday School Helper:
- February 17:**
Usher:
Greeter: Ginny Wilkins
Sunday School Teacher:
Sunday School Helper:
- February 24**
Usher: Karen Underhill
Greeter: Linda McDevitt



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Lectionary Readings for February

- February 3:** Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6
I Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30
- February 10:** Isaiah 6:1-8, 9-13; Psalm 138
I Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11
- February 17:** Jeremiah 17:5-10;; Psalm 1
I Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26
- February 24:** Genesis 45:3-11,15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
I Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

Missions and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach team continues to be available to consider requests that come into the church.

We are thankful to be of assistance when our neighbors are in need and thankful for you, our church family.

Sandra Grover
Wendy Bahan
Jen Rosenthal



Offering Envelopes/ Contribution Statements

Offering envelopes for 2019 are available in Bailey. Please take a box and write your name on the numbered list.

Please let me know how you would like your contribution statement for 2018 delivered to you: email, Bailey Hall, office or mailed.

You can contact me any time to get an update of your giving.

Sandy Grover,

Financial Secretary

sandragrover@gmail.com, 375-4982



(continued from page 1)

comment to the supervisor of the person that fixed your car or bagged your groceries and countless other small gestures - may not get you any recognition but will make a small dent in the mountain of negativity and divisiveness that is tearing our nation apart.

It was the humanitarian and philosopher Albert Schweitzer who offered that, "Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate." Kindness is at the heart of our shared tradition as church. To be known as a kind place is to acknowledge that each of us has something to offer and that all are to be treated as beloved children of God. Imagine a world where kindness was the first consideration. We can be part of creating such a world.

As winter's cold settles in for this shortest of months here in Vermont, may we each commit to warm hearts with daily acts of kindness, offered in the name of our great teacher Jesus.

Peace and blessings,

Kathy



A quote from a Christmas card FCEA received this year:

"It seems you are kept busy helping those who are down on their luck and low in spirit or championing causes like immigrant rights. Your dedication to your faith is admirable. You are shining examples of Christianity. The world will not be saved by politicians or scientists or even popes. It is through the efforts of good people like you that the current atmosphere of fear, hate and greed will be replaced by peace, love and understanding! It is an honor to know you and send my warmest regards."

ADVENTURES IN READING

One of Dear Abby’s “keepers”:

A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH

Tobi Gruber

I am full of wisdom, humor, tears, passion and love. I am that which is held tightly to the breast, lightly on the lap, peered at, sighed over and remembered. I bring you foolish fancies; I bring friendship to the lonely. I take you with me to the far reaches of the earth from India to China, to Mars, to Venus, and probe into the habits of chimpanzees.

I reach into your mind; I show you things that are unbelievable and make you believe them. You must treasure me, protect me: I give you a knowledge of life you never dreamed of. Don’t desecrate me; I fill the empty places of your life. I give myself to you gladly; seek me out and find me—I am a **BOOK**.

The next get-together to tell about our readings:

March 2, 2019 at my home in Sunderland—10:15 a.m.

Janet S. Wilson
Coordinator

GRANGE BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 17, 2019

7:30—9:30 a.m.

The Federated Church of East Arlington
Bailey Hall



Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy, biscuits, home fries, juice, coffee, tea.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Saturday, February 16, 2019

11:30 a.m. Bailey Hall

Bring your lunch.

Coffee and Tea provided

Bring your knitting, crocheting or handiwork.

Questions?

Speak with Rae-

beth Hitchcock



WARNING

2018 ANNUAL MEETING

To discuss the business of the church
In Bailey Hall immediately following worship
over a soup and bread lunch.

February 3, 2019

- Acceptance of Reports
- Vote on proposed 2019 budget with
potential significant cuts
- Vote on nominations
- Other business

Please plan to attend. We need everyone's input.

Absentee ballots are available

In Bailey Hall, from Kathy or Sandy.



Online Giving

Our church offers electronic giving, which allows you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. If you are writing checks and preparing envelopes each week, you will especially appreciate electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for our church. Just let our financial secretary, Sandy Grover 375-4982, know you are interested or contact her at the church office, 375-2548.

Bring your own cup or mug

There is a tray on the pass through counter in the kitchen.

You are welcome to bring your own coffee cup or mug to use each Sunday at Fellowship/Coffee time and it will be placed on the tray after being washed.



REACHING NEW PEOPLE – A team of clergy and lay people receive a day of intensive, practical, hands-on training on how growing congregations reach new people. Topics include:

- How 1955 strategies no longer work.
- How to re-introduce the church to the community
- How to develop a culture of invitation in the congregation

We hope to have a team of 4 or more for this workshop. Contact Pastor Kathy for more information or to register to attend on Saturday, February 9th in Springfield, VT.

“Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.”



“We, the members of the Federated Church of East Arlington, declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming and Reconciling congregation. With God’s help, we include all persons in our fellowship, embracing and celebrating differences of gender identity, marital status, age, mental and physical ability, and sexual orientation, as well as racial, ethnic and socio-economic background. We welcome into our community everyone who seeks to share in the work and worship of the church of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

Consider automating your regular donations with our new **electronic giving** program.

The Federated Church of East Arlington relies on the financial support of the congregation and donations – electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis. Visit the church office for more information or go to our webpage at

www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.org

or scan the qr code.

Thank you!

CLIPBOARDS NEED NAMES

- Choir Ushers Communion Servers
- Fellowship/Coffee Hour Altar
- Sunshine Flowers Nursery Assistants
- Sunday School Teachers and Helpers
- Special times of need: dinners, etc.

We are a family, we love each other,
we need each other,
we are loved by God.



Arlington Area Food Shelf

2019



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

WEBSITE NEWS

federatedchurchofeastarlington.org

If you would like to add anything (pictures, articles) to the website or have suggestions, contact

Sue Wirkki, 375-9471 sue@wirkki.org

Like the Federated Church of East Arlington on Facebook.



FROM THE OFFICE

If you know of a prayer request to add or change in the bulletin, please let the office know by Thursday.

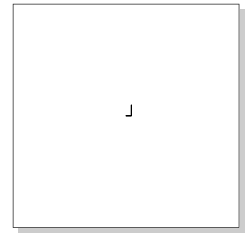
Thank you, Sandy



The Federated Church of East Arlington

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Visit us on Facebook

The mission of The Federated Church of East Arlington is to welcome all, follow Jesus Christ together, and live God's Word with compassionate service.



February 2019 Newsletter

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SAVE THESE FEBRUARY DATES

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2/3 | 10:00 a.m.-Worship/Communion
11:00 a.m.-Soup & Bread lunch
ANNUAL MEETING —important
vote on budgets. |
| 2/4 | 4:00 p.m.—Funeral Service for
Darryl Davis at FCEA |
| 2/16 | 11:30 a.m.-Prayer Shawl Ministry |
| 2/17 | 7:30-9:30 a.m.-Grange Breakfast |