

The Federated Church of East Arlington



April 2019

Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

email: ksclark58@yahoo.com

Cell 733-2162

Parsonage phone: 375-2427

Once again Holy Week and Easter will take us on the roller coaster ride from celebration to betrayal to humiliation and suffering to death and burial and ultimately the glory of resurrection. In many ways it covers in a single week the wide ranging experiences that are happening in lives around the world on any given day. Few of us may ever personally go through such drama in seven days but in encapsulating some of the best and worst of humankind, Jesus is taking us through the depths and heights that are our shared experience of what life is about. We as church together will go through the highs and lows of these accounts that we know so well and so I would invite you to be with us for any and all of Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and then Easter itself at both sunrise and again at 10:00 a.m. From Palm/Passion Sunday through Easter we will make the journey of everyday experiences and the range of emotions that make up a given week. Maybe for this Holy Week, we could rest in each day, finding the added meaning of our story in light of Jesus's and then come together on Easter Sunday to once again raise our Alleluias.

May these words of blessing, these beatitudes, based on the sayings of Jesus on the cross also known as the Seven Last Words, offer you a boarding pass onto this flight we call Holy Week that we will take together:

Beatitudes for very particular people

"I thirst."

Blessed are active and recovering alcoholics –
and all who come out of surgery
and are longing for that swab,
those ice chips,
for they will find living water.

"Truly, I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Blessed are those who are incarcerated –
sleeping it off one night
or looking at mandatory life,
those in brigs and immigration detention centers,
county jails, maximum security, house arrest,
witness protection, or probation,
for they are promised Paradise.

"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani"

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Blessed are the forsaken ones –
the depressed and despairing,
the suicides
and those who love them –
for their cries are heard.

"Woman, here is your son." "Here is your mother."

Blessed is anyone who accepts another's child
by adoption or fostering,
through mentoring or teaching or coaching.
Bless the aunts and uncles,
the neighbors and case workers,
the friend of the family,
or friend in spite of the family.

Blessed is anyone who cares for another's parent,
or nobody comes to visit this elder,
because the ex isn't doing it
or the old coot, crabby naomi, whiner
has pushed everyone away.

Blessed are these for they do God a favor.

"Abba, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Blessed are all of us who make mistakes,
who choose the wrong side,
of something large or insignificant,
who think the crown-of-ethnic joke is funny,
who hear the rooster crow – coward,
who roll the dice of being a soldier
and it comes up PTSD,
who wash our hands of something
we could have changed,
who are caught in a crowd
and hear ourselves yell some hate or hurt,
for we are forgiven anyway.

"Abba, into your hands I commit my spirit."

Blessed are those who are in hospice today,
at home or in hospice houses,
and all of those who care for them –
family and friends,
volunteers and home health aides,
nurse practitioners and drivers,
doctors and chaplains,
for their spirits are in God's hands.

"It is finished"

Blessed are those who have died this year,
for them it has begun.

Peace and blessings,
Kathy

<https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/2013/03/29/beattudes-from-famous-last-words/>

The Federated Church of East Arlington

Report of the Financial Secretary, Sandra Grover

2019 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving Received 1/1-3/29	\$ 15,813.00
Building Use 1/1-3/29	\$ 1,533.65
Fundraising	\$ 0.00

Thank You!



Church attendance

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>
3/3	29	4
3/10	13	0
3/17	37	11
3/24	27	4
3/31		

Please submit your articles for the May 2019 issue of the newsletter by
April 20th
 Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!



Your Church Council

As we start the budget at the beginning of March we are still on a learning curve. Pastor Kathy will be taking Monday and Tuesday off. She is also cutting back on some of her outside activities.

We are looking for help this summer for the Summer Lunch Program on Monday and Tuesday. Sandy Grover or Pastor Kathy can give you all the info as what is needed to be done.

The stove and hood in Bailey Hall will be cleaned which is much needed. We are also starting a Capital Campaign for the Church Steeple.

Easter is coming and the Easter bunny will be here with Easter Eggs on April 20th. So bring in the candy that is wrapped and small to put in eggs.

Peace be with you

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	Olavi Wirkki	1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Jeff McConnell
Education	Anne Marie Webber	1. Bernice Gaudette	2.
Finance	Brian Allen	1. Herb Taylor	2. Raebeth Hitchcock
Worship & Ministry	Ginny Wilkins	1. Linda McDevitt	2. Phyllis Warren
Missions & Outreach	Sandy Grover	1. Wendy Bahan	2. Gail Rice

April birthdays

- 6 – Al Clayton
- 9 – Raymond Grover
- 13 – Phyllis Warren
- 15 – Christopher Daniels
- 20 – Annie Howard
- 21 – Ward Wilson
- 25 – Arianna Barrios



April Anniversaries

- 2 – Virginia & Francis Wilkins



April Helping Hands

Lay Reader: Jeff McConnell

Council Member:

April 7:

Usher:

Communion Servers: Karen Underhill, Ginny Wilkins,

Greeter: Michelanne Sylvester

Sunday School Teacher: Tammy Lang

Helper: Scott Lang

April 14:

Usher:

Greeter: Karen Underhill

Sunday School Teacher: Helper:

April 21:

Usher:

Greeter: Ginny Wilkins

Sunday School Teacher: Helper:

April 28

Usher:

Greeter: Linda McDevitt

Sunday School Teacher: Helper:

Altar: Gail Rice and Sue Wirkki

Sunshine: Karen Underhill

Lenten Altar display by Dianne and Jeff McConnell

Fellowship/Coffee Hour

April 7:

April 14:

April 21: Bring a goodie to share

April 28:

Altar Flowers

April 7: Lent

April 14: Lent

April 21: Easter flowers from congregation

April 28:



**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 7: United Church of West Rutland

April 14: Second Congregational Church of Bennington

April 21: United Church of Benson

April 28: Brandon Congregational Church

Lectionary Readings for April

April 7: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4-14; John 12:1-8

April 14: Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56

April 21: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18

April 28: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29
Revelations 1:4-8; John 20:19-31



FAITH AND NATURE CAMP

Held at a lovely rural farm setting with nearby woods and water.

Curriculum consists of outdoor skills, environmental stewardship, and fun.

Sponsored by Southwest Association of the VT UCC

Committee on Spirituality and Education

When: Monday thru Friday, June 24-28 from 9-3 each day

Pick-up and drop-off from your church will be earlier and later than this time

Where: 30 Orchard Rd in Middletown Springs, VT

Who: Children 7-14 years old

Fee: \$75 per child

Scholarships are available – Please contact Jane LoBrutto dorsetchurch@gmail.com

Faith and Nature Camp includes activities that:

- Help children value and appreciate the sanctity of our natural resources.
- Integrate the creative process in nature as spiritual.
- Teach ways to conserve our precious & limited natural resources in our daily lives. Ultimately nature and humanity are locked in a unity that nurtures a more whole some & healthy life: body and soul.

Activities Will Include:

- Crafts
- Worship
- Music
- Outdoor games, activities, and projects

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR APPLICATION AND DETAILS

CAMP REGISTRATI ON

If you have any questions and to register, please contact Jane LoBrutto at the Dorset Church 802-867-2260 or dorsetchurch@gmail.com. Applications and checks made out to **Southwest Association**, may be mailed to:

FAITH AND NATURE CAMP

c/o Dorset Church

PO Box 263

Dorset, VT 05251

Child's Name: _____

Age: _____ DOB: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____

Affiliated Church: _____

Any allergies or special needs that we should be aware of:

There will be a more detailed camper packet that will be sent out when it gets closer to camp.

Children will need to bring a bag lunch daily

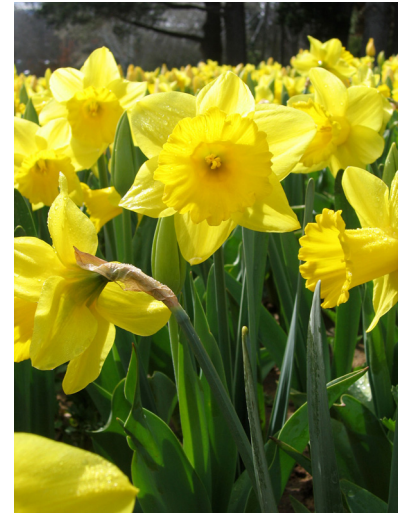
ADVENTURES IN READING

Those attending our March 2nd get together were Ginny Wilkins, Gail Rice, Lynn Friberg, Kathy Clark, Nancy Schoerke, Raebeth Hitchcock, Marie Davies and Phyllis Warren. As usual, there was fun, insights on books preferred and books borrowed from our Pastor Kathy Clark and books returned to her as well.

A reminder—your annual report is due by May 15th.

With April upon us:

The daffodil rises in Spring
This flower, a beautiful thing,
It trumpets new life
For all to see, it's
God's blessing for you and me.



Janet S. Wilson
Coordinator



GRANGE BREAKFAST

Sunday, **April 28**, 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, April 20, 2019

11:30 a.m. Bailey Hall

Bring your lunch,

Coffee and Tea provided

Bring your knitting, crocheting or handiwork.

Questions?

Speak with Raebeth Hitchcock



“Adopt a Night”

BCCH (Bennington Coalition for the Homeless)
 “Working Together, Making a Difference”

“Adopt a Night” initiative. \$235 to adopt a night provides a night of warm shelter, food, and supportive services to up to 52 men, women and children. We, FCEA, will adopt Easter night. To donate towards the \$235, put your check in the collection plate, give check or cash to Financial Secretary, Sandy Grover or send to the church office. Thank you. We have someone who will anonymously match your gifts (to \$235). Thanks for your match.

\$300 donated as of 3/29 means we can adopt 2 nights because of the anonymous match and have \$65 towards a third night. We are awesome! Thanks you God.

BCCH
 Adopt-a-Night



Thank You, LORD!

**Join your neighbors at the
 Northshire’s Interfaith
 Seder!**

This is a marvelous community event sponsored by the Interfaith Council of the Northshire and hosted by Israel Congregation of Manchester.

When: Sunday evening, April 7th
 Time: 6:00 pm
 Where: Israel Congregation of Manchester
 6025 Main Street
 Manchester Center, VT

RSVP by April 1st as seats are limited!
 802-362-4578

The next Interfaith Seder will be in two years—so don’t miss out on this wonderful community-wide event led by Cantor Buckner



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.



The Federated Church of East Arlington

“More than we can imagine”

One Great Hour of Sharing® is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ and the United Methodist Church (UMCOR) that supports disaster, refugee, and development actions.

The offering date for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering in 2019 is **Sunday, April 7.**

“Now to God be the glory, wo by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine.” Ephesians 3:20

God is most tangibly present in this world where people hunger, thirst, lack adequate clothing and shelter, and are sick or imprisoned. Christ claims people who suffer as family members.

Christ is so present in them that when you feed the hungry, care for the sick, welcome the stranger—you feed, and care for, and welcome Christ.

When you give through OGHS to those who suffer from natural disasters, war, or systematic poverty, you let them know they are loved.

Easter Flowers

We all have the opportunity to make our sanctuary beautiful to celebrate the Risen Christ!

I will bring a potted flowering plant. In memory of _____

Given by _____

I will give \$_____ for flowers to be purchased for Easter Sunday (checks to The Federated Church, suggested \$10 per plant)

I will make a donation to the Pastor’s Fund: In memory of or in honor of _____

Given by _____

(Checks to be made out to “The Pastor’s Fund”)

The plants can be brought to Bailey Hall on Friday, April 19th or Saturday, April 20th, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY –

There is a basket in Bailey Hall for individually wrapped candy (small enough to fit in the plastic eggs) for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 20th at 9:00 a.m.



Scholarships Available to Arlington, Sandgate and Sunderland Students

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 2019 is welcome to apply.

Scholarship applications (different for college and graduate school) can be found on the Federated Church's website, www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.org, under the scholarship info tab.

Scholarship applications are due to the church office by April 15th, 2019, at which time they will be reviewed by the scholarship panel. The scholarship panel will contact potential recipients to schedule face-to-face interviews. 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!



What do people see on your face?

Much of the public has an image of church people being serious, stern and in some cases, down right grouchy! What would it be like if the public saw us with smiles on our faces? Now, I don't mean we should put on some sort of fake, sickly-sweet smile (that is as big a turnoff as a stern face!) . I am talking about a genuine smile that comes from a place of deep joy. After all, we Christians do claim that it is Good News, so shouldn't our faces reflect that reality?

When we walk around with a smile it reflects a joyful soul. And of course the reverse is true. We have all been around people who seem to always have a furrowed brow and grim expressions . We get drained by such people and try to get away from them. But imagine, if from a place grace and knowing we are God's beloved, we smiled more. Edward Hays, in his book Chasing Joy, talked about the practice of smiling that has a profound effect on us and others:

"Experiment with smiling frequently throughout your day; upon entering the supermarket and while shopping; waiting for stalled traffic to move again; or upon entering a room. Smile frequently also when you are working alone and see if you don't begin to experience the joy of life".

I imagine you see any number of people in the course of a week. What a gift you can give them with a smiling face and warm expression. In a world with less and less community, your effort to live joyfully can make all the difference. To quote Ed Hays once more: *"To those hungry for welcome and acceptance, a smiling face is food and drink".*

Go and feed someone this week with a smile and welcome spirit.

Paul Nickerson

Nickersoncoaching

The Federated Church of East Arlington

Missions and Outreach

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

We are thankful for you, our church family, who make it possible for us to be of assistance when our neighbors are in need.

Sandra Grover
Wendy Bahan
Gail Rice

Thank You

Worship and Ministry

The Worship and Ministry Team would like to thank all those who assist in the ministry of our wonderful church family during worship. Please continue to volunteer to serve God in this way.

We are open to suggestions to enhance our worship time.

Ginny Wilkins
Phyllis Warren
Linda McDevitt



THE 224TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERMONT CONFERENCE 2019



This year's meeting format will differ a bit from that of years past. Our keynoter, Rev. Rob Voyle, incorporates workshops into his presentations. For this reason, there will be one, instead of two, workshop sessions. We are excited to bring Rev. Voyle, a leader in Appreciative Inquiry to the Vermont Conference with this special format.

Annual Meeting is April 26 - 27, 2019 at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, VT.

To make lodging reservations, call Lake Morey Resort at 800-423-1211 and ask for the Vermont Conference group rate.

Visit our website for information for Annual Meeting

Vtcucc.org

Pastor Kathy will be attending and would be happy to provide a ride.
Some financial support is available to attend.

"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."

Let your
Light So Shine
 before men, that
 they may see your **GOOD WORKS,**
 AND *Glorify* your **FATHER**
 which is in **Heaven.**

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

Total to date: 117 pounds



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.

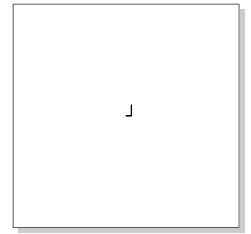
Thank you, Sandy



The Federated Church of East Arlington

102 Ice Pond
Arlington, Vermont 05250
802-375-2548
federatedchurch05250@gmail.com
www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.org
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.



April 2019 Newsletter

SAVE THESE APRIL DATES

Upcoming Events at the Federated Church

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|--|
| March 24- | | Sunday worship of service and church school for children followed by fellowship time in Bailey Hall. |
| April 14 | 10:00 a.m. | One Great Hour of Sharing offering |
| April 7 | | Palm/Passion Sunday |
| April 14 | | |
| April 18 | 6:00 p.m. | Maundy Thursday Simple Soup Supper |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service of Worship |
| April 19 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Church Sanctuary open for Good Friday prayer and reflection |
| April 20 | 9:00 a.m. | Easter Egg Hunt-Bring a basket or bag |
| April 21 | 6:00 a.m. | Easter Sunrise Service at Mack Headquarters followed by continental breakfast in Bailey Hall |
| | 10.00 a.m. | Easter Sunday Service of Worship followed by fellowship time in Bailey Hall to which folks are invited to bring a goodie to share. |

