

The Federated Church of East Arlington



March 2020

Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

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Cell 733-2162

Parsonage phone: 375-2427

Shakespeare famously asked “What’s in a name?” and I will throw it back to all of you. If you’ve been near the church in the last couple of weeks you will see that the front porch of the parsonage has been totally redone. The foundation under the porch was deteriorating from the water runoff so, under the leadership of Olavi Wirkki, new footings and a whole new porch were constructed and soon will be fronted and then some of the sidewalk replaced in front. This is all good and necessary work that is visible to any passerby (and much appreciated by the two of us who live in the parsonage).

What haven’t been visible are the cleaning out efforts (Church Council members) and repainting (Jeff and Diane McConnell) and spiffing up (Ginny Wilkins) of the space previously known as the Christian Education Office and before that it was the Church Office. Now that we have the space prepared for small groups to use (and they’ve already started meeting there), we need a new more appropriate name for it. Calling it the C.E. Office doesn’t cut it because we now use Dunlap Hall for that purpose and more. Soon new concrete steps will be poured leading up to it and it’s time for a new identity.

To this end, we will take suggestions for a new name for the space. If you’d like inspiration and haven’t yet seen it, please stop by after Worship any Sunday or whenever the Church Office is open and take a peek. It is bright and sunny and a wonderful place for groups of 8 or fewer to meet. Please call in or drop off your name suggestions during this month and who knows maybe you will have bragging rights when you come up with its new identity!

Our theme during Worship throughout Lent is “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” The work and faith of Mr. Rogers will inform the Sundays of March and the word neighbor will come under scrutiny to broaden it from the person next door or a block over. We will never meet the bulk of our neighbors and yet we are called to care for

them also. It is hard for those of us who grew up taking education through high school for granted to realize that every year millions of girls around the world must drop out of school once they begin to menstruate. This is most often because of a lack of access to supplies as well as the stigma still associated with this natural part of the teen years.

To that end, the MoonCatcher Project was begun in Schenectady, NY about a decade ago to address this need by creating reusable cloth kits that are now reaching girls and young women in almost two dozen countries around the globe. We get to host the first Vermont **Moon Bee** on **Saturday, March 28 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. here in Bailey Hall.** Its name is reminiscent of quilting bees and will be a chance for men, women and children to come together to trace and cut and put together kits (one of our local Girl Scout troops has already committed to being there). Everyone is welcome and no special skill is needed. If you are a person who sews and has your own sewing machine, feel free to bring it with you. All other materials will be provided as well as lunch on that day. Also, if you would like to help address the issue of period poverty here in our area, tampons and pads will be collected and donated to food shelves and homeless shelters on the 28th. Please join us and spread the word!

Our love for God is expressed most vividly in our love for God’s people.

Peace and blessings,
Kathy

*That “Love Thy Neighbor” thing...
I meant that.*

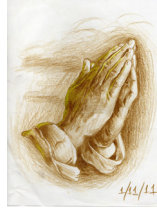
- GOD

The Federated Church of East Arlington

Report of the Financial Secretary, Sandra Grover

2020 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving Received 1/1-2/25	\$ 6,738.15
Building Use 1/1- 2/25	\$ 758.10
Fundraising 1/2-2/25	\$ 0

Thank You!



Church attendance

	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Children</u>
2/2	32	2
2/9	23	3
2/16	28	0
2/23	34	7

Federated Church Council

The Church Council is always here for you to contact any of us if you have any questions or if we can help you in any way.

I would like to give a big thanks to our secretary in the office, Sandy Grover who keeps us all up to date every week. There is always an email blast every week to keep us informed of the activities and events. She also gives all the information in the Sunday Bulletin and in the monthly newsletter. If you still need to know what is going on call the Church office or one of the Council members.

The Parsonage is starting to get a face lift with repairs. The porch had to be raised as it was sinking and there is a new front foundation. There will be more work done on drainage issues and protection of the foundation/basement.

In this season of Lent won't you think to ask a guest to come with you to Church or stop in after Church for our coffee hour? We welcome all.

Peace be with you

Sue Congdon

Council chair

802-442-9574



Our Church Council

Chair	Susan Congdon		
Treasurer	Alyson Grzyb		
Clerk			
Ex Officio	Pastor Kathy Clark		
Building & Grounds	Olavi Wirkki	1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Jeff McConnell
Christian Education	Tammy Lang	1. Scott Lang	2.
Finance	Brian Allen	1. Herb Taylor	2. Raebeth Hitchcock
Worship & Ministry	Ginny Wilkins	1. Linda McDevitt	2. Phyllis Warren
Missions	Sandy Grover	1. Wendy Bahan	2. Gail Rice

March Birthdays

- 1 – Caroline Lavallee
- 2 – Bek Davis
- 11 – Michelanne Sylvester
- 18 – Lauriane Cornwell
- 18 – Kiera Bushee
- 29 – Nathalie Caler



March Anniversaries

- 6 – Ben & Jeanne Brumaghim



Fellowship/Coffee Hour

Many thanks to all who contribute Goodies for Fellowship/Coffee time, and to all who help clean up.



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.

- March 1:** Congregational Union Church, So. Wallingford
- March 8:** Union Church of Proctor
- March 15:** United Church of Dorset and East Rupert
- March 22:** Federated Church of East Arlington
- March 29:** First Congregational Church of Fair Haven

March Helping Hands

Lay Reader: Olavi Wirkki

Council Member:

March 1:

Usher: Sue Wirkki

Communion Servers: Phyllis Warren, Diane McConnell

Greeter: Michelanne Sylvester

March 8:

Usher:

Greeter: Karen Underhill

March 15:

Usher:

Greeter: Ginny Wilkins

March 22:

Usher:

Greeter: Linda McDevitt

Altar:

March 29:

Usher:

Greeter: Linda McDevitt

Altar:

Coffee, Conversation, Fellowship following worship. Join Us

Sign-up Sheets for opportunities to serve God and our Church family are in Bailey Hall.: Altar, Usher, Sunshine, Communion servers, flowers, Sunday School, readers, etc. Thank you.

Altar Flowers

NO ALTAR FLOWERS

DURING LENT

Lectionary Readings for March

- March 1:** Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 132
Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11
- March 8:** Genesis 12:1-4; Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
- March 15:** Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42
- March 22:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23
- March 29:** Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Saturday, March 21, 2020

11:30am Bailey Hall

Bring your lunch,
coffee, and tea provided

Bring your knitting, crocheting or handiwork

Questions?

Speak with Raebeth Hitchcock

375-9294

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



2020 Scholarships

Each year, thanks to a generous bequest from the estate of June Bentley, the Federated Church of East Arlington is able to give out scholarships for local students who are extending their educations past high school. Please visit our website, www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.org, and click on the "Faith in Action" tab to get to scholarship information. There are two applications - one for students graduating from high school and heading off to college for the first time, and one for those who are continuing their education, whether undergraduate or graduate, after their first year of college. Both types of applications are due by April 15th. We look forward to hearing from you!



Adventures in Reading

Highly recommended for reading is Madeleine Kunnin's book "Coming of Age: My Journey to the Eighties".

Cleaning out a drawer recently I came across this saved reminder, decided to pass it on to you even though our church members are very good about acknowledging new faces.

I'M A NEW MEMBER

*I see you at my meetings;
but you never say hello;
You're busy all the time you're there,
with those you already know.
I sit amongst the members
and yet I'm a lonesome guy;
The new ones are as strange as I,
but you old members pass me by.
But, darn it, you folks asked us in,
and talk of fellowship;
You could just step across the room,
but you've never made the trip.
Why can't you nod and say hello,
or stop and shake my hand;
Then go and sit among your friends
Now that, I'd understand.
I'll be at your next meeting
perhaps a nice time to spend.
Do you think you could introduce
yourself?
I want to be your friend.*

Saturday, March 7th 10:15 a.m. let's talk books at my house.

Janet Wilson, Coordinator



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School is doing well. On Sunday, February 23rd, we had 7 children. How nice to see so many. In March the last 2 weeks we will be rehearsing for our Palm Sunday play which will be on April 5th.

Dinner Church is going well.

We can always use volunteers for Sunday school.

Thanks so much!

Tammy Lang-Christian Education

Children's Sunday School



GRANGE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 15, 2020

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.



Please submit your articles for the April 2020 issue of the newsletter by
March 23th
Thank you for your anticipated cooperation!

Happy Anniversary

To Jeanne and Ben Brumaghim
72 years loving together!

MARCH 6th

"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."



Online Giving

Contact Sandy Grover: sandragrover@gmail.com; 375-4982; church office 375-2548 or church email federatedchurch05250@gmail.com

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.

CLIPBOARDS NEED NAMES

- Choir Ushers Communion Servers
- Altar Sunshine Flowers
- 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.



Sign up sheet is on "Do Something" in Bailey Hall.

Arlington Area Food Shelf

2020

Our goal: 2,020 pounds
Received to date: 76 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

Mac and Cheese Extravaganza and Dessert Auction

at the Federated Church of East Arlington
Ice Pond Road, East Arlington, VT

Sunday, March 8th

5:00 auction, 5:30 dinner



Free will offering
to benefit the programming of

Happy Days Playschool & Federated Church of East Arlington



For more information contact Happy Days
Playschool at 375-6039 or
happydaysdirector@comcast.net or the
Federated Church office at 375-2548



THE 225TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERMONT CONFERENCE

April 24 - 25, 2020 at Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, VT
Registration now open!

Lake Morey Resort (800-423-1211 for reservations)

The 225th Vermont Conference Annual Meeting takes place April 24 - 25 at Lake Morey Resort and features **Rev. Dr. Traci Blackmon** as our keynote and preacher. Rev. Blackmon is the UCC Associate General Minister for Justice & Local Church Ministries and passionate advocate for social justice.

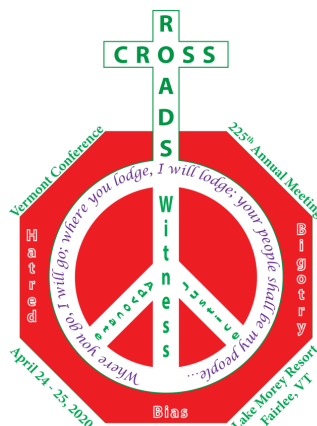
On Friday, April 24, the Vermont Conference presents a special panel discussion: "What is the minority experience in Vermont?" Our panelists come from diverse backgrounds including people of color, migrant laborers and asylum seekers. They will enlighten us with their experiences living in Vermont and challenge us to consider our place of privilege in our state.

The workshops being offered on Saturday pick up on the challenge the Friday panelists will present to us and examine the crossroads we find ourselves in as a church, state and nation.

For more information go to vtconference@VTCUCC.org

Be sure to reserve your room at Lake Morey Resort early—they go fast. Call to reserve your room at 802-423-1211.

Pastor Kathy would be happy to give anyone a ride who wants to go.



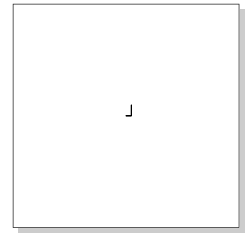
Calendar Page



The Federated Church of East Arlington

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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.



March 2020 Newsletter

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae and Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 10 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Time of quiet prayer and reflection in the church

Holy Saturday, April 11 at 9:00 a.m. SHARP there will be an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 1—9 years old with refreshments in Bailey Hall.

Easter Sunday, April 23

6:15 a.m. Sunrise Service on the east-facing lawn of the Mack Headquarters followed by a free continental breakfast in Bailey Hall on Ice Pond Road.

10:00 a.m. Easter Service of Worship followed by food and fellowship in Bailey Hall.,

Mac and Cheese Extravaganza and Dessert Auction

Beginning with an auction of amazing desserts at 5:00 p.m. and followed by a great variety of Macaroni & Cheese options at 5:30 p.m. This is a joint fundraiser with Happy Days Playschool. Free-will offering for the dinner and take-outs available.