

# The Federated Church of East Arlington



October 2020

## Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

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*"But blessed are your eyes, for they see" - Matthew 13:16a*

For months now and months to come, we have been looking deep into the eyes of others for signs of joy, grief, anger, questioning, understanding and so many emotions that we have typically had a whole face with which to communicate. I find myself smiling hard at strangers with the hope that my eyes will let them know that I'm on the same page with them or that I got the message that in order for you and I and everyone we love to do our part to keep each other safe and healthy, we will wear masks. It was a joy at our outdoor service on Rally Sunday to see the eyes of our children peeking over the tops of their masks with each of them receiving two more masks to add to their collection, created and donated by Scott Lang's mom, Susan.

Eyes are a wonder that don't change much over the course of our lifetimes. The eyes grow quickly in the womb and for the first three months after birth. From then on, they change very little in size or shape or color for the remaining decades of a life devoted to seeing. Adrenalin helps a mom give birth but it also helps by dilating a baby's eyes so that they can see their mother more clearly. To see and be seen is one of our great strivings. In this season of change, some of it beautifully colorful and some of it ugly and mean-spirited, we may want to spend more time seeing and a little less time allowing the clanging cymbals on our screens and radios to occupy so much space in our heads. A measure of inner peace, in this divisive election season, need not be an impossible goal

In this glorious short time of color that has appeared in the last week and will only be with us for a few more weeks, we see our beloved Vermont ablaze with reds, oranges and yellows contrasted with our ever present green pine trees. To see that beauty beside the beauty of the Incarnate God to be found in every other person may require a double take or a deeper take but be assured God is there.

With deep gratitude for the fleeting beauty all around us, let us lift this prayer to the God who sees us, all of us, with eyes of love:

*Dance with delight, O flame of autumn fire,  
as the Earth, spinning and leaning away from the sun,  
begins to cool from the summer heat.  
Speak to me of the promise hidden in this season of autumn.  
For spring is seeded in this season of completion,  
just as the giant oak exists within the acorn.*

*Autumn fire, orange and yellow sacrament of the sun,  
light up the darkness with your dancing.  
Your power is seeded in the ripeness  
of the fruit and grain of this harvest season.*

*Great is God, whose heart is the shrine  
wherein lives this whole universe;  
great is your heart, my Beloved,  
greater still is your unceasing love for me.*

*May my love for you enflame my every word of  
thanksgiving  
to reflect the golden beauty of autumn  
that the Earth dons once again. Amen.*

*(Edward Hays, Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim)*

Be well in your seeing.

Peace and blessings,  
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

2020 Congregational Giving Budgeted:	\$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving Received 1/1-9/27	\$ 37,296.45
Building Use 1/1- 9/27	\$ 991.35
Fundraising 1/1-9/27	\$ 934.72

**Thank You!**



## Church attendance

Many via Zoom on computers,  
phones and tablets  
from many states.

9/20 (outside)      29 adults  
                                 9 children

## ***Church is who we are, Not where we go!***

The Church service in September outside was just beautiful. Even though it was a little cool it truly was enjoyed by all. Following the service, we had a Church Council meeting. This was the first time all of the council members were there. This will be the last service we will have outside, and we are not sure when we can get back in the church. So, for now it will be Zoom.

The repairs and painting to all the windows plus a few other touch ups are done. We have signed a contract for solar power that would give us a discount of 10%. There will be no solar panels on our roofs, we are contracting to have the discount. The Farmers Market is done for the season and we raised \$225.00 for the food bank and \$644.72 from all the baked goods we made. Thank you to all. Awesome!!

Tammy and Pastor Kathy are looking into what we can do for Advent Sunday and for Christmas. Believe it or not we are getting to that time of year.

Even though we are not sitting in the pews I hope all are well and prayers are sent to everyone.

Going back to Church will not be the same for a long time. It will be steppingstones for us. We need to make sure that the circulation in the Church will work, figure the number of people we can have inside, there will be no singing and no coffee hour. Of course, face masks and social distancing. With that said we are blessed to be in the best area with no riots, COVID is lowest in the US, no hurricanes and we all wear masks!

Happy Halloween at least everyone will have a mask!

God Bless you all

Sue Congdon

Church Council Chair

## 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

**October Birthdays**

- 16 – Nancy Schoerke
- 22 – Bernice Gaudette
- 25 – Sonja Mattison
- 26 – Crystal Hughes
- 25 – Elaine Peacock
- 30 – Mara Rosenthal



**October Anniversaries**

- 16 – Tammy and Scott Lang  
Sandy & Bonnie Barnes



**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.

- Oct. 4:** Grace Congregational Church Rutland
- Oct. 11:** Congregational Church of Rupert
- Oct. 18:** Shrewsbury Community Church
- Oct. 25:** First Congregational Church of Wallingford

**Lectionary Readings for October**

- Oct. 4:** Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9; Psalm 19  
Philippians 3:4-14; Matthew 21:33-46
- Oct. 11:** Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14
- Oct. 18:** Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99  
I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Mathew 22:15-22
- Oct. 25:** Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
I Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46



Coming soon!

Contact the office for updates or additions

By Oct. 10th.

federatedchurch05250@gmail.com

375-2548

Lay Reader: Karen Underhill

**Bible Study**

Beginning on Friday, October 9 there will be a Bible Study exploring the Book of Ruth. The study will happen via Zoom on Fridays at 9 a.m. Our friends from St. James will be participating with us. If you wish to participate, have any Bible handy starting 10/9. No prior knowledge is needed and all are welcome to attend.

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

or

Dial on your phone 1-646-876- 9923

Meeting ID: 913 7732 9294 followed by the #



The Book of Ruth.

**Thank You**

As the financial secretary for our Federated Church, I am very thankful to all who continue to send in checks, cash and give online. The ministry and mission goes on even though we are unable to physically meet.

Please contact Kathy or the office if you know if anyone who needs assistance.

Sandy Grover, Financial Secretary



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



**KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.**

We will gather together when it is safe but until then...

Keep knitting, crocheting and handiwork!

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



Questions:

Raebeth Hitchcock

375-9294



### Worship With Us

Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. 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.

Also on our Youtube channel: the federated  
church of East Arlington.

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

### Adventures in Reading

It was a brisk but sunny afternoon when the  
Adventures in Reading Group met on the lawn at  
the Grange pavilion on September 15th for our first  
socially distanced meeting. Each of the ten at-  
tendees had an opportunity to share information  
about books they had read from this year's list or  
from a previous list. We also had a preview of  
books that will be on next year's list. Janet provided  
individually wrapped chocolate chip cookies. Kathy  
Clark brought books to share. We enjoyed our time  
together.

If you haven't already picked up yours, revised  
contact lists are available for members in the  
church's white mailbox. Please check off your name  
if you have taken one.

We are considering ways to meet in the future. If  
anyone has an idea for a safe place where a dozen  
of us could socially distance meet, please let Janet or  
Phyllis know.

Phyllis Warren and  
Janet Wilson  
Co-ordinators



### Girl Scouts

Thursday September 24th from 4-6 pm Registration for  
Girl Scouts

Sunday October 11th from 3-4pm Brownie Meeting

Girl Scout meeting and registration will be held on the  
lawn of the Federated Church

**Stay strong, wash your hands., wear a mask.**





# WARNING

## ANNUAL FALL MEETING

**SOUTHWEST ASSOCIATION WITHIN  
THE VERMONT CONFERENCE OF THE UCC**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020**

**2:00 PM - 4:00 PM BY ZOOM**

All clergy and delegates of the churches of the Southwest Association within the VT Conference of the UCC are hereby invited to attend the Annual Fall Business Meeting.

Agenda Items to include:

- Annual 2021 Budget
- 2021 Nominations for Officers and Committee members
- Recommended Amendments to the Bylaws (see next page)

### Zoom Invitation:

Topic: SWA Annual Fall Meeting  
Time: Oct 4, 2020 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/99374953825?pwd=aDFWb0tNNHE1cnpnNXZ1ekZkZGdtUT09>

**Meeting ID: 993 7495 3825**  
**Passcode: 553621**

One tap mobile  
+16465588656,,99374953825#,,,,,0#,553621# US (New York)

Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

The Nominating Committee Worksheet;  
SWA Balance Sheet;  
SWA P & L Statement;  
SWA Proposed Budget 2021;  
and Proposed Bylaw Changes are available upon request. Contact Sandy at the church office. 375-2548 or federatedchurch05250@gmail.com

### Christian Education

Plans are underway to do a monthly Zoom church school lesson with our children.

Tammy Lang is working with families to determine the best day and time for this to happen.

Supplies to support the lessons would be provided to the children.

Stay tuned for more details.

#### Children's Sunday School



*We all miss  
each other and  
the children.*

## Silent Prayer Vigil and Witness in Response to Racism

Every Sunday in front of St. James Episcopal Church on Route 7A, Arlington **from 1:00—1:30 p.m.**

Please bring a sign to hold focused on peace and change based on our deep faith.

For safety, attendees will be spaced 10 feet apart (family groups may stand together).

Please wear a mask.



## Arlington Area Food Shelf 2020

Our goal: 2,020 pounds

Received to date: 166 pounds



## Church World Service Kits

**Deadline: Oct. 15th**

We at FCEA have always been very generous when your Mission Team has had the Mother's Day "Blankets of Love" appeal. You have also been ready and willing to contribute when we have had the "kits" appeals— school kits, hygiene kits and cleanup buckets. Thank you so much. We have made a difference in God's name.

We will **not** be collecting items but we are requesting donations for these items to go where they are needed. Checks can be made out to Federated Church with CWS in the memo; cash or online. Questions? Sandy Grover, 375-4982; sandragrover@gmail.com; church office 375-2548.

### Notes from CWS

*"CWS Kits provide hope. Without adequate kits to respond to the fall hurricane season, we would have one less spark to light the way for those facing the struggle."*

- Rev. David Mallory, CWS Kits Coordinator (Raleigh, NC)

**Blankets, \$10**

**School kits, \$15**

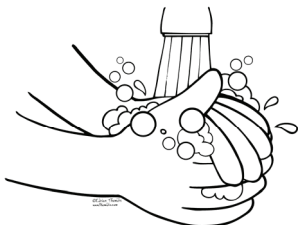
**Hygiene kits, \$15**

**Cleanup buckets, \$75**



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

Wash your hands!



Wear a face mask!

