

The Federated Church of East Arlington



April 2021

Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

email: ksclark58@yahoo.com

Cell 733-2162

Parsonage phone: 375-2427

Lord of such amazing surprises
as put a catch in my breath
and wings on my heart,
I praise you for this joy,
too great for words,
but not for tears and songs and sharing;
for this mercy
that blots out my betrayals
and bids me begin again,
to limp on,
to hop-skip-and-jump on,
to mend what is broken
in and around me,
and to forgive the breakers;
for this YES
to life and laughter,
to love and lovers,
and to my unwinding self;
for this kingdom
unleashed in me and I in it forever,
and no dead ends to growing,
to choices,
to chances,
to calls to be just;
no dead ends to living,
to making peace,
to dreaming dreams,
to being glad of heart;
for this resurrection madness
which is wiser than I
and in which I see
how great you are,
how full of grace.
Alleluia!

("I Praise You for this Resurrection Madness" from *Guerrillas of Grace: Prayers for the Battle* by Ted Loder)

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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

2021 Congregational Giving Budgeted: \$ 60,000.00

Congregational Giving Received 1/1-3/30/26 \$ 12,245.00



Church attendance

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



Church is who we are, Not where we go!

Well, March is testing us as usual with very warm days and suddenly cold and rain and let's add some snow. Can you believe that Easter is less than a week away? I will miss the Easter Egg hunt and all the children. I have been dropping off some Easter bags to Church members and the first thing they say is when can we go back to Church in person?! The church council is working on this. We have requested that Kevin come in to start cleaning the buildings. We are also looking at having worship services outside and getting a better signal for Wi-Fi to continue online with Zoom at the same time.

Please remember One Great Hour of sharing.

The Farmers Market will again be in Arlington starting in June on Friday's and the Church would like to participate but we need help manning the booth. Please give the office a call.

I shall put on my hat for Easter Sunday – can't wait!

Prayers to All.

Sue Congdon
Council Chair

Our Church Council

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Chair, Susan Congdon | Treasurer, Alyson Grzyb | Ex Officio, Pastor Kathy Clark | Clerk, Sandra Grover |
| 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. Olavi Wirkki |
| Worship & Ministry | Ginny Wilkins | 1. Linda McDevitt | 2. Phyllis Warren |
| Missions | Sandy Grover | 1. Wendy Bahan | 2. Gail Rice |

April Birthdays

- 9 – Raymond Grover
P.O. Box 508
Arlington, VT 05250
- 13 – Phyllis Warren
61 Borough Road
Sunderland, VT 05250
- 20 – Annie Howard
2595 Depot Street, #B11
Manchester Center, VT 05255
- 25 – Arianna Barrios
827 South Road
Sunderland, VT 05252



Anniversaries

- 2 – Ginny & Francis Wilkins
3665 North Road
Sunderland, VT 05250



In the White Mailbox

April Newsletter

The March/April UPPER ROOM devotional, “Where the World Meets to Pray”



**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 4:** Brandon Congregational Church
- April 11:** Federated Church of Castleton
- April 18:** Congregational Union Church So. Wallingford
- April 25:** Union Church of Proctor

Lectionary Readings for April

- April 4:** Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2,14-24
I Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18
- April 11:** Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133
I John 1:1-22; John 20:19-31
- April 18:** Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4
I John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36-48
- April 25:** Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23
I John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18



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

**Contribution
Statements**

Please let me know how you would like your contribution statement for 2020 delivered to you:

email, mailed, pick up at the office or white mailbox

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

Sandy Grover, Federated Church of East Arlington Financial Secretary,

sandragrover@gmail.com,
375-4982

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.

Many thanks to those who have made prayer shawls and
lap robes to be given out.

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



Questions:
Raebeth Hitchcock
375-9294

Worship With Us

Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
using this link:
<https://us02web.zom.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

We are planning an Adventures in Reading
Zoom meeting for April. We will send an email to
let members know when it is scheduled.

In answer to my questions about the history of
Adventures in Reading, Janet has provided us
with this information. This is part I.

History of the Adventures in Reading Program Part I

Our current "Adventures in Reading" program
has a pretty long history in the state of Vermont.

The fellowship reading program began in St.
Johnsbury, VT when Miss Catherine D. Ely, librari-
an at the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, prepared a list
of books for her church designed to make reading
a pleasure and profit. The project was called "A
Reading Contest."

In 1933, the local project was expanded into a
statewide list and began to attract national interest
and acclaim. Miss Ely continued to direct this pro-
ject, publishing an annual list of books, and giving
many to our state fellowship library until her
death in 1946.

Janet Wilson and Phyllis Warren,
Coordinators

Christian Education

We delivered Easter Bags to each of the 10 Sunday
School children.

We hope you have a very Happy Easter and be safe!!

Children's Sunday School




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

(continued from page 1)

Flitting butterflies, blooming flowers, dyed eggs hidden and found, even chocolate rabbits – these are beloved symbols of Easter. They point to new life in ways we can see and touch and smell and taste that which is so hard to imagine. They speak of our very human need to express what is too marvelous and mysterious for words that would do justice to it all. The concept that after death there is life needed the crazy events that Jesus would, in front of a whole bunch of folks, suffer a brutal death and then be entombed and then walk out of this ordeal alive was the epitome of craziness. Imagine this happening in our 21st century world – a scene with all those lights and cameras and shouted questions. It would be pure chaos.

Instead, we have a story that was so remarkable that it had to be shared person to person, from generation to generation and it is ours now to live into and pass on. We know it so well and yet, what will we do with it this year? Maybe nothing more than accept that the grace by which God moves through and with us each day is capable of this resurrection madness. We could then live as people who've been given a second chance to love as fiercely as Jesus. That might just be the perfect way to say, Thank you, God. *Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!*

Peace and blessings,
Kathy



ALLELUIA!
CHRIST IS ALIVE!



The Federated Church of East Arlington

April 2021 dates to remember

All worship and meetings are via Zoom except Sunrise Service

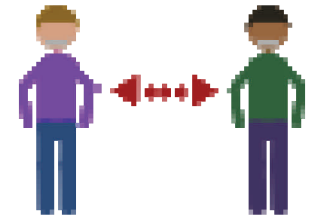
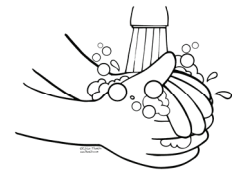
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|------|---------|----------------------------|
| 4/4 | 6:30am | Sunrise Service, MACK hill |
| | 10:00am | Easter Worship/Communion |
| 4/9 | 9:00am | Bible study—Acts |
| 4/11 | 10:00am | Worship |
| 4/16 | 9:00am | Bible study—Acts |
| 4/18 | 10:00am | Worship |
| | 10:45am | Church Council meeting |
| 4/23 | 9:00am | Bible study—Acts |
| 4/25 | 10:00am | Worship |
| 4/30 | 9:00am | Bible study—Acts |



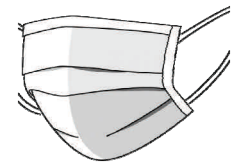
We are joining with other faith communities and non-profits throughout Bennington County to serve as the Arlington/Sandgate/Sunderland location for the “Menstrual Products for All” program. We have a bin, to the right, inside the garage door for gathering items or taking what a girl or woman might need. We will share some of what is gathered in the bin with the school nurse at AMHS to be shared with girls there. This is a program sponsored by Planned Parenthood of Northern New Eng-



Wash your hands!



Wear a face mask!



Ben Brumaghim
300 Village Lane #3310
Bennington, VT 05201
440-9987

Janet Wilson (beginning 4/7)
300 Village Lane #2218
Bennington, VT 05201
681-7994

Bible Study

The Acts of the Apostles

Fridays at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom

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

or

Dial on your phone 1-646-876- 9923

Meeting ID: 913 7732 9294 followed by the #

Arlington Area Food Shelf 2021

Our goal: 2,000 pounds

Received to date: 575 pounds

The Arlington Food Shelf

P.O. Box 723

Arlington, VT 05250

Yellow Barn Farm Gardens

Spring is coming and so are Gardens at the Yellow Barn Farm!! (on Rte. 313 just past the Battenkill River bridge).

The Victory Garden and the Raised Bed Demo Gardens, a project spear-headed by UVM Extension Master Gardeners, will be planted as they were last year, with the produce going to the Summer Lunch Program and the Arlington Food Shelf. Any extra sets and seeds you may have this spring will be welcome. Volunteers will be needed again this year for planting, weeding, watering and harvesting!

In addition to continuing last year's successful program, we will be launching a Community Garden Plot project. We would love feedback from interested community members.

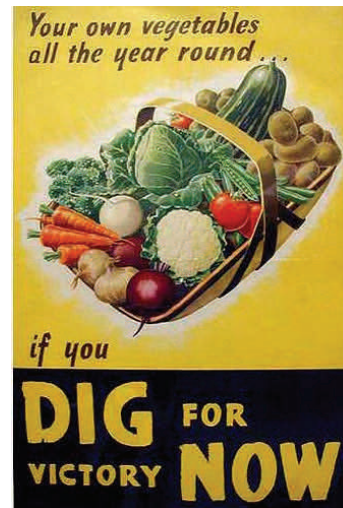
Information that would be helpful to us in planning:

- 1) If you have interest in participating, would you want one large communal garden with shared work and shared produce or your own plot?
- 2) If your own plot.... what size and shape?

We are in the final planning stages, working with the various groups that have a stake in the properties. Your responses will help to determine our next steps, including establishing plot sizes and fees.

Once the details are finalized, we will provide updated information. For those interested in individual garden plots, they will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

Please email: gardensatyellowbarnfarm@gmail.com indicating your interest in volunteering and/or gardening at the Yellow Barn and sharing your feedback. Sent from my iPad

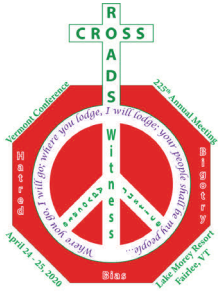


Federated Church Scholarships Available to Local High School Graduates and Those Continuing Their Education

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 2021 is welcome to apply. Scholarship applications (different for college and graduate school) can be found on the Federated Church's website, www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.com/scholarship-info. Scholarship applications are due to the church office (102 Ice Pond Rd, Arlington, VT 05250) by **April 15th, 2021**, at which time they will be reviewed by the scholarship panel. The scholarship panel will contact potential recipients to schedule virtual interviews if deemed necessary. 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!



Deadline is April 15th



226th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference

The 226th Vermont Conference Annual Meeting takes place April 23 - 24 on Zoom 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.

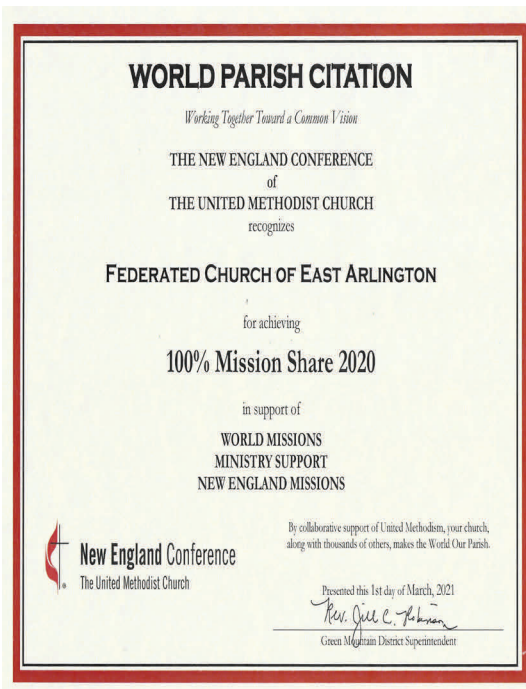
***On Friday, April 23, the Vermont Conference presents a special panel discussion:
"What is the minority experience in Vermont?"***

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.

Registration is open at [vtucc](http://vtucc.org)

If you have any registration questions, [please contact Elise Foster](#) at the Vermont Conference, UCC office.



Through the generosity of CWS partner organizations, congregations and individual supporters, our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe and keep warm with fresh linens and clean sleeping quarters.

When our neighbors are in need, even \$10 for a single blanket goes a long way.

Checks can be made to the Federated Church of East Arlington with CWS blankets on the memo line and sent to 102 Ice Pond Road, Arlington, VT 05250.





Host her children
When Saturday, April 17 at 2:00 PM
Where OPEN HOUSE | Chauncey's Family Dining
 5403 Vermont 7A
 Arlington, VT 05250

Let's Celebrate
 Annie Howard
 On her
 90th Birthday!

Message From Host

To ensure the health & safety of our friends & family, we are taking all precautions recommended by the CDC. You may wear your mask at any point during our event, along with a six foot separation for those non-vaccinated to ensure your comfort & safety.

In lieu of gifts, please donate to the Federated Church in East Arlington, Vermont.

**Federated Church of East Arlington
 Holy Week and Easter Services**

**Palm Sunday 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
 (Have palm for blessing and waving)**

**Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
 (Have a candle to light and a bowl of water & towel)**

**Easter Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m.
 @ the Mack Headquarters east-facing hill
 (Wear a mask)**

**Easter Service of Worship and Celebration of Holy Communion 10:00 a.m.
 (Have bread, juice/wine, and bubbles)**