

The Federated Church of East Arlington



May 2021

Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

email: ksclark58@yahoo.com

Cell 733-2162

Parsonage phone: 375-2427

Somewhere
a black bear
has just risen from sleep
and is staring

down the mountain.
All night
in the brisk and shallow restlessness
of early spring

I think of her,
her four black fists
flicking the gravel,
her tongue

like a red fire
touching the grass,
the cold water.
There is only one question:

how to love this world.

I think of her
rising
like a black and leafy ledge

to sharpen her claws against
the silence
of the trees.
Whatever else

my life is
with its poems
and its music
and its glass cities,

it is also this dazzling darkness
coming
down the mountain,
breathing and tasting;

all day I think of her --
her white teeth,
her wordlessness,
her perfect love.
her wordlessness,
her perfect love.

- "Spring" by Mary Oliver

As we look ahead to emerging slowly and tentatively from our COVID isolation, the image of bears coming out of hibernation kept popping into my head and made me remember this poem of Mary Oliver's. Of course, our Coronavirus hibernation was not exactly like that of bears because they go all that time without eating, drinking or using the bathroom which was the opposite of what happened for many of us during the past year of staying home. What may be the same, though, is that when bears emerge in spring, they start out in what's called "walking hibernation" where they gradually reintroduce those practices they'd given up during their time burrowed in the empty part of trees or in caves or under rocks. It can take a while before they fully return to life as it was pre-hibernation.

We are excitedly looking ahead to May 9 when we will emerge slowly and deliberately but with a strong sense of freedom to return to in-person worship. On Mother's Day, we will come masked and sit on our own lawn chairs rather than in our sanctuary. What will be wonderful is that we will sing and pray and learn from scripture all that we have to celebrate in this season of new life. The trees will bloom, the birds will sing in the background of our services, and we will reconnect with each other as church.

We will still be in the season of Easter then and the celebration of Christ's resurrection will provide the backdrop for our outdoor services when we come together each week on our lawn. We then will celebrate Pentecost and the story of the beginning of church on May 23. Before we know it, summer and all its joys will be upon us. The plan, at this time, is to meet every Sunday, starting on May 9, for our 10:00 a.m. Service of Worship outside. We will continue this way through June and then figure out, based on the Governor and the Health Department's guidelines, when in the coming months to return to the sanctuary safely. The only condition on meeting outdoors is that if rain is forecast for a Sunday, we will revert to Zoom worship and spread the word as that decision is made. Also, we will continue to live stream the Sunday services and send out that connection information. We hope this will allow as many folks as possible to join us either in person or on-line each Sunday.

As we approach worship in both new and familiar ways together, let us never lose sight of the perfect love of God that accompanies us all of our days.



Peace and grace,

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

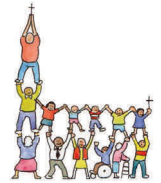
Report of the Financial Secretary, Sandra Grover

2021 Congregational Giving Budgeted: \$ 60,000.00
Congregational Giving Received 1/1-4/30/21 \$ 16,485.00



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, the weather is teasing us, some days it is sunny and the next minute cold and dreary, but we know warm weather and sunshine are on the way. I hope that most of you have had your vaccination and are feeling great about it.

We are on the way to start outside worship every week that weather is good. We are also working on how to open worship inside our sanctuary. This is a work in progress. We must follow all of the Governor's guidance and CDC procedures. We will be starting on Mother's Day on May 9th outside. We will still do Zoom for anyone who continues to go online. It will be great to see all the people and be able talk to them. Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Olavi is making a cart for outside to put fresh produce that has been donated to the community. We will also have a table at the Arlington Village Farmers Market starting in June at the Rec Park.

Peace be with you and smile as the sun shines.

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

May Birthdays

- 9 – Kathy Hayden
276 Oak Knoll
Arlington, VT 05250
- 12 – Karen Underhill
983 Berwal Road
Arlington, VT 05250
- 19 – Kathy Frost
16 Kempton Place #6
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
- 21 – Sharon Davis
3104 Vt. Route 7A
Arlington, VT 05250



May Anniversaries

- 12 – Vic & Michele Lampron
P.O. Box 233
Arlington, VT 05250



chibird.tumblr.com

**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.

- May 2:** United Church of Dorset & East Rupert
- May 9:** Federated Church of East Arlington
- May 16:** First Congregational Church of Fair Haven
- May 23:** First Congregational Church of Hubbardton
- May 30:** First Congregational Church of Manchester

Lectionary Readings for May

- May 2:** Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31
I John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8
- May 9:** Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98
I John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
- May 16:** Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1
I John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
- May 23:** Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
I John 15:26-27; John 16:4b-15
- May 30:** Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17



In the White Mailbox

May Newsletter

The May/June UPPER ROOM devotional, “Where the World Meets to Pray”

Church directory

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

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



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

History of Adventures in Reading Part II

In 1946, Mrs. Earle Fisher of Danville, VT became
librarian and the books were moved to her home.
Under her leadership, the program grew so that in
1960 there were 1565 readers and almost 24,000
books reported read. From 1946 to 1955 The Ver-
mont Fellowship used book lists from outside the
state of Vermont; first those completed by a Massa-
chusetts Committee then later those put together
by a National Reading Committee.

In 1955, a Vermont "Adventures in Reading" list
was instituted, again under the direction of a com-
mittee headed by Mrs. Ben Roberts. In 1970 there
were 1344 readers with 33,074 books from the list
reported read.

Janet Wilson and Phyllis Warren
Coordinators



Janet Wilson
300 Village Lane #2218
Bennington, VT 05201
681-7994

Christian Education

We miss all the children. Please, stay safe and
healthy and please keep washing your hands.

Children's Sunday School



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



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, brought to the church office, left in the white mailbox or sent to

The Federated Church of East Arlington
 102 Ice Pond Road,
 Arlington, VT 05250.

To all our friends at the Federated Church

We thank all of you for your support during the loss of our son Michael. Your prayers, cards, phone calls were greatly appreciated.

Dottie and Chet Koscinski

**Thank
You**

**Happy 90th Birthday
Grace Smith**

Our friend and neighbor, Grace, is celebrating her 90th birthday on May 10th.

Let's join in the card shower for Grace!

Grace Smith
 PO Box 186
 Arlington, VT 05250



Sunday, May 9th

Let's worship together in person outside on our green space at 10:00 a.m. on Mother's Day, May 9th. (weather permitting)

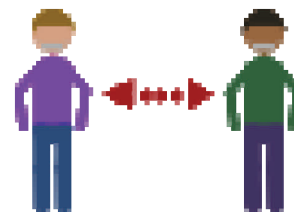
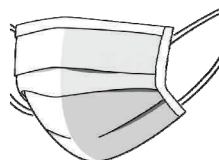
This worship service will also be live streamed on Zoom.

May 2021 dates to remember

5/2	10:00am	Worship/Communion via Zoom
5/7	9:00am	Bible study—Acts via Zoom
5/9	10:00am	Worship via Zoom and in-person outside—bring a lawn chair and mask.
5/14	9:00am	Bible study—Acts, Zoom
5/16	10:00am	Worship via Zoom and in-person outside—bring a lawn chair and mask.
	10:45am	Church Council meeting, outside
5/21	9:00am	Bible study—Acts via Zoom
5/23	10:00am	Worship via Zoom and in-person outside—bring a lawn chair and mask.
5/28	9:00am	Bible study—Acts via Zoom
5/30	10:00am	Worship via Zoom and in-person outside—bring a lawn chair and mask.

Wear a face mask!

Wash your hands!



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 England.



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: 625 pounds

The Arlington Food Shelf

P.O. Box 723