



# The Federated Church of East Arlington



March 2022

## Meditation, Meanderings and Musings from Pastor Kathy

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*"Lent is about becoming, doing, and changing whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now." - Sr. Joan Chittister*

Are we really going to add Lent to the hard mix we're already having trouble digesting? A war in Ukraine piled on top of the on-going effects of COVID on health, education, and the economy along with the great political divide here in our nation makes it all feel so overwhelming that there are days when it seems like the most viable option is to stay in bed and pull the covers over our head.

One of the early lessons I learned when I had first moved from my Catholic upbringing and young adulthood to joining the United Church of Christ through Second Congregational Church, Bennington 29 years ago was that observing Lent with ashes, changes to worship, practices such as fasting and focusing attention on some of the hurting people around us was a fairly recent phenomenon in Mainline Protestant churches.

One of the blessings of a newish set of practices and way of looking at the world is that we continue to learn as we grow. To add a season that asks only that we tune into God at work in our lives and the world need not be seen or felt as a burden but instead an opportunity.

Whether you add a daily practice like prayer or journaling or reading a devotional or the Bible, these next 40 days (not including Sundays) could be viewed as a door into that deeper place with God. It may be just the excuse you didn't know you needed to consider questions of faith with new eyes and an open heart.

Once again, I will join with my colleague the Rev. Mary White from St. James' Episcopal Church in offering Ashes-to-Go on this Ash Wednesday, March 2. We will conveniently be right in front of their steps, so you don't even have to get of your car. You're invited to bring friends or neighbors or even your pets to receive ashes on your forehead or hand and/or a blessing to begin your Lenten journey.

However you make your way through the next six weeks on the way to the cross and glorious resurrection, may you go knowing the God who is ever with us will travel with you, step by step.

Peace and grace,  
Kathy



Lent Begins  
Ash Wednesday

# 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

2022 Congregational Giving Budgeted: \$ 60,000.00  
 Congregational Giving 1/1/22-2/28/22 \$ 7,999.00

*Thank you!*



## Church attendance

	Adults	Children
2/6	19	3
2/13		
2/20	21	0
2/27		

And many on Zoom or telephone.

## We Can Help

With the escalation of conflict in Ukraine, we are deeply concerned over the potential humanitarian impact of this conflict on both the people of Ukraine and those refugees and asylum seekers who have sought safety there

### Here are top ways to take action:

**Contact your Members of Congress** to urge your elected officials to stand with vulnerable Ukrainians and uphold protections for displaced and at-risk populations.

**Amplify on Social Media:** Please share and amplify your message on social media..

**Donate:** CWS is establishing the Ukraine Crisis Response Fund to offer humanitarian assistance to people displaced as a result of the violence and bolster partners in Europe to serve the most vulnerable.

To donate to the CWS (**Church World Service**) **Ukraine Crisis Response Fund** checks are payable to the Federated Church with CWS response in the memo or go to our website: federatedchurchofeastarlington.org, click on "contact", go to "donate online" button.

## Our Church Council

Chair, Susan Congdon	Treasurer, Olavi Wirkki	Ex Officio, Pastor Kathy Clark	Secretary, Sandra Grover
Building & Grounds	Olavi Wirkki	1. Alyson Grzyb	2. Jeff McConnell
Christian Education	Tammy Lang	1. Scott Lang	2.
Finance	Brian Allen	1. Olavi Wirkki	2. Scott lang
Worship & Ministry		1. Linda McDevitt	2. Phyllis Warren
Missions	Sandy Grover	1. Wendy Bahan	2. Gail Rice

**March Birthdays**

- I – Carolyn Lavallee  
26 Jasper Lane  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 11 – Michelanne Sylvester  
3008 Vt. Route 7A  
Arlington, VT 05250
- 18 – Lauriane Cornwell  
475 Old Depot Road  
Shaftsbury, VT 05262
- 29 – Nathalie Caler  
96 Carbonti Circle  
Arlington, VT 05250



**Youth and Children’s Birthdays**

- 18— Kiera Bushee

**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 6:** Congregational Church of No. Bennington
- March 13:** Pawlet Community Church
- March 20:** Pittsford Congregational Church
- March 27:** Grace Congregational Church Rutland

**Lectionary Readings for March**

- March 6:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13
- March 13:** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13: 31-35
- March 20** Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8  
1 Corinthians 10: 10-13; Luke 13:1-9
- March 27:** Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

**March Helping Hands Needed**

- Greeters
  - Altar Flowers
  - Refreshment/Coffee time
- There are sign-up sheets on the table in Bailey Hall
- Thank you to all who volunteer.

**In the White Mailbox**

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

Annie Howard  
P.O. Box 367  
Londonderry, VT 05148  
802-856-7056

Fred Kerner  
VT. Veteran’s Home  
325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201

Carol Thompson  
300 Village Lane  
Bennington, VT 05201

**CHOIR**

Anyone interested in joining the choir, please see Mary.



# The Federated Church of East Arlington

## Italian Buffet Dinner

As part of the Vermont Fly Fishing Weekend (April 29-May 1) that is happening here in Arlington, we, the Federated Church of East Arlington, will be hosting an Italian Buffet Dinner in Bailey Hall on Saturday, April 30 that will feature a wide range of favorite dishes and will also include Macaroni & Cheese. Salad, bread, dessert, and beverages will also be provided. A free will offering will be gathered at each table.

A sign-up sheet to provide food and assistance with set-up, serving food, serving beverages, working in the kitchen and clean-up will be on the "Do Something" table in Bailey Hall beginning this Sunday, March 6.

There will be two seatings at 5:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. with a limit of 60 people at each seating by reservation only that is being handled by the Arlington Common, the sponsor of this special weekend.



## Christian Education

Children's Sunday School



Sunday School, March 13th, 10:00 a.m.

We are collecting wrapped candy for the Easter Egg hunt on Saturday April 16th at 9am for 1-10 year olds. Candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit in plastic Easter eggs.



## **Arlington Area Food Shelf 2022**

The Arlington Food Shelf  
P.O. Box 723  
Arlington, VT 05250

*46 pounds added*

Please donate non-perishable food.

Place in box in church entry or in the box in the garage (small door).

## **Girl Scouts**

Girl Scout meetings for March:  
Juniors-Bailey Hall, March 13th and 27th at noon

Cadettes and Seniors Meeting Dunlap Hall, March 13 and 20th at noon

**Worship With Us**

**Sundays in the Sanctuary in person—wear a mask, 10:00 a.m.**

**Also:** 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 or go to the GNAT -TV website to view them anytime after Tuesday of each week.

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**

Looking Back:

A small group met via Zoom in January. February weather gave us reasons to stay inside and read.

Looking forward:

We will be meeting in person, unless we're hit with another Covid variant, on March 23 at 1:00 in Bailey Hall. Mark you calendars! I'll be sending emails to remind you.



Inspiration:

*Let the pages be ever turning*

*Let the words run on and on*

*May my eyes be ever reading*

*My imagination, ever strong.*

*Let my mind remain wide open*

*To the discoveries within*

*May I never lose this passion*

*For a story to begin.*

*May the stories, they be plentiful*

*May I find my cozy nook*

*To ever read and carry on*

*The love of a good book.*

*(Annette Kohut)*

*Phyllis Warren, Coordinator*



**KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.**

We gather together on Saturday, jMarch 19th at 11:30 a.m. We will have a **potluck lunch** to celebrate our 15th anniversary! Bring a **dish to share**, coffee and tea are provided.

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, lap robes, hats and mittens to be given out.

Yarn is available for anyone needs more to continue knitting and crocheting.



Questions:  
 Raebeth Hitchcock  
 375-9294

**Book Study** (and, no, you do not need to know anything about it to participate)

Our study via Zoom happens on Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. We will meet each week during Lent. Feel free to join us any week you can. Here's the link that will be used each Friday morning:

Topic: Lent devotional book, "Good Enough" by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie.

Time: Fridays at 9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/>

## 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 2022 is welcome to apply.

Scholarship applications (different for college and graduate school) can be found on the Federated Church's website, [www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.com-scholarshipinfo](http://www.federatedchurchofeastarlington.com-scholarshipinfo).

Scholarship applications are due to the church office (102 Ice Pond Rd, Arlington, VT 05250) by April 15th, 2022, 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!

### Sign-up Sheets in Bailey Hall

We need helpers to assist with our services.

Greeters – 2 per service

Readers – 1 per month, or share with another person

Refreshment time

NO altar flowers during Lent

Many thanks to all volunteers!



**God's Work  
OUR HANDS**



# March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Dunlap Hall		1	2 Ashes-To-Go St. James 8-9am 11:30am-1pm 5-6pm	3	4 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	5
6 10a-Worship/ Communion 11a-Fellowship time	7	8 12n-Senior Meals	9	10 12n-Senior Meals	11 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	12
13 10a-Worship & Sunday School 11a-Fellowship time 12p-G.S. Juniors *12p-G.S. Cadettes/Seniors	14	15 12n-Senior Meals	16	17 12n-Senior Meals	18 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	19 11:30 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry
20 10a-Worship 11a-Fellowship time	21	22 12n-Senior Meals	23 1p-Adventures In Reading	24 12n-Senior Meals	25 9a-Lent book study on Zoom	26
27 One Great Hour Sharing collection 10a-Worship 11a-Fellowship time 12p-G.S. Juniors *12p-G.S. Cadettes/Seniors	28	29 12n-Senior Meals	30	31 12n-Senior Meals		